

Family Faith Formation Full Year Program

Overview

This program helps families to participate in our faith formation program together, encourages the faith development of adults, and provides resources for parents to work with their children at home.

The Church of Epiphany firmly believes that **parents are the first and best teachers of their children** in the ways of faith by what they say and do. The parish seeks to encourage, support, and equip parents and/or other family adults (guardians/grandparents) to teach, pray, and celebrate the sacraments with the children God entrusted to their care. In this way our Catholic identity is strengthened in the current generation and is passed on to the next generation.

Since the needs of families vary widely, we offer two different models of faith formation hoping one will support your family. One such faith formation option is the **Family Faith Formation Full Year Program** which supports each parent/guardian/grandparent's vocation as the first and best teacher of their children in the ways of faith *in a very intentional way*.

Parents who register for the **Family Faith Formation Full Year Program** are provided with resources and support to assist them in facilitating lessons at home with their children. Additionally, Families will come together and attend monthly sessions for one (1) hour. Students will go to the appropriate group to review their lessons with their catechist. While the students are in their groups, parents will meet in the Worship Area for faith development in a casual interactive setting. *This is not optional – ALL parents/guardians who bring the children to class must attend. This is not a drop and go program.* Parent sessions include presentations, prayer, and discussions. They will also receive resources that will enable them to continue working on the lessons at home with their children.

Families who choose to teach religious education at home in an intentional and systematic way have greater opportunities to share the Catholic faith, and, guided by the Holy Spirit, to grow deeper in their relationship with God, through Jesus, together. Families facilitating Family Faith Formation have also found an additional benefit, which is the flexibility of exploring lessons at their own pace and in accordance with their particular (and sometimes challenging) schedules. As faith formation and practicing the Catholic faith becomes more deeply integrated into your family's daily life you will experience the graces of blessings of God.

Requirements:

- A family commitment to work on the home lessons with their children.
- Mandatory attendance for parents & children at all monthly sessions (7 Sessions September-March) as there are **no makeup sessions**.
- Monthly sessions will meet once a month on a Tuesday from 5:30 - 6:30 PM.
- Weekly attendance at Mass.
- 14 Homily Reflections with raised seal.
- ★ 9 masses anytime from June –April (Must be completed at Church of Epiphany)
- ★ 3 Mandatory Class Masses – Must be completed at Church of Epiphany ~ If you are unable to make your scheduled Mass, **you will have to obtain prior approval from Kim Lorentzen DRE** – please email her at kim@churchofepiphany.org (**Only 1 make up mass permitted**)
- ★ Christmas & Easter Masses – attendance preferred at Epiphany: however, if you will be traveling, the Homily reflection journal can be completed at any **Catholic Mass and signed by the Priest or Deacon. Also, grab a bulletin and attach it to the journal.**
- Reconciliation (5:30-6:30PM): **2nd Grade**: Nov. 10, 2026 / **8th Grade**: April 27, 2027
3rd - 7th grades: Attend either Advent Penance service 12/15/26 or Lenten Penance service 3/9/27 @ 7:00PM
- Second graders are required to attend all sacramental prep classes for Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.
- 8th graders are required to attend the Confirmation Retreat, Confirmation Interviews, sacramental prep classes, and practice.
- A calendar of required sessions will be handed out at the first class & can also be found on the website under the Faith Formation Tab.

[Please follow our Facebook page](#)

We will post any changes to the Faith Formation schedule there.



Mandatory Class Session Dates (For ALL Parents & Children):

All dates are mandatory and there are no make-up sessions. Parents are required as part of the program to attend the parent sessions in the Worship area.

- October 13, 2026
- November 17, 2026
- December 22, 2026
- January 19, 2027
- February 16, 2027
- March 16, 2027

Penance:

All dates are mandatory and there are no make-up sessions.

- **3rd - 7th:** You must choose 1: Advent Penance Service 12/15/26 @ 7:00PM or Lenten Penance Service 3/9/27 @ 7:00PM.
- **2nd:** November 10, 2026, 5:30PM - 6:30PM
- **8th:** April 27, 2027, 5:30PM - 6:30PM

Liturgical Sessions (For ALL Students):

- ***Advent/Christmas (Choose 1)***
 - ❖ December 5, 2026 - Night in Bethlehem 6:00PM
 - ❖ December 10, 2026 - Lessons & Carols 7:00PM
- ***Lent/Easter (Choose 1)***
 - ❖ February 12, 2027 - Stations of the Cross 7:00PM
 - ❖ March 25, 2027 - Mass of our Lord's Supper (Holy Thursday) 7:30PM
 - ❖ March 26, 2027 - Veneration of the Cross (Good Friday) 3:00PM