Children and Teens

Mission Statement: St. Francis of Assisi Church community desires to assist parents in the religious education of their children in the Faith. Responsibility is shared by students, parents, the parish community, catechists and staff. The quality of our children's love for the God and the Faith depends upon a cooperative and trusting relationship among all.

General Information

Who can attend? Children in grades 1 - 10. **When are classes?** Wednesdays, September to May from 6:00-7:15 p.m

Why are children sent to religion classes?

Children not attending a Catholic parochial school are strongly encouraged to attend faith education. The focus of faith formation is to educate children about the Faith just like they learn math and English at school. Our classes teach children about God, the Scriptures (e.g. the Bible), and the Traditions of the Catholic Church (e.g. the Trinity: God is three in one). Jesus says to us, "Let the children come to me and do not hinder, for the kindgom of heaven belongs to such as these" (Matthew 19:14).

What is the curriculum?

Please check out each grades webpage for information about the curriculum content. In addition to the curriculum, all classes learn about large Catholics feasts like All Saints, the Immaculate Conception, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Christmas, Ash Wednesday and Holy Week.

Are classes fun?

Yes and no. After school classes to learn a second language or how to play an instrument require study. Learning about the Bible and the history of the Church requires study too. We

try to combine learning with inspiring saintly heroes, fun educational games and a few yearly parties.

What does the Church teach about faith formation?

"Education in the faith by the parents should begin in the child's earliest years. This already happens when the family members help one another to grow in faith by the witness of Christian life in keeping with the Gospel. Family catechesis precedes, accompanies, and enriches other forms of instruction in the faith. Parents have the mission of teaching their children to pray and to discover their vocation as children of God. The parish is the Eucharistic community and the heart of the liturgical life of Christian families; it is a privileged place for the catechesis of children and parents" (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2226)

Important Religious Education Links

Sacramental Requirements **Faith Formation Handbook** **Calendar**

Registration Form

Donations Needed

* Pre-K/Kindergarten books about Christmas, Jesus Christ and the saints. * DVDs about saints and Bible stories.

* Holy Cards, Rosaries, etc.

Volunteers Needed

We are currently looking for: - Pre-K/Kindergarten Lead Catechists for Wednesdays from 6:00 to 7:15 p.m. - Summer Totus Tuus Camp Chaperones

G

eneral Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are essential for this echoing of the faith.
Is God calling you serve give of your time to serve His little children?
All volunteers must take the Virtus program (2 hr. class with background check). Here are some of the ways that you can help make the Faith Formation program a success.

1. C**atechist**. Previous teaching not required, just a sincere love for God's children and teens. We will mentor you so that you are successful in the classroom!

2. **Aid**: Help catechists in grades 1-10. You will sit in the classroom to help with classroom management and lead small group conversations.
3. **Substitute catechist**. We always have need of substituting due to illness, emergency or other needs.
4. **Hospitality**: Welcome and greet those who enter the school building during Faith Formation, direct people to where they need to go, and help them answer questions that they might have regarding our programs.
5. **Small Group Leaders**. 9th and 10th grade Confirmation students gather small groups to discuss the faith a few times a year.

Contact Info

If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please contact us.

Director of Faith Formation Registration Information Grades Kinder - 5th & First Communion (507)289-2427

Youth Ministry Coordinator

Grades 6th - 10th & Confirmation

Matthew Edens