

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Faith Formation Parent Guide

2020-2021



Why is attending faith formation class essential for your family?

Our goal is to help nurture the faith development of your children as they grow in their love of God and Catholic identity. This ministry extends not only to the children enrolled in the faith formation class, but to their families as well. It is in the family (the Domestic Church) that children come to experience faith as a lived response to the presence of God in their lives. It is their experience of everyday family life where children come to see and have their own relationship with God, with Mary, all the Saints, and with the Church.

PSR Plan 2020-21

The first class will take place Sept. 13th, the Sunday after Labor Day and be a Family Class. Parish wide Family Catechesis sessions will be offered certain Sundays throughout the year. The rest of the Sundays students will receive instruction in their grade-level classrooms.

This year our core program for Grades 1-6 is published by St. Mary's Press and is called "Discover - Finding Faith in Life". This is a new program that includes on-line components, work sheets, family activities, and is heavily rooted in Sacred Scripture. We are offering both in-person seated and virtual options to your child.

2nd Grade students will also participate in Dynamic Catholic's Blessed Program which focuses on sacramental preparation for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist.

Pre K-Kindergarten students will be doing an at home only St. Mary's Press Program using a Virtual copy of St. Mary's Press Children's Bible and Coloring Book. Emailed to the parents weekly.

Seated: PSR/ Faith Formation Safety protocol

- Students will have temperature checks when they arrive on Sundays. If a student has a fever over 100 degrees, they will not be able to attend class.
- Students will need to use hand sanitizer before they enter a classroom.
- Students will be socially distanced while in the classroom or will be required to wear a mask.
- Each teacher will have a spray bottle of disinfectant to spray down the classroom.
- If a catechist is sick and a sub cannot be found, two classes will be combined with instruction taking place in a larger space at the parish so students can be socially distanced.

Virtual: PSR/Faith Formation

- Materials will be distributed throughout the class year.
- On-line video conferences will be held periodically with you and your child to discuss progress.
- You will have the option of sending your child to the in-person class at any time.

Stay-at-Home Contingency Plan

If Nixa public schools are shut down or Masses/church gatherings are forbidden because of COVID cases, we will not have on-site classes. Instruction for grades 1-6 will still take place virtually. These grades will have access to digital books. Assignments will be sent out Saturday mornings.

Teachers will take turns meeting virtually Sunday mornings through Google Meet or Zoom to discuss the content or answer questions. The meetings will happen at 11am on Sunday mornings. Our 2nd Grade students will need to meet virtually an additional time for their sacramental program and we plan to do that on Sunday evenings at 6pm.

Teachers will be trained virtually on August 11th. Parents will be trained on the same platforms during the Family Class on September 13. When the school opens back up or Masses begin again, we will resume on-site instruction.

Faith Formation/Confirmation Programs and Learning Expectations

Pre-K & Kindergarten:

Should learn a general understanding of Jesus. Pre-K & Kindergarten will be using St. Mary's Press Children's Bible and Coloring Book program.

1st and 2nd Grade:

Sign of the Cross, Lord's Prayer, Blessing before Meals, understand parts of Mass, Glory Be prayer, Act of Contrition, understanding the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Communion. 1st grade will be using St. Mary's Press Discover Finding Faith in Life program and 2nd grade will be using Dynamic Catholic's Blessed Program.

3rd and 4th Grade:

Apostles' Creed, Nicene Creed, Blessed Trinity, 7 Sacraments, 10 commandments, Holy Days of Obligation: Mary, the Mother of God (January 1), The Ascension of the Lord (40 days after Easter), The Assumption of Our Lady (August 15), All Saints Day (November 1), The Immaculate Conception (December 8), Christmas (December 25) 3rd&4th grade will be using St. Mary's Press Discover Finding Faith in Life program.

5th and 6th Grade:

Stations of the Cross, Hail Holy Queen, Rosary, The Beatitudes, Corporal Works of Mercy and Spiritual Works of Mercy. 5th and 6th grade will be using St. Mary's Press Discover Finding Faith in Life program.

