

Welcome to St. Anthony & St. Pius X Faith Formation

The purpose of Faith Formation at our Parishes is to bring our families, children, and youth into relationship with Christ and His Church, as disciples. We aim to help them to grow in knowledge and love of our rich and beautiful Catholic Faith. We view this undertaking as a joint effort between the parishes and parents/families.

*“Education in the faith by parents should begin in the child’s earliest years. This already happens when family members help one another to grow in faith by the witness of a Christian life in keeping with the Gospel. Family catechesis precedes, accompanies, and enriches other forms of instruction in the faith. Parents have the mission of teaching their children to pray and to discover their vocation as children of God. The parish is the Eucharistic community and the heart of the liturgical life of Christian families; it is a privileged place for the catechesis of children and parents.”* Catechism of the Catholic Church 2226

St. Anthony and St. Pius X Faith Formation is here to help, support, and journey with families in the catechesis and discipleship of their children.



## St. Anthony & St. Pius X Catholic Churches

### Faith Formation



#### Parish Contact Info

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*Let the children come to  
me, do not hinder them;  
for to such belongs the  
kingdom of God.*

Mark 10:14 RSVCE

## Elementary Faith Formation (Pre-K through 5th grade)

Our Elementary F.F. has two components. The first is our **family session** on the third Sunday of the month. This session will consist of a Zoom meeting at 5:30p followed by a lesson and family activity to be completed at home. This family session is for parents and all children in the family from pre-K through 5th grade (younger and older kids can participate too!).

The second component is our **F.F. Wednesday sessions**, which are for grades 1 - 5. Sessions will again consist of a Zoom meeting at 5:30p followed by an interactive activity on Classdojo and a lesson to be completed at home. Children will receive instruction in the Faith and be given opportunities to grow in their relationship with Jesus.

**Both the Family Sessions and the Wednesday Sessions are part of our Faith Formation Program and children are expected to attend both.** If a Family session is missed, a make-up meeting will need to be scheduled with the DEF, so that the important content of the session can still be passed on.

## First Reconciliation and First Eucharist

Children who have completed at least one year of Faith Formation, are currently enrolled in Faith Formation, and have reached the age of reason (typically 2nd grade) can prepare to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist. There are two components to the preparation: A once a month family session held on Zoom and one monthly lesson to be completed at home. First Reconciliation is celebrated in January and First Eucharist is celebrated in May.

## Middle & High School Faith Formation (grades 6 through 11)

Middle school F.F. sessions will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30–8p and High School F.F. sessions will be held on from 7:30 - 9p. Instruction will be conducted through distance learning.

Middle school students will participate in large group teaching through Zoom and then will complete activities and lessons using Google Classroom. They will conclude each session with “RAJ” time, “Random Act of Jesus”, where they will provide an act of love and service to others. Sessions are designed to engage the middle schoolers and give them a hands on experience of our Catholic Faith to equip them to live as disciples of Jesus.

High school students will also participate in large group teaching through Zoom and complete activities and lessons using Google Classroom, with YDisciple being the main learning resource. They will meet in small discipleship groups monthly. Through video resources, large and small group discussion, and service, D-groups will learn about the Faith and how to live as a disciples of Jesus.

Due to the unique format of instruction for this year, communication with parents and students will be a vital key to program success. Families will receive regular email updates with the lessons and topics for each week, with resources on how to continue talking about and exploring topics on Wednesday nights. This will help parents to stay connected and to have Faith conversations with their teen and continue the partnership between the parish and families.

## Family Fun Nights

All parishioners are invited to join in once a month for a night of family fun conducted either online or in person (if safe to do so). Activities for family fun nights include Kahoot! Trivia Night, Bible Bingo, Ice Skating, and a Scavenger Hunt!

## The Sacrament of Confirmation

In the Diocese of Duluth, preparation for Confirmation is a three year journey. Through preparation the candidate will be presented with the truths of our rich Catholic Faith and give the opportunity to come to know Christ and His Church in a deeper way. Candidates will also be given tools to invest in their Faith for the long run; **Confirmation is not a graduation, it's a beginning!**

Our preparation for Confirmation has a foundation in Catechesis and Evangelization. Through class sessions, special events, the Sacraments, retreats and “faith in action”, **the youth will be challenged to know and live their Catholic Faith and to pursue a relationship with Christ.**

The first two years of preparation are during 9th and 10th grade Faith Formation sessions. The third year of preparation is during 11th grade and includes regular Faith Formation sessions as well as immediate Confirmation sessions held in March and a weekend retreat.

Youth are expected to have participated in a continuous Faith Formation throughout their life as a prerequisite to Confirmation Preparation. If this is not the case, extra formation may be needed and will be determined by the DEF and the Pastor.

If a young person has missed the typical time frame mentioned above, please contact St. Anthony's DEF and arrangements can be made to prepare for and receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Details of the Confirmation Preparation will be laid out at our Confirmation Orientation at the beginning of the year. All 9th - 11th grade students and their parent(s) must attend this important night.