



St. Joseph of the Lakes 2025-2026 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, 2025	Registration fee <i>after</i> September 1, 2025
\$100 per child	\$150 per child (child 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 use 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, 2025	Registration fee <i>after</i> September 1, 2025
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 be using 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.



Note that beginning this year, middle school faith formation will be moving to two Sunday evenings a month, held from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM. Please contact Sara Knoll with any questions.

★★★NEW SESSION DAY/TIME★★★:

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

Registration fee *through*
September 1, 2025

\$125 per child

Registration fee *after*
September 1, 2025

\$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 use 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. Each new Confirmation candidate will be provided a student workbook, a parent guide, and a sponsor's guide. 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 Sunday, April 19, 2026 at 2 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,
2025

\$175 per child

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

Registration fee
after September
1, 2025

\$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: Monthly Sessions
(10/1, 11/5, 12/3, 1/7, 2/4, 3/25, 4/8)**

Contact: Jacob Wilson –
jacobw@saintjosephsparish.org

New this year: Join us in our parent formation program, to be held once a month on a Wednesday evening during elementary school-aged faith formation class time. 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.

**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 (Dec. 17, February 18, April 1). 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.

**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.



Join us
for
Spirit
Sundays

Celebrate our Catholic faith as children of God and members of a vibrant parish community! Everyone of all ages is encouraged to attend Spirit Sunday 10 AM Masses, where we will encounter the love and joy of God. Children and youth are invited to bring an item for food shelf donation and to wear a red shirt to be part of a living symbol of the Holy Spirit.

*First two Spirit Sundays of the school year, 10 AM Mass—more dates forthcoming:
October 12th and November 16th*

Here's a beautiful way to pray together as a family:

If you're spending time in the car together—whether it's during school drop-offs, commutes, or errands—why not turn this time into a moment of prayer? You could pray a decade of the Rosary or offer short, spontaneous prayers for the day ahead. Ask God to watch over you, bless your family's work and play, and help you serve Him with joy. These small moments can become a sacred pause in the busyness of life, reminding your family to stay connected to God. *Adapted from Liverpool Catholic Community*



Faith formation events coming soon

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

Wednesday, September 17
5:30-6:30 pm
Picnic dinner included!



**2025-2026 Family Faith
Formation Nights**

Wednesday, December 17
Wednesday, February 18
Wednesday, April 1



**Halloween Hoopla:
Because Hunger is *Scary***

Saturday, October 25
6:15 pm - 7:30 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.*

***Celebrate Christmas at
our Family Faith
Formation night:
Wed. December 17th***

