



Good Shepherd Parish
8200 Gold Coast Drive
San Diego, CA 92126
(858) 271-0207

Faith Formation 2026-27

Registration for Grades 1–8

Online registration opens	May 1, 2026
Registration closes	Sept 30, 2026
Parent and student orientations (attendance required for all students/programs)	<u>Vietnamese</u> : Saturday, September 12, 5 PM <u>English</u> : Sunday, September 13, 9 AM <u>Spanish</u> : Sunday, September 13, 11:30 AM Additional options will be announced or by appointment.
Class times and start date:	<u>Vietnamese</u> : Sat., Sept 19, 3:30 – 4:45 PM <u>English</u> : Sun., Sept. 20, 9 to 10:15 AM <u>Spanish</u> : Sun., Sept 20, 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Online Registration via Parish Flocknote*

To begin registration, a parent or legal guardian must create a Flocknote account or update the family's existing Flocknote profile to include each child being registered.

- The online registration form must be completed and submitted by a parent or legal guardian.
- Required releases and acknowledgement (including Medical Consent, Digital Communications Consent, Photo/Video Release, Sacramental Preparation Requirements Acknowledgement/Agreement) will be reviewed and signed at orientation. (Documents are available for preview on our website.)
- A baptism certificate is required if this is your child's first year in Faith Formation at Good Shepherd Parish. If your child was baptized at Good Shepherd, please provide the date of baptism and we will search our parish records.
- Documents may be uploaded through Flocknote or emailed to FaithFormationAssistant2@goodshepherdparish.net.
- **Paper forms option is available.* Forms are available on our website or you may pick-up at the office.



Registration Fees

- Early registration: \$130 per child if paid by July 31, 2026.
- Beginning August 1, 2026: \$150 per child.
- Vietnamese Faith Formation only: \$30 snack contribution.
- A payment plan is available upon request. To arrange a payment plan, families must first submit a payment plan form and meet with the coordinator. Plans are subject to the approval of the Pastor/Associate Director.

In-Person Help, Fee Payment, and General Information

Families may receive assistance with registration, submit documents, and make fee payments at the following times:

- Saturdays, May 2 and other dates as announced – Vietnamese program
- Sunday, May 3, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Parish Picnic (all programs)

- After Masses on selected weekends for all programs in church vestibule or plaza: June 6–7, July 11–12, August 1–2, and August 29–30

Parish Office document and fee submission hours:

- Tuesday: 9:30–11:30 a.m.
- Wednesday: 9:30–11:30 a.m. and 1:30–5:30 p.m.
- Thursday: 9:30–11:30 a.m. and 1:30–5:30 p.m.

Registration Advising by Appointment

To request an advising appointment, email the coordinator for your language program and include your preferred dates and times.

- **Stephanie Lawrence**, English & Confirmation — FFprogram@goodshepherdparish.net
- **Cecilia Hanh Vu**, Vietnamese — Cecilia@goodshepherdparish.net
- **Lily Ames**, Spanish — lilyames@hotmail.com

For general information about the Faith Formation program, contact Charlotte Fajardo, Associate Director for Evangelization, char@goodshepherdparish.net.



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Faith Formation Program Requirements

Sacramental Preparation 2026–27 -- Grades 1-8

Our Shared Responsibility

Good Shepherd Parish believes that the religious formation of children is a shared responsibility that unites family and parish in an important partnership. This partnership calls for the full and active participation of both parents and the parish community.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that “parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children” (CCC 2223), and that what children learn in the home “precedes, accompanies and enriches” other forms of instruction in the faith (CCC 2226).

As families prepare for the sacraments, parents are encouraged to help their children understand the Christian meaning of these milestones and to support their growth through prayer, worship, and family faith practice.

Diocesan Standards

In the Diocese of San Diego, preparation for First Communion is a two-year process and may begin as early as first grade. Confirmation preparation may begin as early as ninth grade. The latest a student may begin sacramental preparation for Confirmation is eleventh grade. Older students are enrolled in the parish OCIA process.

Sacramental Life of the Family

- Families are expected to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.
- Families are also expected to receive the sacraments of the Eucharist and Reconciliation regularly.

Registration Fees and Payment

Registration is confirmed only after payment is received or a payment plan has been arranged. Because registration is submitted online, payment/document submission dates have been established. See listing above. An online payment option may be available at a later date.

No refunds will be issued after the close of registration on October 2, 2026. No refund will be issued if a student is dropped from the program because the program requirements are not met.

Student Class Attendance

Students are expected to attend weekly classes and may have no more than five absences, regardless of the reason. If a student enrolls after classes begin, any class sessions already missed will count as absences.

When a student has missed four sessions, the family must meet with the program coordinator and/or associate director to review attendance. Excessive absences may delay the student’s reception of the sacrament.

