



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.

Attached you will find the schedule for 2026-2027 year. As we move through the summer months, please remember that students are expected to continue participating in Mass each week and on Holy Days of Obligation and signing in regularly. If you are traveling, be sure to attend Mass at a Catholic Church and bring back a signed bulletin as verification of your attendance.

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



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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 13th at Sacred Heart
9:00 AM - 9:50 AM or
11:00 AM - 11:50 AM
 - September 20th at Divine Mercy
9:30 AM - 10:20 AM
- ☐ Attend Sunday Mass & Holy Days of Obligation (or Saturday vigil) and sign in
 - August 15 (Assumption of Mary)
 - December 8 (Immaculate Conception)
 - December 25 (Nativity/Christmas)
 - January 1 (Mary Mother of God)
 - May 6 (Ascension of the Lord)

When attending Mass at a different parish, submit a bulletin signed by the priest
- ☐ Attend Weekly Sessions *(see above; only 2 absences permitted)*
- ☐ Complete Weekly Online Assessments *(link provided in Tuesday newsletter)*
- ☐ Provide a certificate of Baptism *(due January 3, 2027)*



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Requirements - Year II

- ☐ Attend Parent Meeting (*parents only*)
 - September 13th at Sacred Heart
9:00 AM - 9:50 AM or
11:00 AM - 11:50 AM
 - September 20th at Divine Mercy
9:30 AM - 10:20 AM
- ☐ Attend Sunday Mass & Holy Days of Obligation (or Saturday vigil) and sign in
 - August 15 (Assumption of Mary)
 - December 8 (Immaculate Conception)
 - December 25 (Nativity/Christmas)
 - January 1 (Mary Mother of God)
 - May 6 (Ascension of the Lord)

When attending Mass at a different parish, submit a bulletin signed by the priest
- ☐ Attend Weekly Sessions (*see above; only 2 absences permitted*)
- ☐ Complete Weekly Online Assessments (*link provided in Tuesday newsletter*)
- ☐ Attend both **Direct Preparation Sessions** for First Penance
 - November 7th at Sacred Heart
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
 - November 14th at Sacred Heart
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
- ☐ First Penance Service
 - November 15th at Sacred Heart
2:00 PM
- ☐ Attend both **Direct Preparation Sessions** for First Holy Communion
 - March 13th at Sacred Heart
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
 - April 24th at Sacred Heart
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
- ☐ Attend **Rehearsal** for First Holy Communion
 - April 30th at Sacred Heart
6:00 PM
- ☐ Receive **First Holy Communion**
 - May 2nd at Sacred Heart
2:00 PM