

St. Peter Cathedral

2024-2025 Faith Formation Year



Dear Families,

I look forward to a new year of Faith Formation with you! Our classes have **two main goals**:

1. to teach students the content of their faith (for example, prayers, church teaching), and
2. to help children grow in their relationship with God through witness and reflection of how He calls them.

We are here to assist you in raising and forming your children in our rich and beautiful Catholic faith, but also realize that ***you are their primary catechists***. We can see this simply in considering that we have the children for 24 hours in an entire year, and that is if they come every week! (That is only about 3 days of school.) On our own we cannot adequately form them, but we are here to serve and support you. For your child to grow, understand and embrace our faith and our Lord will require you to follow up at home, to pray and to participate in the sacraments appropriate to them.

This year we will again offer class at **9:00-10:15 am**, so you can attend Mass at the time of your choice before or after class. As you probably already know, class **DOES NOT REPLACE MASS**. Mass is the most important event you will attend with your child because it is HIS gift and makes present HIS sacrifice to us. On most months (except for November, we will have **one Sunday off**, so hopefully that will make your commitment more feasible.

CALENDAR

Please refer to the **2024-2025 Faith Formation Calendar** for dates. It details the entire faith formation year which runs from September through May. It is very helpful if you place all dates on your personal calendar, making special note of the weekends and when we do **NOT** have a session. Sacrament Prep calendars come on a separate sheet. Both calendars are also listed on our parish website.

9:00 am MEETING PLACE!

We will continue to meet in **the Bishop's Room at 9:00am**, where we will pray as a group for **10-15 minutes**, and then head over to classes. **Parents, PLEASE ATTEND with your children, as this is our way of forming the whole family.** You will pick children up at 10:15am in the Gathering Area as we have done in the past.

ABSENCE FROM CLASS

Please **TEXT me, email me or call me** if you know your child will miss class. Our teachers spend much time in preparing lessons, and it is considerate to let them know if they will not have students before the day of class or **ASAP**. My cell phone number is (920)212-0269.

CURRICULUM

This is a year of Eucharistic revival in our diocese, hence I will look for opportunities to increase devotion to the Holy Eucharist. This might take place through our gatherings before class, or through adoration in the Eucharistic chapel—I encourage all teachers to take their students to adoration even if it is for a few minutes.

I will order books on **September 16th**, the day after **registration closes**. Please submit all forms as soon as you can. A timely registration will help us receive books on time for when class starts.

Textbooks WILL come home because of family participation and follow up, so **please return them the following weekend**, as we **will be using textbooks IN CLASS as well**.



Grades 1,

We will again use **WORD OF LIFE** by Augustine Institute! **WORD OF LIFE** presents the Church and the Sacraments as the great gifts Jesus has given us to progress in the spiritual life. It makes learning the faith engaging and fun with Bible stories, contemporary children's stories, lives of the saints, and activities for a variety of learning styles. Every chapter has a page for parents that provides a brief summary of what the child learned in class and a variety of ways to live the faith in daily life. **I encourage you to follow up (last page of each chapter) with what your child is learning in class!**

Grade 2

Second Grade will use **Signs of Grace** by Augustine Institute to prepare for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion. The children's videos are short and you can find them on FORMED!

Grade 3-5

As our grades overlap, this year we are trying a new curriculum: **WALKING WITH JESUS**, by Sophia Press, which lends itself to lectio divina, and follows the liturgical seasons. It enables students to be steeped in scripture and reflect on what God is saying to them.

Grades 6, 7-8

These 3 grades will be in one class, delving into **CONNECT! BRINGING FAITH TO LIFE**

This is a 3 year program that will help students explore the 4 pillars of our faith: the Creed, Liturgy and Sacraments, Christian Morality and Justice and Prayer. With this program, we will be using new Bibles which we have bought through a Legacy of Faith Grant. They will develop a solid understanding and use of the Bible.

COMMUNICATION

Parent communication will mostly occur by announcement when we gather in the **BISHOP'S ROOM** at **9:00am on Sundays, or via FLOCKNOTE emails. At least one parent should come as the first 15 minutes we meet together are a time for family catechesis, and I will often hand out something relevant to the family for the week.** Also, please check with your child each time you pick them up to see if they have anything for you. **If a class is cancelled** for inclement weather, I will most likely text you through FLOCKNOTE- it will come as a regular text. I usually text if my message is very brief.

SICKNESS

Please keep your child home if he/she feels sick, has a cough and sore throat or temperature of above 100.4 degrees.

MAGNIFIKIDS

Each child in grades Atrium-5th will get a **MAGNIFIKID!** issue **every month**. I will place them in the wooden rack on the wall next to the Bishop's Room after the last Sunday of the month and send you a text when they are ready for pick-up (usually at the end of the month). If anyone wishes to order extra issues, it can be done through me if you like. Ask me about that.

I sincerely thank you for entrusting us with your child! Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about our program. I am truly blessed to be a part of your faith journey!

Through His merciful Heart,
Annalisa Ogle
Faith Formation Coordinator
St. Peter Cathedral
(906) 226-6548

For Fr. Brandon- to post in bulletin:

We are here to walk with parents in helping them shape their children to become life long Catholics! Our Faith Formation program helps children develop a love and knowledge of our Catholic Faith as well as a deeper relationship with Jesus. We only have them 24 hours a year, and so cannot take the place of the parents, who are the primary catechists, but we are here to support you! We hope you allow us to embark on this journey of faith together!

If you want specifics, here are other facts:

We use curriculum from St. Mary's Press and the Augustine Institute.

We meet Sunday mornings 9:00-10:30 am

Calendar is posted on the bulletin board.

In honor of our Eucharistic revival, we foster a love of the Eucharist by visiting the adoration Chapel weekly as part of our classes!