Parent Faith Formation Requirement

Good Shepherd’s Faith Formation program is rooted in whole-family catechesis. Parent formation is not an extra; it is an integral part of a child’s preparation for the sacraments.

Each family is required to complete 15 units of parent faith formation through approved sessions, events and experiences. This requirement is waived for parents who attend weekly classes with their children in the Journey sacramental preparation program and for parents who serve as the primary catechists in parish programs.

Parents are strongly encouraged to attend the sessions connected to their child's program level, especially those offered while their children are in class.

Available Parent Faith Formation Options

- Elementary/Middle School Parent Sessions: Offered while children are in class. Sessions are aligned with the students' curriculum, the Sunday scriptures, and catechetical themes, with practical connections to family life and spirituality. Each session equals 1 unit. At least 22 sessions will be offered. Vietnamese parent sessions are held Saturdays at 5:00 p.m.; English sessions on Sundays at 9:00 a.m.; Spanish sessions on Sundays at 12:00 noon.
- High School/Confirmation Parent Sessions: Focused on faith, life, and spirituality issues affecting families with teenagers. Sessions are offered on weekends and weekday evenings and typically last two to three hours. Most sessions equal 3 units. At least eight 3-unit sessions will be offered within the year.
- Adult Enrichment Sessions: Good Shepherd offers ongoing adult faith formation courses and Bible studies. Each approved gathering counts for at least 3 units. Parents choosing this option must receive prior approval and must submit attendance verification signed by the course instructor. These classes are schedule on weekday morning and evening, and are schedule throughout the year.
- Parish Advent and Lent Retreats/Missions: Retreats and missions offered during Advent and Lent may count toward the parent requirement. Units and schedules will be announced when available. Participation in parish devotional/spiritual growth series may qualify (ex. Magnify90, Exodus90, and the like).
- OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults): Parents who are themselves preparing to receive the sacraments through OCIA may fulfill the parent faith formation requirement through their participation.
- Special Events and Activities: Approved diocesan or parish events and pilgrimages may count toward parent faith formation units. Examples include the *Walk for Life*, the Our Lady of Guadalupe procession, Eucharistic events or exhibits, and participation in the Via Crucis. Individual formation sessions or events—such as Cursillo gatherings, Marriage and Family Enrichment talks, Exodus 90 or Magnify 90 presentations, guest speakers, or similar offerings—may also fulfill this requirement when they are clearly identifiable and verifiable. **All events and activities require prior approval and verification of attendance to receive credit.**

Schedules and Credit

- The parent session schedule will be distributed at the September orientation, and families will be notified when opportunities are added.
- If children are enrolled in multiple programs, the parent requirement remains **15 units per family**, not per child.
- Parents must sign in and sign out to receive credit.

Parent Faith Formation Opportunities *at a Glance*

Session/Class	Content/Focus	When	Units	Notes
Elementary/Middle School Parent Sessions	Aligned to students' curriculum, Sunday scriptures, and catechetical foundations; connected to family life and spirituality.	During student class times--Vietnamese: Sat 5:00 p.m. English: Sun 9:00 a.m.; Spanish: Sun 12:00 noon	1.0	Approximately 22–23 sessions offered; presenters include clergy and parish catechists.
High School/Confirmation Parent Sessions	Life, spirituality, catechetical, Bible, and current Church topics for families with teens.	Weekends and weekday evenings Schedule TBD	3.0	Approximately 8 sessions offered; presenters may include guest speakers, clergy, and lay catechists.
Adult Enrichment	Faith formation courses and Bible studies for adults.	Weekday mornings and evenings	3.0	Subject to approval and attendance verification; may involve a materials fee.
Parish Missions / Retreats	Reflection and preparation for liturgical seasons.	Generally, in Advent and Lent	3.0	Units confirmed with the event schedule.
OCIA	Preparation for Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation.	Multi-week sessions beginning in August	Completion fulfills requirement	Led by parish OCIA team.
Special Events and Activities	Pre-approved participation in parish, diocesan, or recognized external faith events may be applied toward Parent Session requirements with attendance verification.	TBD	TBD	Examples include: Exhibits, Pilgrimages, Walk for Life (Jan), Our Lady of Guadalupe Procession (Dec) etc.

Special Circumstances

Is there anything that may prevent your family from completing the program requirements? Please use the space below to share your situation. If you prefer, you may instead request an appointment with the program coordinator and/or the associate director.

Acknowledgement and Acceptance

By signing below, you acknowledge that you understand and accept the requirements of the Sacramental Preparation program at Good Shepherd Parish, and that your student's participation may be delayed or discontinued if the requirements are not met.

_____	_____	_____
Print Parent's Name	Parent's Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
FF Staff Name	FF Staff Signature	Date