

# Parent & Camper Update

## Elementary Summer Religion Program 2026

Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church Erath, Louisiana

**Time and dates:** The one-week elementary summer religion program will be held **Monday – Friday** from **8:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon** on **June 8-12, 2026**. A **camp nurse/mom** will be present to make necessary phone calls to parents when the need arises. **Online make-up packets** will be available for home study and absences in late June.

**Drop-off zone** Please drop off your camper **near the church circular driveway** on Broadway Street. To avoid having campers cross the street during congested drop-off, please drive around the cemetery and make a right turn onto Broadway Street. Please do not park and exit your car to block the flow of pick-up traffic in the outside, northbound lane of Broadway Street. **Volunteers** will meet/greet the children on the sidewalk and, when necessary (for “new” campers), will determine each child’s grade level, and escort him/her directly to his/her **grade-level crew leaders** (and peers) who eagerly await their arrival inside the parish hall.

**\*\*\*Pick-up zone\*\*\* New change for pick-up. For the safety of the children, we ask that parents pick-up their children by the classrooms near the cemetery. This will be the same system we use for Sunday sessions during the year. You are also welcome to park in the church parking lot and walk to get your child by the classrooms as well.**

### **Campers should not bring toys/electronic gadgets to our program!**

Their focus should be on our Scripture and Catholic topics throughout the morning. **Backpacks** will remain in the hall in a secure area.

### Campers’ (Children’s) Dress Code

#### For Days 1-4 (June 8-11)

- modest shorts (no low-rise shorts or visible midriff; the appropriate length is equal to school uniform shorts)
- modest short-sleeve shirts (no spaghetti straps, tank tops, visible midriff, or inappropriate messages on T-shirts)
- socks and **tennis shoes** (no sandals or flip flops for outdoor games!)



#### For Day 5 (June 12):

- this year’s summer program T-shirt
- nice jeans, capris, or modest skirt (NOTE: No **shorts, please**, because we will have Mass.)
- Clean shoes or dressy sandals (clean tennis shoes are acceptable, but no flip flops)
- Reminder: Indoor (not outdoor) games on Day 5!



**T-shirt plans:** T-shirts will still be distributed on Day 1. Our campers and volunteers will be encouraged to wear their T-shirts on **Tuesday** and on **Friday** of the one-week program.

### Two Service Projects for our Campers:

- We encourage our **campers** to **do extra chores** for family and friends **to earn money to help purchase these items** for needy families in our area.
- All these donations are sent directly to our church parish’s **CLO (Christian Leadership Organization)**.
  - **Tuesday:** Please help us offer advance support to the CLO for their upcoming (July) **school supply drive**. In the past, they’ve offered the following suggestions for donations: notebooks, pencils, erasers, crayons, colored

pencils, washable markers, pocket folders, scissors, glue, loose leaf paper, backpacks, and new and/or gently used uniforms. All donations will be divided among our local schools for students in need.

- **Thursday:** If possible, please bring one or two cans, boxes, or packages of **non-perishable grocery items** to donate to our CLO's food pantry here at Our Lady of Lourdes.

### Traditional prayers for Grades 1-5:

- Your child will continue to learn/memorize/review the traditional **prayers assigned to your child's current grade level**. We sent a copy of that handout home from one (or more) of our Sunday Sessions earlier in the current school year. PDF files of those handouts are always available on the Prayer page of our church website ([www.ololcatholic.com/Prayers](http://www.ololcatholic.com/Prayers)). If time permits, they may look ahead at the next grade level's list of prayers. **(REMINDER: For religious education purposes, your child is still enrolled in his/her 2025-26 grade level until the end of this summer religion program!)**

### Daily routine for Days 1-4:

*(Note: Day 5's schedule will be different)*

- Each day's session will begin with a **large-group morning assembly** to introduce the Bible story and/or other age-appropriate Catholic doctrine, music and miscellaneous topics for the day.
- Throughout the morning, crew leaders will guide their assigned campers through five 25-minute learning centers:
  - **Craft/Activity Station:** one daily crafts and/or additional activities to help reinforce the Scripture passages (Bible story) or overall theme of the program
  - **Bible Theater:** campers view segments of movies or skits and/or play games to help reinforce topics that were introduced during the morning assembly
  - **Catechism Corner:** campers learn/review age-appropriate Catholic catechism lessons in traditional catechism books
  - **Prayer Center:** campers learn, review and recite memorized prayers for our Prayer Partner volunteers
  - **Outdoor games:** old-fashioned indoor/outdoor exercises and games
- **Mid-morning Snacks:** We provide simple, daily snacks (usually chips or cookies and a juice pouch). ***If your child follows a special diet, please send a snack each day!***
- Days 1-4 will end with a **Daily Finale. As always, parents and grandparents are welcome to join us at 11:30 a.m. for the finale on Days 1-4.** Announcements will be made and, when time permits, songs will be sung before the children are dismissed at 12:00 Noon each day.

#### **NOTE:**

If your child suffers with **food allergies**, please send a daily snack!

*Backpacks will not be carried around throughout the morning. Instead, they will remain in the hall in a secure area.*

### Special plans for Day 5:

- **Dress code for Day 5:** Please note that our **campers and volunteers will wear summer religion T-shirts on Day 5.** Please refer to the dress code on the first page for more information. **No shorts on Day 5, please,** as we will spend time in church.
- Other learning centers on Day 5 include a diocesan-approved **Safe Environment lesson** for each grade level, a **drawing/writing project** and/or **game** to review Bible stories and topics which were introduced throughout the program, and **indoor games** (so everyone's clothes will remain clean and dry before going to Mass).
- Campers and volunteers will attend **11:00 a.m. Mass** as a group. *(As always, parents, siblings and grandparents are welcome to attend Mass with us. Please dress accordingly.)*
- After Mass ends, we will return to the parish hall to make remarks and announcements. **Depending upon what time Mass will end, we hope to dismiss at or shortly after 12:00 Noon.**