



## THE PARISHES OF SACRED HEART AND DIVINE MERCY

---

Dear Friends,

Greetings in the Lord! Welcome to Family Faith Formation!

It is a joy to continue to accompany you on your journey of faith. The **Family Faith Formation** program at our parishes is designed to help us live the Christian life well. This begins by placing worship of God at the center of our lives, particularly by going to **Mass every Sunday**. This is the most important part of the program.

Additionally, **short 20 minute weekly sessions** provide an opportunity for the whole family to reflect on the Gospel that was proclaimed at Mass and how it relates to the faith we profess in the creed, celebrate in the sacraments, live through morality, and offer in prayer. For example, if the Gospel is about Jesus healing the sick, we reflect on the power of Christ over sickness and death (creed), the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick (sacraments), visiting the sick as a work of mercy (morality) and praying for the sick and those who care for them (prayer). Weekly sessions incorporate videos, fun activities, presentations, home assessments, and more!

Family Faith Formation forms the basis for preparation for the **Sacraments of Penance and Eucharist**. Those preparing to receive these sacraments for the first time must be active in the Family Faith Formation program for two years. Attendance at Mass and at the faith formation sessions is monitored during this time. They must also take part in the four workshops and the rehearsal offered in the second year of the program. All requirements must be fulfilled for these sacraments to be received. These requirements help form us to live the Christian life well and ensure that we are ready to celebrate these sacraments.

In addition to the requirements provided, there are other special opportunities offered to help families get involved in the mission of the Church at our parishes. Please join us as you are able.

Be assured of our continued prayers and support as you grow closer to the Lord through his Church. God loves you. And so do I.

In Christ,

Father Christopher R. Seibt

*Pastor*



# Family Faith Formation

## Session Options *(register for one)*

9:30 AM - 9:50 AM at Sacred Heart

9:30 AM - 9:50 AM at Divine Mercy

11:00 AM - 11:20 AM at Sacred Heart

*Note: All sessions are open to all families each week in the event that there is a schedule conflict.*

*Other special opportunities are also open to all families from both parishes.*

## Requirements

- Attend Sunday Mass (or Saturday anticipated Mass)
- Attend All Holy Days of Obligation
  - August 15 (Assumption of Mary)
  - December 8 (Immaculate Conception)
  - December 25 (Nativity/Christmas)
  - January 1 (Mary Mother of God)
  - May 14 (Ascension)
- Attend Parent Meeting *(September 7 at SH or September 14 at DM)*
- Attend Weekly Sessions *(see next column)*
- Complete Weekly Online Assessments

## Other Special Opportunities

- Blaze Youth Ministry (SH) *(First Friday of the Month: September - June)*
- Altar Serving, Ushering, Greeting at Mass
- Children's Choir
- Family & Youth Ministries Kickoff (TBA) *(September 14th)*
- Fall Festival (SH) *(October 4th)* and Winterfest (DM) *(January 30th)*
- Blessing of Animals (SH) *(October 5th)*
- "Trunk or Treat" (DM) *(October 24th)*
- Christmas Pageant and Visit from Saint Nicholas *(December 21st)*
- Easter "Sweets & Treats" (SH) *(April 12th)*
- May Crowning *(May 9th and 10th)*
- Totus Tuus* Summer Youth Program *(July 2026)*

## Sessions

- September 21
- September 28
- October 5
- October 19
- October 26
- November 2
- November 16
- November 23
- November 30
- December 7
- December 14
- January 4
- January 11
- January 25
- February 1
- February 8
- February 22
- March 1
- March 8
- March 22
- March 29



# Sacramental Preparation

*Like all Catholics, those preparing for first Penance and first Eucharist are expected to strive to live the Christian life well.*

*Those who are returning to the practice of the faith will be encouraged to do so and supported.*

*All children must fulfill the requirements provided to receive the Sacraments of Penance and Eucharist.*

## Requirements - Year I

- Attend Parent Meeting (*parents only*)
  - September 7th at Sacred Heart  
9:00 AM - 9:50 AM or  
11:00 AM - 11:50 AM
  - September 14th at Divine Mercy  
9:30 AM - 10:20 AM
- Attend Sunday Mass (or Saturday anticipated Mass) and **sign in** or bring a signed copy of the bulletin from the priest
- Attend Weekly Sessions (*see above; only 2 absences permitted*)
- Complete Weekly Online Assessments
- Provide a certificate of Baptism (*due Sunday, October 5th*)



# Sacramental Preparation

*Like all Catholics, those preparing for first Penance and first Eucharist are expected to strive to live the Christian life well.*

*Those who are returning to the practice of the faith will be encouraged to do so and supported.*

*All children must fulfill the requirements provided to receive the Sacraments of Penance and Eucharist.*

## Requirements - Year II

- Attend Parent Meeting (*parents only*)
  - September 7th at Sacred Heart  
9:00 AM - 9:50 AM or  
11:00 AM - 11:50 AM
  - September 14th at Divine Mercy  
9:30 AM - 10:20 AM
- Attend Sunday Mass (or Saturday anticipated Mass) and **sign in** or bring a signed copy of the bulletin from the priest
- Attend Weekly Sessions (*see above; only 2 absences permitted*)
- Complete Weekly Online Assessments
- Attend both **Workshops** for Preparation for First Penance
  - November 1st at Sacred Heart  
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
  - November 15th at Sacred Heart  
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
- Go to **Confession** at the First Penance Service
  - November 16th at Sacred Heart  
2:00 PM
- Attend both **Workshops** for Preparation for First Holy Communion
  - \* April 11th at Sacred Heart  
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
  - \* April 18th at Sacred Heart  
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

\* These are changes
- Attend **Rehearsal** for First Holy Communion
  - May 1st at Sacred Heart  
6:00 PM
- Receive **First Holy Communion**
  - May 3rd at Sacred Heart  
2:00 PM