7th grade and up:

Will participate in a Confirmation preparation program from Dynamic Catholic called Decision Point. All students will choose their sponsor, attend special sessions, learn about, choose a saint, do works of mercy, and participate in a retreat. Students who are in this age group and have already been confirmed are encouraged to participate and serve as mentors in the Confirmation One class as they feel comfortable. We encourage High School Juniors and Seniors to join area college students in attending adult formation classes. We will also promote other faith formation opportunities to high school age students as they become known.

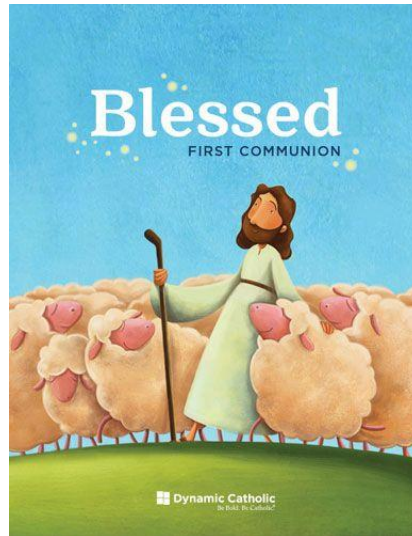
Protecting God's Children



The Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau is committed to helping children learn and grow in a safe and healthy environment. Article 12 of the U.S. Bishop's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People mandates that each diocese establish and maintain a Safe Environment Program for children, youth, and parents, as well as maintain a training program, background checks, and code of conduct for clergy, educators, employees, and parish volunteers who work with children. In light of this, the Virtus program Protecting God's Children has been adopted by our diocese. This program will continue at St. Francis of Assisi Parish Faith Formation classes this school year.

Copies of the Virtus booklet, Teaching Boundaries and Safety Guide, are available to all. Brief, age-appropriate safe environment lessons are being taught in grades K-Confirmation twice in the school year. If you are interested in looking over the curriculum for this program or would like to become Virtus certified please see the diocesan web page link: <https://dioscg.org/about/child-youth-protection2/>.





Here is the address <https://dynamiccatholic.com/blessed/program-view> to access the entire BLESSED program completely FREE. On this page, you'll find all 12 sessions containing all the short films, downloadable workbooks and leader guides. Simply click "view session" under each box to access everything you need. This is the link <https://dynamiccatholic.com/blessed/parent-program/> to access the free Blessed Parent Email Program so you can Journey along with you child.

- You can print the entire leader guide for First Communion https://files.dynamiccatholic.com/home/blessed/first-communion/downloads/Blessed_FirstCommunion_LeaderGuide.pdf.
- Print the entire student workbook for First Communion https://files.dynamiccatholic.com/home/blessed/first-communion/downloads/Blessed_FirstCommunion_Workbook.pdf.
- For First Reconciliation, you can print the entire leader guide here https://files.dynamiccatholic.com/home/blessed/first-reconciliation/Blessed_FirstReconciliation_LeaderGuide.pdf.
- Print the entire student workbook for First Reconciliation here https://files.dynamiccatholic.com/home/blessed/first-reconciliation/Blessed_FirstReconciliation_Workbook.pdf.




saint mary's press

touching hearts. enlivening minds.

Discover!

Finding Faith in Life
for Grades 1-5

 saint mary's press

Login

Email or Username
Discover!@smp.org

Password
Discover!123!

Keep me logged in

Login

[Forgot password](#)

This course is accessible on any device that connects to the internet.

Go to: mlearn.smp.org

Your email or username is:

Discover!@smp.org

Your password (case-sensitive):

Discover!123!

Note: Please do not change this password.

[LOGIN NOW](#)

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

2020-2021

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Parish Website

www.stfrancisnixa.org

Diocese Website

www.dioscg.org



**St Francis of Assisi
Catholic Church**

Children's Faith Formation Registration Form

As a Total Stewardship Parish, our Faith Formation classes are free of charge to all parish members.

Parent's Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

_____ I am interested in sharing my gifts at St. Francis of Assisi as a Catechist or Catechist Assistant.

CHILDREN

Please provide all information for each pre-K through high school child.

Name _____ Seated _____ Virtual _____

Date of Birth _____ Age _____ Grade _____

Sacraments (Please check sacraments your child has received.)

Baptism _____ Reconciliation _____ First Eucharist _____ Confirmation _____

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