



Holy Family Faith Formation

Dear Parents of Soon-to-Be-Second Graders,

We are excitedly looking ahead to the 2018-2019 academic year. Second grade is an important year for our students. It is the year that Catholic young people prepare for the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. It is our goal to provide the best possible Faith Formation programming for our families. Holy Family Church provides direct preparation classes for the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. These classes, as required by the diocese, are distinct from regular parish Faith Formation and Catholic School religious education. The preparation classes focus on the nature and meaning of the sacraments in the faith life of the child, the family and the parish community. Below you will find an outline of our program.

1. Parents will help their children complete the text books at home. There will be two chapters assigned per month.
2. The child and one parent (or other suitable adult) will attend *one class per month*. You may choose to attend Sunday morning or Monday evening.
3. Each child and parent will attend one retreat.
4. Each parent will attend an informational meeting in September.
5. Each child and parent will attend a rehearsal for First Communion.
6. Each family will attend weekly Mass.
7. Each family will have the option to attend a Community Meal.

Each family will choose the class that best works with their schedule. You may attend Sundays from 10:00-11:15 or Mondays from 6:15-7:30. You may choose to attend the "A" session or the "B" session of your chosen day of the week. Again, you and your child will attend *one class per month*. One parent, or other suitable adult, is required to come to one Parent Information meeting: Sunday, September 16th at 10:00 OR Monday, September 17th at 6:15. The meeting will be held in the Holy Family School cafeteria.

We recognize the family as the first and best source of passing along the faith to their children. Our job is to assist your family on your journey. It is also important for us, as Catholics, to embrace the gift of our faith community. The sacraments are meant to be celebrated in community. We hope that your bonds to our faith community are strengthened as your family prepares for the sacraments. All parish families desiring for their children to make their First Reconciliation and First Eucharist next year will participate the above outlined program.

In preparation for next year we encourage your family to attend Mass weekly and to practice the following prayers: The Sign of the Cross, The Our Father, The Hail Mary and The Glory Be.

Registration forms are now available: in the Gathering Space, online and in the Pastoral Center.

We look forward to sharing all the fun, learning, and excitement that goes into this very special process. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Blessings,

Lisa Vignogna, First Sacraments Coordinator

lisa@holysyr.org (315)415-1846