

# St. Thomas à Becket Family Faith Commitment Agreement

As parents, you are the first and most important teachers of your child in the ways of faith. Our parish is honored to partner with you in forming your child in the teachings of the Catholic Church and helping them grow in a living relationship with Jesus Christ.

This agreement expresses our shared commitment to nurturing your child's faith through prayer, participation in the sacraments, and active involvement in parish life.

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## Our Commitment as a Family

With God's grace, we strive to live our Catholic faith and support our child's religious formation. We therefore commit to the following:

### 1. Participation in Sunday Mass

We commit to attending Mass each Sunday and on Holy Days of Obligation, recognizing that it is right and just to worship God in the manner He has asked because everything we have comes from Him. We then benefit from the Most Holy Eucharist, the Source and Summit of our faith.

### 2. Sacramental Life

We commit to participating in the sacramental life of the Church, including regular reception of the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Confession (as appropriate for our child's age and preparation).

### 3. Prayer Life

We commit to fostering a life of prayer in our home through regular personal and family prayer, entrusting our lives to God and seeking His guidance daily.

### 4. Religious Education Participation

We commit to:

Expressing to our child why this is important by sharing with them our personal witness how Jesus Christ and His Church have personally affected us. Also,

- Ensuring our child attends classes regularly and arrives on time
- Informing the catechist and RE office when and why there is an absence. **Students are expected to have no more than two unexcused absences per academic year.**
- Contacting the RE office in advance if a student needs to dismiss early.
- Notifying in writing if anyone other than the parent/guardian is to pick up our child, or if a particular person may never pick our child up.

- Informing the RE office if your child has a learning disability or health-related issue.
- Supporting completion of any assignments or at-home activities.

We commit to actively supporting our child's faith formation by:

- Being a registered and active member of the parish
- Providing the parish with information regarding our child's baptism and other sacraments, as well as a copy of their birth certificate
- Attending parent meetings and sacramental preparation sessions
- Staying informed about the program and reinforcing lessons at home

## **5. Parish Community Gatherings**

We recognize the importance of our need as parents for ongoing formation and fellowship. **We commit that parents/guardians will participate in the Heaven in Our Home gatherings offered throughout the year and which take place during Religious Education class times.**

These gatherings provide opportunities for fellowship, inspiration, and practical strategies for building a faith-filled home. Younger and older children not enrolled in Religious Education classes are welcome to attend as well. .

## **6. Living a Life of Virtue**

We recognize that faith formation includes growth in virtue. As a family, we will strive to model and encourage:

- Love of God and neighbor
- Respect, kindness, and charity toward others
- Honesty and integrity
- Responsibility and self-discipline
- Patience, humility, and forgiveness

We will encourage our child to live these virtues in daily life, including in the classroom and parish community.

## **7. Respect for the Parish Community**

We commit to fostering a spirit of respect and reverence by:

- Encouraging positive behavior in class
- Respecting catechists, staff, and fellow students
- Cell phones/devices should remain with the parents and are not allowed in the classroom
- Dressing appropriately for church and classroom
- Caring for parish property and spaces

**A Spirit of Growth**

We understand that faith formation is a lifelong journey. While we may not fulfill these commitments perfectly, we sincerely desire to grow in faith as a family and to support our child in developing a deeper relationship with God.

We entrust this commitment to God, asking for His grace to guide and strengthen us.

**Signatures**

Parent/Guardian Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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Student Name/Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

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Student Signature

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

