

# Elementary/Middle School Weekly Classes Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

#### 1. What is Faith Formation?

Faith Formation is our parish's weekly religious education program for children from Pre-K through High School. It helps children grow in their Catholic faith through Scripture, prayer, sacraments, commandments, and Church traditions. All children must first be enrolled and actively participate in Faith Formation classes before registering for First Sacraments.

# 2. Is this the same as First Communion preparation?

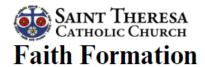
No. Faith Formation is separate from First Sacraments (First Reconciliation and First Communion). Children must be enrolled in regular Faith Formation before beginning sacrament preparation.

#### 3. When should my child start Faith Formation?

Children should begin no later than first grade and continue each year through high school. Ongoing participation builds a strong foundation in the faith.

### 4. Do Catholic school or homeschool students need to attend?

- Catholic school students are not required to attend weekly parish classes but must still register for sacraments through the parish.
- Homeschool families using an approved Catholic curriculum may be exempt from weekly classes but must submit curriculum details for review and approval.
- Families should contact the Faith Formation Office via email at <u>faithformation@sugarlandcatholic.com</u> for additional information and assistance to enroll in First Sacraments without weekly Faith Formation classes.



# 5. What days and times are Faith Formation classes held?

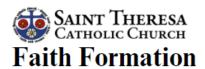
Day	Time	Language	e Grades	Location
Sunday	9:30 – 11:00 a.m.	Spanish	Kinder – 8	School Bldg ***
Sunday	10:00 – 11:00 a.m	. English	PreK – Kinde	r B-Classrooms *
Sunday	3:00 – 4:45 p.m.	English	9th – 12th	Comm Ctr **
Tuesday	6:45 – 8:00 p.m.	English	1 – 8	School Bldg ***
Wednesday	y 4:30 – 5:45 p.m.	English	Kinder – 5	School Bldg ***
Wednesday	y 6:45 – 8:00 p.m.	English	1 – 8	School Bldg ***

### **Campus Map**



- \* Building #12, referred to on the campus map as 'Temp/Old Offices'—entrances are on 7th Street
- \* Building #2 on the campus map, with entrance on St. Theresa Blvd
- \* Building #1 on the campus map, entrance on St. Theresa Blvd)

Class schedules and grade-specific details can also be found on the Parent Resource page on our parish website.



# 6. Do I need to walk my child into the building?

Yes. For children in Pre-K through 5th grade, a parent or guardian must accompany them at drop-off and pick-up. Only one parent should enter the building to help reduce traffic. During class time, only registered hall monitors may remain inside the building. Other parents may re-enter 10 minutes before dismissal.

# 7. What are the pick-up procedures?

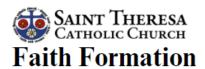
- **Elementary students (K–5)** must be **signed out** by a parent or authorized adult (18+) from their classroom. Catechists will release each child when the designated adult arrives.
- Middle school students (6th–8th) may leave the classroom without signing out and wait at the front entrance or be picked up from the rear circle drive (off Seventh Street), depending on parental preference.
- If a middle school student is signing out a younger sibling, prior approval is required, and they must check out with the Faith Formation Director after each class.
- In the event of severe weather or emergency, all students and adults will remain inside the building until cleared by the Faith Formation Director.

#### 8. What if my child is late or absent?

If your child is tardy, they may still enter class but will be marked late. If absent, please contact the Faith Formation Office via email at <a href="mailto:faithformation@sugarlandcatholic.com">faithformation@sugarlandcatholic.com</a> to request any necessary make-up work. Excessive absences may affect readiness for sacrament preparation.

#### 9. How do I register?

Online registration opens each July. Watch for updates on the parish website, bulletin, and Flocknote. A Baptismal certificate is required for sacrament preparation.



### 10. Are there volunteer opportunities for parents?

Yes! Faith Formation is a volunteer-driven ministry, and we rely on the support of parents like you to maintain a safe and welcoming environment for all our students. Help is needed in the classroom, hallways, and Faith Formation office - even assisting occasionally makes a difference. Sign-ups for hall monitors and other roles will be shared through Flocknote throughout the year.

To ensure a safe environment for our children, all volunteers must complete the required Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston (Child & Youth Protection Safe Environment Training). This online training is free and valid for five years.

Take the training here: <a href="https://galvestonhouston.cmgconnect.org/">https://galvestonhouston.cmgconnect.org/</a>

# 11. How will I receive class updates or reminders?

We use **Flocknote** (email & text) to communicate with parents. Be sure to keep your contact information up to date. For help with Flocknote, visit our Parent Resource page or contact the Faith Formation Office via email at <a href="mailto:faithformation@sugarlandcatholic.com">faithformation@sugarlandcatholic.com</a>

#### Do you still have questions?

Visit our Parent Resource page for more information or email us at: <a href="mailto:faithformation@sugarlandcatholic.com">faithformation@sugarlandcatholic.com</a>