

Racine St. Catherine's Mass Expectations

1. No Food and drink in Church-- this includes gum. Catholics are required to fast for an hour before receiving Holy Communion. It is not appropriate for anyone to be eating during the service.
2. Students are to dress modestly and appropriately, typically in uniform.
3. Students are expected to sit with their STEP class in their assigned seats.
4. Cell phones and iPads should never be used in Mass. They are to be left in the STEP classrooms.
5. For this time the Auditorium serves as our worship space and Christ is present in the Tabernacle, therefore everyone is expected to show respect and reverence when entering for mass.
6. During Mass, if you pass in front of the altar or tabernacle, bow reverently.
7. Be quiet while in church. Once you enter- it is not the time or place to visit with those around you. If you must talk, do so as quietly and briefly as possible. Remember that your conversation might be disturbing someone who is in prayer, which is much more important.
8. During mass everyone is expected to stay awake, respond, and participate. There is no slouching, hanging over chairs, talking, or being disrespectful. If you are not able to participate for any reason, you are expected to be quiet and respectful of others who are celebrating their faith.
9. Catholics believe that God is present in the Eucharist and bow their heads just before receiving the host. Distributors place the host on open, cupped hands.* The host is not to be grabbed or taken from the distributor. The response is "Amen," meaning "I believe," and the host is to be eaten immediately.
10. If you are not receiving communion, stand and allow others in your row to exit the aisle, or go to the distributor to receive a blessing. To receive the blessing prayer for spiritual communion, cross your arms over your chest and respond "Amen," meaning "I believe."
11. When you return to your seat, sit quietly in prayer or quietly in respect of other's prayer time.
12. Leave quietly after the final song (even if the bell rings).

* If students ask they are also free to receive on the tongue if that is their preference