

Faith Formation Program Descriptions

1st – 6th Grades: The vision for a strong Catholic family is one in which children learn the joys of following Jesus Christ and the truths of their faith through witnessing their parents' Christian life. Starting September 20, parents and students will come together at the Centre for Christ for our Family Faith Formation sessions from 6-7:30pm. These parent/student sessions will always be the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The parents are provided the opportunity for continued growth in the Faith, while building community and celebrating Catholic life with other parents. Simultaneously, students will meet in classrooms to share the Faith at their level. In addition to this night, students will come after-school for classroom instruction on the 1st Wednesday of the month starting October 4th from 3:15-4:30pm (students will be bussed to the Centre for Christ from school with parents picking them up at the Centre for Christ). Parents are required to attend the 3rd Wed. of the month session in order for your child to attend the after-school session.

7th – 9th Grades: GIFT which stands for "Growing in Faith Together" is a way families can continue to have opportunities to learn and discuss their Catholic faith together. We meet twice a month, the first time with parents and the second time with students only. Your child will be placed in a small group for the year. Each family is asked to select either Sundays or Wednesdays to attend. If you have more than one child attending GIFT, you can pick which small group to attend. If you cannot make your night, you are invited to attend the other night session so you don't miss any lessons. In our parent/teen sessions this year, we will learn The Bible Timeline, which helps us to understand the story of our salvation by focusing on 14 books in the Bible that carry the narrative of our faith story. You can use any Catholic Bible. If your child does not have a Bible, we have one that you can purchase for \$30 (I can get you a Bible if you are unable to buy one). We also recommend getting the Bible Timeline tabs, which you can also purchase from us for \$10. Tabs are very helpful in being able to find the book, chapter and verse and these tabs are color coded to the method we will be teaching you to understand our salvation story. The Bibles are sold at a discount and the tabs at cost. We will have 2 speakers this year, one on the Shroud (the burial cloth of Jesus) on Sunday, Sept. 17 and on Wednesday, Nov. 29, Steve Angrisano will be at the Margaret Shelby Auditorium. Parents are welcome at both speakers and everyone attends just one session together. We hope this year you will develop a closer relationship to God as you learn more about how from the beginning of time God has put a plan in place, out of His great love for us, so we can spend eternity with Him in heaven.

10th – 11th Grades: Our two-year Confirmation program is attended by students only and uses the book, Chosen, which has 24 lessons and takes us 2 years to complete. Confirmation class is two Wednesday nights per month from 7:45 pm-9:15 pm, unless we have a speaker or Ash Wednesday Mass. Parents are always welcome to attend speakers and Masses. As students prepare to receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and be fully initiated into the Catholic faith, we focus on applying our faith to our lives, building a strong foundation of prayer, and putting our faith in action. Both grades have the same lesson each night, but the juniors have additional things that happen the year they are Confirmed, such as a retreat (Oct. 21-22), selecting a sponsor and completing a packet with them, service projects, selecting a Confirmation name, reflective dialogues and rehearsal. A special calendar will be shared with 11th grade families as soon as we are given our Confirmation date for this spring. Attendance is very important and every effort should be made to attend each class.