



St. Joseph of the Lakes 2026-2027 Faith Formation Programs

Early Childhood Sunday Program: Adventure Kids – Pre-K & Kindergarten

Contact: Amy Ward –
amyw@saintjosephsparish.org

Adventure Kids is our preschool and kindergarten faith formation ministry, offered on Sundays during the 10 AM Mass. It's a place for children in preschool (beginning at age 3) and kindergarten to begin their faith formation journey in a safe and creative environment. Through song, crafts, and other interactive activities, we use stories from the Bible and discover how to be a child of God. Children *must* be potty-trained in order to be enrolled. Please contact Amy Ward with any questions.



Session time: Sundays during 10:00 AM Mass	
Registration fee <i>through</i> September 1, 2026	Registration fee <i>after</i> September 1, 2026
\$100 per child	\$150 per child (child may be placed on waitlist)

Elementary School Faith Formation: Trail Blazers – Grades 1-5

Contact: Sara Knoll –
sarak@saintjosephsparish.org

Our Trail Blazers (Grades 1-5) faith formation ministry is designed to engage children through experiential learning, combining hands-on guided learning through play and reflective thinking. We believe it is important for children to be active learners, giving them an opportunity to use all senses to experience the Catholic faith and God's love for us. Sessions include large and small group activities with Bible stories, Catholic teachings, group discussions, and experiential learning activities. We incorporate the curriculum from Saint Mary's Press called *Discover: Finding Faith in Life*.

Our 2nd grade and older children celebrate the **Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist**. The preparation process is integrated with regular 2nd grade faith formation sessions plus two retreats with the child/parent. It is designed to not only be spiritual, but also fun and exciting. Elementary children in 3rd grade and older seeking the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist should contact Sara Knoll; an additional \$50 sacrament fee must be included in the registration fee for these children.

Session time: Wednesday nights (Sept. - April), 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM		
 Registration fee <i>through</i> September 1, 2026	Registration fee <i>after</i> September 1, 2026	
2nd grade (includes sacramental retreat fee)	\$175 per child	\$225 per child (child placed on waitlist)
1st grade, 3rd - 5th grade	\$125 per child	\$175 per child (child placed on waitlist)

Middle School Faith Formation: Seekers – Grades 6-8

Contact: Sara Knoll –
sarak@saintjosephsparish.org

Our Seekers (Grades 6-8) Faith Formation Ministry will incorporate the *Connect! Bringing Faith to Life* curriculum. This program presents the core teachings of the Catholic faith to young people in a way that helps them connect learning with living. Active and engaging lessons encourage honest

reflection and meaning-making.

This year, each middle school faith formation session includes and begins with 5:30 PM Youth Mass. Please contact Sara Knoll with any questions.



Session time:

Two Sunday nights per month (Oct. - April),
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Registration fee *through*
September 1, 2026

Registration fee *after*
September 1, 2026

\$125 per child

\$175 per child (child
placed on waitlist)

Confirmation, Year 1 and Year 2: 9th grade and above

Contact: Sarah Ray–
sarahr@saintjosephsparish.org

Year 1 and Year 2 Confirmation prep may begin as early as 9th grade with young people who have participated in faith formation or attended Catholic school. Year 1 and Year 2 programs incorporate the *Chosen: Your Journey to Confirmation* (Ascension Press) curriculum as well as other supplementary resources. The goal of the program is to support each candidate as they develop their relationship with God and prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Candidates will gain knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith, learn how to be a disciple of Christ, and have fun in an engaging environment.

