

Formation for All of God's Family

Pope Francis's message directs our mission in walking beside families on the Catholic faith journey.



"The family is the fundamental locus of the covenant between the church and God's creation."

Pope Francis

Our program creates the opportunity for all members of the family to learn and grow with their peers. The grouping of children and youth by age allows for differentiation by social and spiritual needs.

Our Elementary and Middle School Formation programs meet at your home parish before Sunday Mass at St. Catherine and after Sunday Mass at St. Joan of Arc. Our High School Formation meets after Sunday Mass at St. Catherine.

Adult formation is offered at the same time as our Elementary and Middle School Formation programs.

By feeding each member of the family based on their needs and current place in the faith journey, we strengthen the family as a whole.

Our Curriculum

Our catechists are supported in providing instruction to your children by the resources available through Finding God: Our Response to God's Gifts.® by Loyola Press. These resources are rooted in Scripture, Catholic doctrine, and Ignatian spirituality. Finding God is a core faith formation program for Kindergarten through Grade 8 that helps foster a lived relationship with God through Jesus. Ignatian spirituality is rooted in the conviction that God is active, personal, and—above all—present to us.

Students are given age appropriate activities around the curriculum themes. Themes for those in our younger grades are God as our Father and Creator, Jesus as our Lord and Savior, the Church as our community in the Spirit, Sacraments as our way of life, and Morality as we live our faith. Our older students dive deeper into their study of Jesus with themes of One True Faith, the early life of Jesus, the public life of Jesus, Jesus as the Christ, and how Jesus lives on.

In our high school program, students are able to journey as a combined community of faith as they grow into global citizens. They will function as both a youth group and a class learning about their faith. Their preparation is rooted in the scripture, focused on discussion on the weekly Gospel message.

In all age groups we also recognize and celebrate the liturgical seasons and celebrations of the Church.

Our Director

Holly Cervený has Masters Degree in Educational Leadership from Cardinal Stritch University and a Bachelors Degree in Secondary Education from Carroll College. Holly also has an Advanced certification in Religious Education from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

Holly has been the principal at St. Joan of Arc School since 2010 and lives in Lake Country with her husband and three children.



*Faith Formation
for Families*

Grades 4K-11 and Adults

**ST. CATHERINE OF
ALEXANDRIA AND
ST. JOAN OF ARC**

2023-24

Elementary Formation

Grades 4K-4

Children in grades 4K-4 are divided by age and meet with catechists to deepen their understanding of Christ and the Catholic faith using the *Finding God* series by Loyola Press. The curriculum, which includes age appropriate hands on activities and discussion, offers opportunities to meet the benchmarks set by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

2nd Grade Sacramental Preparation

Second grade students will receive their Sacramental preparation for both First Reconciliation and First Communion during class. Parents and child will also receive additional preparation for these Sacraments at a separate family meeting.

We Need Your Help!

Consider being a host family for the weekend program. Contribution is key to self esteem in children, this is an opportunity to work as a family and serve our parish.



Middle School Formation

Grades 5-8

Children in grades 5-8 will spend time both as a large group as well as breakout groups.

Middle School Development

This age is unique in that children are more socially motivated and engaged with their peers. Offering opportunity for structured social connection is an important part of the catechesis for this age to meet their social and spiritual needs. Both must be met in conjunction to provide an effective and meaningful experience.

They will be guided by their catechists as they deepen their understanding of Christ and their own faith journey

supported by the *Finding God* series by Loyola Press. The curriculum, which includes age appropriate activities and discussion, offers opportunities to meet the benchmarks set by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

High School Formation

Grades 9-11

Grades 9-11 meet to deepen their Catholic faith through service, group discussion, personal reflection, and retreat.

Our formation classes always include Mass, as liturgy is an important part of our formation and relationship with God. Youth can participate in Mass as greeter, usher, server, reader, Eucharistic Minister, or musician.

After Mass, we separate into groups to share in the planned lesson for our time together. As part of the Youth Formation Program, we offer ministry opportunities to all grades to emphasize servitude and follow Jesus's example of serving others.

Confirming Our Faith

Confirmation preparation is a process. Our high school students explore the gifts of the Holy Spirit and are invited to community and service opportunities to deepen their faith, culminating in Confirmation at the end of 11th grade.

Join Our Ministry Team

Consider becoming a Catechist or volunteering to help at one of our various ministry opportunities.



Family Fellowship and Adult Formation

Our formation classes always includes Mass, as liturgy is an important part of our formation and relationship with God. Either before or after Mass, we join for fellowship and then children proceed to class while adults may stay for continued fellowship, scripture discussion, or to hear a guest speaker.

Our focus for Adult Formation this year will be building getting to know the Gospel and how we see ourselves therein.

For more information visit www.scsjcluster.org