

Agreement Form for the Parent

On the day your child was baptized, you came to the Church asking Her to baptize your child. In response to your request the priest or deacon asked you this question, “You have asked to have your child baptized. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training him/her in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him/her up to keep God’s commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbor. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?” You responded by saying “Yes” or “We do.”

The Church takes seriously the promises made at Baptism by parents for the well-being of their children. The promise you made was to train your child in the practices of the faith and to bring them up to keep God’s commandments.

The third commandment is to keep Holy the Sabbath. It is unfortunate that so many children and families have stopped going to Mass and to religious education classes because through this they are put in such grave risk. As Catholics, we have an obligation to attend Mass; not doing so is a mortal sin. Mass is not something we attend occasionally when it is convenient, but we should attend every Sunday as well as Holy Days of obligation. As parents, it is our joy to provide the best that we can for our children, and what better gift can we give them than the pure joy of eternity spent with our loving God? You have a duty and responsibility to continue to model for your children the practices of the faith, which include attending Mass. If you believe your child is not prepared to make the commitment to attend Mass and to practice the faith, you should advise him/her to delay Reconciliation and First Eucharist until such a time that he/she is willing to do so.

Sacraments are not a rite of passage just because someone reaches a certain age or grade. The Sacraments are too important, on so many levels, that it would not be fair to either The Body of Christ or your child to make a commitment to something that he/she has already decided not to practice in the future. We trust that each of you take seriously your Faith, the upbringing of your children, and the commitment you made to God to share this gift with them on the day of their baptism; and we trust that you will continue this important endeavor through the commitment you make by bringing your children for the beautiful Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist.

As the parent, I understand my duties and responsibilities both to my child and the Church and I acknowledge that my child understands what he/she is undertaking and is truly interested in deepening his/her Catholic Faith. I continue the promise I made at their baptism to do my best to raise my child in the practice of the faith by modeling the faith as Christ has taught the Church and to keep God’s commandments.

Parent (Print Name)

Student (Print Name)

Parent’s Signature

Date