



We are excited to welcome your children into both St. John the Baptist 2026-2027 Faith Formation parish programs and preparation for sacraments. Our mission is to help each child develop a lifelong relationship with Jesus Christ. We are committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment where they can explore their faith and grow in love and friendship with Him.

Participation in Sunday Mass is an essential part of our faith life. Gathering each week gives our families a strong Christian foundation upon which to build their lives. Through hearing the Word of God and celebrating the Eucharist, we are reminded of God's great love for us. We also strengthen our parish community by coming together in prayer each weekend.

All students' families must be active, registered parishioners of St. John's. For more information about parish registration, please contact Cathy Williamson at 201-664-3131 ext. 110.

### Information on Faith Formation Programs

- The **Summer Program** is an intensive course of catechesis for grades 1 through 8 that is taught in a span of 5 consecutive days during a week in the summer. Additionally, classes once a month during the academic year are on Sunday morning for students and faith formation for parents.
  - Two options are offered: Week of June 22 or Week of August 10. Classes begin each day of the week at 8:30am and conclude at 12:00pm
  - Sunday return classes once a month during the academic year – dates TBD
  - Return classes begins at 8:45am and goes on to 9:45am in St. John's academy classrooms.
  - Attendance is mandatory for all classes.
- **Sunday Weekly Program** instruction is offered in academy classrooms for grades 1 through 8. Classes begin in mid-September 2026 and go on to April 2027.
  - Jr. High 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade class will be offered during the Sunday Weekly program. Please read Jr. High Program on next page for contents of the program.
  - Sunday's classes begin at 8:45am and go on to 9:45am
  - Attendance is required for all faith formation classes.
  - Parent meeting will be in September date and time to be determined
- **Home Program** is for children in grades 1 through 6. This at home model from Loyola Press, the parent or guardian is the primary instructor for catechesis. The children are offered a model of catechesis that embraces technology, individualized learning on a semi flexible schedule and shares an on the ongoing invitation to enter a deeper relationship with Jesus and encourages them to find Jesus in all things.
  - Children are to attend a monthly faith formation on a weekday evening with at least one parent
  - Formation begins at 7:00pm with prayer in church and concludes at 8:00pm in the parish center



- **Home Program (continued)**
  - Children attend faith formation in a classroom setting.
  - Three opportunities are offered each month.
  - Once a month attendance is mandatory
  - Sign Up Genius sends each parent an invitation each month to sign their child(ren) up for the formation.
  - Interactive online work that is to be submitted on a timely basis is reviewed on a timely basis
  
- **Junior High Program is for children entering Grades 7 and 8.** The model of this program is to experience catechesis both in classroom and at home instruction.
  - Sunday Weekly in the academy from 8:45am to 9:45am (see Sunday Weekly Program)
  - Jr. High Home program students are to attend a mandatory monthly formation on a weekday evening
  - Jr. High Program begins at 7:00pm to 8:00pm for students
  - Catechists will teach 2 of the 6 chapters in class and continue to read the four chapters at home with the workpaper. Workpapers are collected before each class begins.

The themed books for this year are Revelation, The Trinity, Jesus Christ and Kingdom of God from the program *Alive in Christ* by Our Sunday Visitors. The initial parent meeting will be in September. Date & time TBD.

### **Faith Formation Volunteer Positions**

The success of our Faith Formation programs depends greatly on the generosity and support of parents and parish community volunteers. Catechists and aides are needed to assist in the classrooms each day of the program. Your willingness to share your faith and your time with the young people of our parish is truly vital to the growth of our faith community. Through your example, encouragement, and dedication, our children can deepen their relationship with Jesus and experience the love and support of the parish family. Our Faith Formation Programs at St. John's requires the assistance of numerous volunteers to work effectively. The various positions that volunteers fill are described below:

Catechist is a person of faith who leads the class of students to help them develop a deeper understanding of the doctrine of the Catholic faith. A catechist manual and curriculum guideline is provided as are support gatherings throughout the year.

A Co-Catechist are two people of faith who share leading the class of students to help them develop a deeper understanding of the doctrine of the Catholic faith. A catechist manual and curriculum guideline is provided for each person as are support gatherings throughout the year.

A Classroom Aide helps the catechist in the classroom with various responsibilities.

Registration fees on the next page.



## **Faith Formation Catechist/Co-Catechist Registration Fee:**

The role of a Catholic Catechist is to catechize the Faith of the Catholic Church, both by word and example. A Catechist is someone who lets the word of God echo through their life. A Catechist shares their faith and guides their students to learn how to apply and live their faith.

A parent who volunteers to serve as a catechist or co-catechist is making a meaningful commitment to support the faith formation of our children. This role includes teaching each week during the Sunday program, the summer program and one session each month throughout the academic year in the Home Program. You are helping to guide and nurture the children's understanding of their faith within the parish community.

### **Summer or Sunday Weekly program Catechist Payment (Grades 1 to 8) – volunteering as a catechist you are making the commitment to teach each Sunday and the entire Summer Program**

One Child - \$90.00                      Two Children - \$180.00  
 Three or more Children - \$250.00

### **Co-Catechist Payment Grades 1 to 8)**

One Child - \$160.00                      Two Children - \$300.00  
 Three or more Children - \$400.00

### **Home Program Catechist (Grades 1 to 8)**

One Child - \$160.00                      Two Children - \$300.00  
 Three or more Children - \$400.00

### **Jr. High Home Program Catechist (Grades 7 and 8)**

One Child - \$160.00      Two Children - \$300.00  
 Three or more Children - \$400.00

## **Faith Formation Registration Fee:**

One Child - \$230                      Two children - \$380                      Three or more children - \$480

# *St. John the Baptist Church*



**First Reconciliation and First Communion** is offered to children of our parish in the second grade or older who have been baptized in catholic church. Parish community families who currently have a child(ren) registered in St. John's Faith Formation (aka CCD) or St. John Academy and entering 2nd grade or higher in September 2026 can register. The initial parent meeting will be in October 2026.

**Confirmation is a two-year preparation program** for youth in high school grades. Candidates have time for discernment, and formation as they seek to follow Christ as one of His disciples. The two-year program includes information meetings to guide the candidates on their journey, 4 sessions each year (total of 8), 15 hours of service, retreat time, and two events. Facilitators, sponsors, and families work with the church community to assist and empower the candidates as they give witnesses to their faith in words, and action by using their gifts to live out their Christian vocation. Parish community families who have a son or daughter entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade or higher in September can register online. The initial incoming candidate and parent meeting to be determined.