

Holy Cross Faith Formation 2026-2027

Pre-K - 5th Grade

As participating Catholics, we must attend Mass every Sunday of the year **and** all Holy Days of Obligation. We have included the Holy days on this calendar for your convenience. Please remember that if you miss a Sunday or a Holy Day Mass, **you must go to Confession BEFORE receiving the Eucharist at your next Mass.**

All children/youth who have received their First Holy Communion should be going to Confession **AT LEAST ONCE PER CALENDAR YEAR. However, it is a pious practice, and encouraged, to go more often.**

Helpful tip: Remember that you can attend Holy Day Masses and you may do Confession at any Catholic Church as they may offer a different schedule from Holy Cross for these special activities.

Confession is offered at Holy Cross 30 minutes before each Mass on a first come, first served. Our pastor also offers extra time on Fridays, in the confessional, from 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm. If necessary, you can make an appointment for Confession with our priests by calling our main office at 336-996-5109.

General Information

- ❖ **Faith Formation classes** meet on **Sundays** from **9:15am-10:45am**.
- ❖ During Faith Formation classes, the Diocese requires that there be no teenagers or children in the Church parking lot without adult supervision. Please be sure that your child is in their classroom with their adult catechist before leaving.
- ❖ Please remember that children can only be absent 3 times during the Faith Formation year. For extenuating circumstances that may arise past the 3 absences, there are make-up options available. Please contact their catechist for more information. This absence policy only applies to regular classes - not special events or Sacramental preparations.
- ❖ In the event of cancellations due to inclement weather, we post information in several ways: through our Realm Connect; on our Facebook page (search 'Holy Cross Education and Formation' on Facebook); and on our Holy Cross Education and Formation webpage at 'www.holycrossnc.com/faith-formation'.

Requirements for Candidates for First Communion

- ❖ First Reconciliation and First Communion preparation classes meet from 9:15am-10:45am on certain dates (see the class calendar for specific dates). The First Communion Retreat is a requirement for all First Communion students within the Diocese of Charlotte. **The retreat for Holy Cross is scheduled for February 6 , 2027.** If you are unable to attend, it is your responsibility to reach out for alternative retreats available in the Diocese. Please keep in mind that alternate retreats may not meet our calendar structure and can affect when your child is ready for participation in the First Communion Masses.
- ❖ The Candidate must attend Faith Formation for the entire year preceding their First Communion preparation year (2 years total). First Communion preparation will be completed in their second year alongside his or her general Faith Formation classes.
- ❖ In his or her second year, the candidate must be **at least in the 2nd grade** or be **at least 8 years old**.

2026 - 2027

Monthly Schedule of Faith Formation Classes and Events

July 2026 (Monthly Theme - Most Precious Blood of Our Lord)

30 Registrations received after this date will be subject to approval AND a \$10 late fee

September (Monthly Theme - The Sorrowful Mother)

- 11/12 Eucharist Congress
- 13 First day of Faith Formation 9:15am *Faith Formation Orientation for parents & children in Salesian Hall for all grade levels*
- 14 FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS
- 20 Faith Formation 9:15am *Session for Parents for First Communion in the Salesian Hall*
- 26 Holy Cross Parish Festival
- 27 Faith Formation 9:15am *Session for Candidates for First Communion in the Commons*

October (Monthly Theme - The Holy Rosary)

- 3 Family Movie Night 6pm
- 4 Faith Formation 9:15am
- 11 Faith Formation 9:15am *Session for Parents for First Communion in the Commons*
- 11 Spiritual Pilgrimage to Fatima at 4:30pm in the Church
- 18 Faith Formation 9:15am
- 24 Living Rosary and Saint-themed Trunk-or-Treat 5:30pm
- 25 Faith Formation 9:15am *Session for Candidates for First Communion in the Commons*

November (Monthly Theme - The Holy Souls in Purgatory)

- 1 *No Faith Formation (Solemnity of All Saints)*
- 8 Faith Formation 9:15am *Session for First Communion Parents & Students in the Commons*
- 15 Faith Formation 9:15am *Mandatory Meeting for all Pre-K to 5 grade parents in Salesian Hall* *Touch and Safety Opt-Out Forms Distributed to Parents due at the end of the meeting.*
- 22 Faith Formation 9:15am
- 29 *No Faith Formation (Thanksgiving Holiday)*

December (Monthly Theme - The Immaculate Conception)

- 6 Faith Formation - Advent Market between 12pm to 4pm
- 8 *Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation)*
- 13 Faith Formation 9:15am *First Communion Candidates turns in Mass Tracker #1 and will receive Mass Tracker #2*
- 19 Bilingual Posada at 5:30pm - 8:30pm in the Salesian Hall
- 20 Faith Formation 9:15am
- 25 *Christmas (Holy Day of Obligation)*
- 27 *No Faith Formation Classes (Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph)*

January 2027 (Monthly Theme - The Most Holy Name of Jesus)

- 1 *Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)*
- 3 *No Faith Formation Classes (The Epiphany of the Lord)*
- 10 *During Faith Formation we will be having our Touch and Safety session.* (Session 3 & 4)
- 17 Faith Formation 9:15am
- 17 *Rehearsal for First Reconciliation in the Church at 4:30 pm*
- 21 *First Reconciliation at 6pm in the Church*
- 24 Faith Formation 9:15am
- 31 Faith Formation 9:15am *Session for First Communion Parents in the Salesian Hall*

February (Monthly Theme - The Holy Family)

- 6 **First Communion Retreat 9am - 2pm** *includes lunch, in Salesian Hall*
- 7 **Faith Formation 9:15am**
- 14 **Faith Formation 9:15am** *Session for Candidates for First Communion in the Salesian Hall*
- 21 **Faith Formation 9:15am**
- 28 **Faith Formation 9:15am** *Session for Candidates for First Communion in the Common*

March (Monthly Theme - Saint Joseph)

- 7 **Faith Formation 9:15am**
- 14 **Faith Formation 9:15am** *Session for Parents & Candidates for First Communion in the Common*
- 21 **No Faith Formation Classes** *(Palm Sunday)*
- 24 Youth Ministry Presenting the Stations of the Cross at 7pm
- 28 **No Faith Formation Classes** *(Easter)*

April (Monthly Theme - The Blessed Sacrament)

- 4 **Faith Formation 9:15am** *Mandatory session for all Pre-K to 5 grade parents in Salesian Hall*
- 9 Family Movie Night at 7pm
- 11 **Faith Formation 9:15am**
- 18 **Faith Formation 9:15am**
- 25 **Faith Formation 9:15am**
- 29 *First Communion Rehearsal - Times will be assigned in class*

May (Monthly Theme - The Blessed Virgin Mary)

- 2 **Faith Formation 9:15am** *No Faith Formation for First Communion Candidates and their Siblings*
- 9 **Faith Formation 9:15am** ***End-of-the-Year Class Celebrations and Closing!***
- 15 **Faith Formation Field Day at 10:00 am - 11:50 pm. Lunch will start at 12pm. Be sure to be with your parents in the picnic area. . Details about what to bring and field day activities to come...**
- 30 **Corpus Christi Procession (First Communicants)**

June (Monthly Theme - Sacred Heart of Jesus)

21-25 VBS

Parents are the primary educators of their child's Catholic faith and we want to offer as much support as possible. In addition to our regular class times, please remember that we are available for 1-on-1 lessons if a certain topic needs more teaching and we are happy to share additional resources as requested. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our Education and Formation offices at any time at 336-515-3379.