

DISCIPLINE POLICY

Diocese of New Ulm Guidelines (Religious Education, #324)

Philosophy: Discipline shall be developed in a positive manner and never through the use of physical force, ridicule or sarcasm.

Guidelines: Discipline problems may occur. Early recognition and consultation is beneficial. Teachers will work together with parents and the faith formation coordinator to resolve any difficulties.

St. Mary's Discipline Policy: (Revised, Spring of 2001)

Every effort will be made by the director, principal and catechists to understand and acquire skills in working with students who exhibit emotional and behavioral patterns that are disruptive to the educational process. However, an important purpose in establishing a discipline policy for the Faith Formation program at St. Mary's Church, is to promote the acceptance of personal responsibility for all actions and behaviors on the part of students.

Transportation behavior: While students are riding a vehicle to any church related activity, any disciplinary action that might arise is the responsibility of St. Mary's Church. Fighting, verbal misconduct or failure to follow directions of the driver will result in loss of privileges. The parents will be informed and may need to find an alternate mode of transportation.

A. Disciplinary action will be taken as a result of:

- † **Theft or destruction** of personal or church property
- † **Physical assault** - the intentional infliction of bodily harm upon another.
- † **Verbal assault** - abusive, threatening, profane, or obscene language either oral or written, by a student toward a staff member or another student, including conduct which degrades people because of their race, religion, ethnic background, or physical or mental handicaps.
- † **Disruptive Behavior** - any behavior that takes away the focus of the class and interferes with the learning of others. This includes: not following instructions, not staying on task, speaking out of turn or making inappropriate noises or comments.

B. Process for Disciplinary Action:

- † **At the first abuse** of the discipline policy, the student will be warned.
- † **The second time** an abuse of the discipline policy occurs, parents will be notified.
- † **If an infraction occurs** a third time, a meeting will be called which may include the pastor, Faith Formation committee chairperson, director, parents and the offending student. At this time an individual plan for continuation of the student's faith formation and/or modification of behavior will be agreed upon.
- † **Whenever work is missed** due to any disciplinary action, the parents and student together become responsible to the director for its completion.
- † **If a student is excluded** from formal faith formation classes, materials will be made available for parents to use at home.