

# JMJ Catholic Homeschool Group

## 2016-2017 Behavior Guidelines

*When we gather together for shared experiences through a group activity, we have the opportunity to reflect Jesus to the people we meet. We represent Catholic Christians, the homeschooling community, and our families when we are together for a JMJ function. Our words and actions are expected to reflect our commitment as Christians. Adults must focus on supervising children at child-centered activities. Adult socialization needs must be satisfied at adult gatherings. It cannot be stated strongly enough that the parents (or adult caring for the child) are responsible for observing and enforcing the behavior guidelines.*

### **Respectful Behavior**

1. Respect for each individual as an image of God will be shown in word and deed.
  - a. No foul language or jokes will be tolerated, especially taking the Lord's name in vain.
  - b. No name calling, teasing, bullying or belittling.
  - c. No aggressive or disrespectful physical contact (no wrestling, pushing, hitting).
2. Respect the building being used and other people's property.
  - a. Inside voices must be used at all times.
  - b. "Walking feet" are to be used inside buildings.
  - c. Food and drink are to be consumed only in approved areas, with everyone being expected to clean up after themselves.
3. Show respect for those in authority.
  - a. Directions must not be challenged (no complaining, grumbling or rolling of eyes).
  - b. Obedience and cooperation makes for a great time!
  - c. Hands should be raised to ask questions or seek direction.

### **Disciplinary Action**

*If any adult becomes aware of an offense, the following intervention will be initiated:*

1. The child will be reminded of the expected behavior. The child will be approached privately by the adult observing the offense, so as not to embarrass the child.
2. The child is expected to respond to the above reminder with an attitude of honesty, integrity and individual responsibility. The adult will assist the child to:
  - a. Acknowledge the behavior that caused the offense.
  - b. Verbalize an apology to the offended person(s).
  - c. Verbalize a decision not to repeat the offense. (If the same behavior continues, parents will be informed of the need for prompt and effective intervention: a reminder, time-out, or assessment of child's need for decreased stimulation).
3. If the behavior continues at the same function or is observed at a subsequent activity, a decision will be made as to whether the group setting is appropriate for the child. A decision regarding future involvement and/or attendance in group activities may also be determined.

**Parents are expected to share these Behavior Guidelines with their children and reinforce them before every group activity. As parents, it is ultimately our God-given responsibility to "train up the child in the way he should go." (Proverbs 22:6) Thank you!**