

## Parent Witness Statement

### St. Joseph Parish School of Religion

The Church through the ages has consistently called its parents to understand their special dignity as God's instruments of His love to their children. In the Rite of the Sacrament of Baptism, parents receive the call from God to evangelize their children, as we have summarized:

*You have asked to have your child baptized. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training him/her in the practice of their faith. It will be your duty to bring them up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbor. You will be the first teachers of your child in ways of the faith. May you also be the best of teachers, bearing witness to the faith by what you say and do, in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Therefore it is with complete awareness of my vocation as a Parent, that I enroll my child/children in St. Joseph Parish School of Religion (PSR). I accept the responsibility to be the primary religious educator of my child/children. I understand St. Joseph's PSR will assist me and share in this responsibility. I know that unless my child/children see me live these truths, then there is little hope that they will live their Faith. I believe that the PSR can enrich and reinforce a Faith that my children experienced in the home. I understand my own witness is essential to the religious development of my children.

Aware of my responsibility, I commit myself to be the first teacher of my child/children.

I especially understand this to mean:

1. Regular participation in the Sunday Eucharist with my family.
2. Commitment of myself to speak more with my children about God and to include prayer in our daily home life.
3. Support the moral and social teachings of the Catholic Church to ensure consistency between home and school.
4. The religious education and sacramental preparation of my children.
5. Teaching my children to be concerned for the needs of others, particularly to respect members of our school community (i.e. Faculty, Staff, Parents and fellow students).

When enrolling my child/children in St. Joseph's PSR, I am agreeing to support the school's philosophy, its policies and its Parent Witness Statement.

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Parent/Guardian signature

Date: \_\_\_\_\_