Both Year 1 and Year 2 programs include year-specific retreats, in-person sessions throughout the school year, and the intention of seeking multiple service/volunteer opportunities during the year. Parents and sponsors of Confirmation candidates learn ways to foster meaningful discussions about faith. Year 1 candidates will also take part in a special class session with their Confirmation sponsor. A parent/guardian presentation will be offered in September, prior to sessions beginning. Please contact Sarah Ray with any questions. **Year 2 families – Mark your calendars: Confirmation Mass is scheduled for Monday, April 12, 2027 at 7 PM at the Cathedral of St. Paul.**

Session time:

Two Sunday nights a month
(Oct. - April),
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Registration fee
through
September 1,
2026

Registration fee
after September
1, 2026

\$175 per child

*Includes a \$50
retreat/sacramental
prep fee for both
Year 1 and Year 2
Confirmation
candidates*

\$225 per child
(child's name may
be placed on
waitlist)

*Includes a \$50
retreat/sacramental
prep fee for both
Year 1 and Year 2
Confirmation
candidates*

The faith formation and fellowship opportunities listed below are FREE and do not have registration.

Parent Formation Opportunities

Contact: Jacob Wilson –
jacobw@saintjosephsparish.org

Parents are called to be their child's primary educator of the faith -- what does this call mean? Come grow in your own relationship with God and learn about ways to strengthen your family's faith life through prayer, knowledge, sacraments, moral formation, and spiritual development. Engage with other parents/guardians and receive support in creating the domestic church in your home. Dates and event details will be shared soon.

Sunday Children's Liturgy of the Word: Grades 1 & above

Contact: Amy Ward –
amyw@saintjosephsparish.org

During the 10:00 AM Mass, all children in grades 1 and older are invited by the Priest to celebrate the Children's Liturgy of the Word. A catechist leads them from the worship space to a classroom where they hear and discuss the Gospel in a simpler language. Afterwards, they rejoin their families in church. The program dates follow those of the Adventure Kids (pre-K/K) program.

Wednesday Morning Family Playtime

Contact: Parish Office at 651-784-3015



Join other families and friends for playtime at St. Joseph of the Lakes. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents/caregivers to meet up in the morning to play, learn, create, and have fun with other children in the community. Let your child explore all the different toys and games in the childcare center. Playtime is supervised by trained staff members, giving parents/caregivers a chance to enjoy a conversation with the other adults around them. Please contact the parish office at 651-784-3015 for dates and additional information.

Family Faith Formation Events: Bring the whole family!

Contact: Sara Knoll –
sarak@saintjosephsparish.org

Join us for special Family Faith Formation nights that will take place throughout the year. These programs gather us for evenings of faith-filled family fun! Join us for the opportunity to deepen your relationship with God, live and learn faith from other families around you, share stories, create special arts and crafts, and complete service projects. Dates will be shared with families registered for faith formation as well as in the parish bulletin.

Wednesdays after Faith Formation: Joe's Diner

Contact: Sara Knoll –
sarak@saintjosephsparish.org

Join us on Wednesday nights after Faith Formation for a delicious meal in the Great Hall. The volunteers from Joe's Diner do all the cooking so you can enjoy a night off! Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to volunteer. A Joe's Diner schedule will be available at the start of the Faith Formation year, and menu details will be shared as they become available.



There's still time to complete the Family Faith Bucket List challenge as a family!

Make this summer one to remember by growing in faith together as a family! Complete fun and meaningful activities from your Family Faith Bucket List — from prayer and acts of kindness to family adventures and serving others.

Pick up your Family Faith Bucket List from the parish office and start creating memories that will last long after summer ends!

Completed bucket lists are due by **Sunday, September 13** and will be entered into a drawing for the chance to win exciting prizes. Simply return your completed sheet to the labeled collection box in the gathering space at St. Joe's.

Faith formation events this year

Faith Formation Kick-off for 1st - 5th
grade children and families:

Wednesday, September 30, 2026
5:30-6:30 pm
Picnic dinner included!

2026-2027 Family Faith Formation Nights

Dates forthcoming –
stay tuned!



Halloween Hoopla: Because Hunger is *Scary*

Saturday, October 24
6:15 pm - 7:15 pm

*Join us for an evening of trick-or-treating, games,
and treats for the whole family! Wear your
favorite costume and donate a non-perishable
food item to help support members of our larger
parish community.*