Faith Formation: K through 5th Grade, a multi-faceted approach to formation ministry

including preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist

**Part 1- K-5th grade catechesis:** All enrolled children will participate in catechist–led grade-level in-person gatherings that will meet approximately 2x per month. At enrollment, families will select their preferred meeting day.

Sessions will be offered on:

Sunday (K – 5) from 10:30am – 11:45am
Monday (Gr 1-5) from 4:00 pm – 5:15 pm

Tuesday (Gr. 1-5) from 5:15 pm – 6:30 pm

We are also blessed to offer our “Stars and Angels” group (formerly called “Rainbow”) for children ages 6 – 17 with various special needs. Led by an experienced catechist, this age and developmentally appropriate program invites children of all abilities into full participation in the life of the church. This group meets on Sunday mornings. If your child has special needs and you think they would benefit from this group, please reach out to Maria Yorkshire for more information.

**Part 2- At Home Family Faith Enrichment:**

Our curriculum has an “at-home” component. We believe that providing families with resources and support to continue faith formation at home is central to children growing in the Catholic faith. We encourage you to take time as a family to share and complete these pages together. Parents are the number one teacher of their child(ren). We look forward to journeying with you and your children through faith formation.

**Part 3 – Interactive Family Experiences**: Throughout the year, we will have events that will include a blend of formation and fun for all ages! They will be designed to help connect faith, worship, family life, and community - all are encouraged to participate.

**Part 4 – Discipleship Days**: We believe discipleship can be taught and completed by our youngest to our oldest Disciples of Christ. We will offer opportunities for multi-generational discipleship, grades K-11 and adult, throughout the year. We hope that you will actively participate in these opportunities along with your child (Children)

**Sacramental Preparation**

The preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist will occur during regularly scheduled in-person sessions for all 2nd graders. Children older than 2nd grade and who have not yet received these Sacraments are prepared through a plan that is individualized to meet the needs of that child and family. If this applies to your family, contact Maria Yorkshire to discuss specifics.

In addition to the children attending their in-person sessions, parents will be asked to pick up a reconciliation packet to be completed by the 1st Reconciliation workshop and Sacrament. As well as attend a parent meeting for 1st Eucharist and participate in parent/child workshops throughout the year. Additional details/dates are available on the calendar and website.

Youth Ministries: Formation, Retreats/Workshops, Community Service for Grades 6 – 11

Including Confirmation Preparation

**Mini-Course Model**

Formation for teens in grades 6 – 9 will be offered through small group mini-courses. Each participant will select from the options available for their grade level and must complete a total of **two mini-course topics each year, per teen**. Mini-courses meet over four consecutive weeks for 60 minutes each week and are **expected** to participate in 4 discipleship services TBA. Meeting a total of 4 times per session **and 4 discipleship** **services per school year**. Mini-courses will be offered on Sundays, 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm, Mondays, 6:15 -7:15 pm, and Wednesdays, 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm. Attendance at all sessions is expected unless an emergency arises. If the teen abuses the absences, the entire session will have to be repeated. The full schedule of Mini-Courses and meeting dates will be posted on the parish websites in early September.

**Discipleship (formally known as service hours) for Grades 6-9**

Living a life of discipleship is part of each Catholic person’s baptismal call. We provide multiple opportunities for youth to engage in meaningful service throughout the year. Our program expectation is that participants complete a minimum of 2-3 parish-based (ministry) service opportunities and 2-3 community-based (mission) service opportunities per year. If they do not, they will be required to double up the following year.

**Confirmation Preparation**

 We will continue to offer preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, which will begin in the 10th grade. By Diocesan guidelines, the youth need to have completed formation before beginning immediate preparation, and participation in a Confirmation Retreat is required in the year in which they will be confirmed.

**10th graders.** Our Confirmation Preparation Sessions will be held on Monday evenings, one session per month, the first session starting on October 20th from 6:15 pm to 7:15 pm. We will have prayer experiences, discipleship, Mission services, and more. Each 10th grader will be expected to sign up for at least one shift as a Hospitality helper, held after Mass, and one Greeter helper shift. Our program expects that participants also complete a minimum of 2 parish-based (ministry) service opportunities and 1 community-based (mission) service opportunity per year. Detailed information will follow.

**11th graders,** Confirmation year preparation Sessions will be held on Monday evenings, one session per month, the first session starting on October 20th from 6:15 pm to 7:15 pm. We will have prayer experiences, discipleship, Mission services, and more. Each candidate will be expected to sign up for at least one shift as a Hospitality helper, held after Mass, and one Greeter helper shift. Candidates will also attend a commitment mass in January and receive a special blessing. They will also attend a beautiful sponsor candidate evening in March. More detailed information will follow. As well as a full calendar that will be available online by early September. There will be a single celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation held for our Tri-Pariah families in the spring of 2026, held at Immaculate Conception, a date determined by the Bishop’s Office.