

# New Policies For High School Faith Formation Programs 2025-26



## **Strong Catholic Families: Strong Catholic Youth**

*The research on teens and faith cannot be clearer: parents matter...a lot! So what is the Church doing to engage and partner with parents in supporting them in their rightful role as primary formators of faith for their family? And what can parents do to take ownership for leading their children and teens toward a vibrant faith that embraces discipleship?*

Welcome to a new and exciting year. We look forward to engaging and supporting your family in our formation program and welcome everyone to be a part of this new and exciting journey.

## **PSR Transition to Seventh Grade Confirmation**

In December 2024, Bishop Duca announced his decision to move the age of Confirmation from 11th Grade to 7th Grade. *“Our children are experiencing a culture which, at times, is hostile to our faith. Through social media of all forms, young people are confronted at a surprisingly younger age with challenges to their Catholic faith and morals. Given this new reality, I believe it is time to lower the age of Confirmation to give our children the full grace of the Sacrament of Confirmation at an earlier age to meet these challenges.”* -Bishop Duca . You can find his full statement [here](#).

Moving forward, you may see other churches use different approaches to implement these changes. Based on our parishes’ needs and the resources available to us, we feel the following plan is the best way to implement these changes beginning in the 2025-26 PSR year. For clarity, classes will be referred to using their high school graduation year as follows:

11th grade students - Class of 2027 Current  
10th grade students - Class of 2028 Current  
9th grade students - Class of 2029 Current  
8th grade students - Class of 2030 Current  
7th grade students - Class of 2031 Current  
6th grade students - Class of 2032 Current  
5th grade students - Class of 2033 Current  
4th grade students - Class of 2034

**How will this look for our cluster?**

Currently, students must be enrolled in and faithfully attend PSR all years prior to receiving the sacrament of Confirmation. Going forward, students who will receive Confirmation in 7th grade, must attend PSR all years (3rd-6th) between First Communion and Confirmation.

**PSR Year 2025- 26:** Class of 2027 will receive the sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday, January 27, 2026 and Class of 2028 will receive the sacrament on Monday, June 1, 2026. Both will be held at St. Joseph in Paulina at 6:00 pm.

**PSR Year 2026- 27 :** Class of 2029 and 2030 will receive the sacrament of Confirmation on a date s TBD.

**PSR Year 2027- 28:** Class of 2031, 2032, 2033 will receive the sacrament of Confirmation on a date s TBD.

**PSR Year 2028- 29 and beyond:** 7th grade students will receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

*\*Students currently enrolled in Catholic school who will make Confirmation in our cluster will follow this same format.\**

We have decided to implement our program in semesters, in order to achieve this goal. Below you will find the layout of how this will look.

| <i>Class of 2026</i> |                  |                          | <i>Class of 2027</i> |                  |                          |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Grade</i>         | <i>Semester</i>  | <i>Subject</i>           | <i>Grade</i>         | <i>Semester</i>  | <i>Subject</i>           |
| <i>12th</i>          | <i>Fall-25</i>   | <i>SR Youth Group</i>    | <i>11th</i>          | <i>Fall-25</i>   | <i>Confirmation</i>      |
|                      | <i>Spring-26</i> | <i>Jr/Sr Youth Group</i> |                      | <i>Spring-26</i> | <i>Jr/Sr Youth Group</i> |
|                      |                  |                          | <i>12th</i>          | <i>Fall 26</i>   | <i>Jr/Sr Youth Group</i> |
|                      |                  |                          |                      | <i>Spring 27</i> | <i>Jr/Sr Youth Group</i> |

| <i>Class of 2028</i> |                  |                             | <i>Class of 2029</i> |                  |                             |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>Grade</i>         | <i>Semester</i>  | <i>Subject</i>              | <i>Grade</i>         | <i>Semester</i>  | <i>Subject</i>              |
| <i>10th</i>          | <i>Fall 25</i>   | <i>Theology of the Body</i> | <i>9th</i>           | <i>Fall 25</i>   | <i>Fr. Mike</i>             |
|                      | <i>Spring 26</i> | <i>Confirmation</i>         |                      | <i>Spring 26</i> | <i>Theology of the Body</i> |
| <i>11th</i>          | <i>Fall 26</i>   | <i>Jr/Sr Youth Group</i>    | <i>10th</i>          | <i>Fall 26</i>   | <i>Confirmation</i>         |
|                      | <i>Spring 27</i> | <i>Jr/Sr Youth Group</i>    |                      | <i>Spring 27</i> | <i>10th Youth Group</i>     |
| <i>12th</i>          | <i>Fall 27</i>   | <i>Jr/Sr Youth Group</i>    | <i>11th</i>          | <i>Fall 27</i>   | <i>Jr/Sr Youth Group</i>    |
|                      | <i>Spring 28</i> | <i>Jr/Sr Youth Group</i>    |                      | <i>Spring 28</i> | <i>Jr/Sr Youth Group</i>    |
|                      |                  |                             | <i>12th</i>          | <i>28/29</i>     | <i>Jr/Sr Youth Group</i>    |

| <i>Class of 2030</i> |                  |                             | <i>Class of 2031</i> |                  |                          |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Grade</i>         | <i>Semester</i>  | <i>Subject</i>              | <i>Grade</i>         | <i>Semester</i>  | <i>Subject</i>           |
| <i>8th</i>           | <i>Fall 25</i>   | <i>Jr High PSR</i>          | <i>7th</i>           | <i>25/26</i>     | <i>Jr High PSR</i>       |
|                      | <i>Spring 26</i> | <i>Fr. Mike</i>             |                      | <i>8th</i>       | <i>Fall 26</i>           |
| <i>9th</i>           | <i>Fall 26</i>   | <i>Theology of the Body</i> | <i>Spring 27</i>     |                  | <i>Fr. Mike</i>          |
|                      | <i>Spring 27</i> | <i>Confirmation</i>         | <i>9th</i>           | <i>Fall 27</i>   | <i>Confirmation</i>      |
| <i>10th</i>          | <i>Fall 27</i>   | <i>10th Youth Group</i>     |                      | <i>Spring 28</i> | <i>9/10 Youth Group</i>  |
|                      | <i>Spring 28</i> | <i>9/10 Youth group</i>     | <i>10th</i>          | <i>28/29</i>     | <i>9/10 Youth Group</i>  |
| <i>11th</i>          | <i>28/29</i>     | <i>Jr/Sr Youth Group</i>    |                      | <i>11th</i>      | <i>29/30</i>             |
| <i>12th</i>          | <i>29/30</i>     | <i>Jr/Sr Youth Group</i>    | <i>12th</i>          | <i>30/31</i>     | <i>11/12 Youth Group</i> |

| <i>Class of 2032</i> |                 |                            | <i>Class of 2033</i> |                 |                            |
|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Grade</i>         | <i>Semester</i> | <i>Subject</i>             | <i>Grade</i>         | <i>Semester</i> | <i>Subject</i>             |
| 7th                  | 26/27           | 7 <sup>th</sup> grade book | 7th                  | Fall 27         | 7 <sup>th</sup> grade book |
| 8th                  | Fall 27         | 8 <sup>th</sup> grade book |                      | Spring 28       | Confirmation               |
|                      | Spring 28       | Confirmation               | 8th                  | 28/29           | Fr. Mike                   |
| 9th                  | 28/29           | 9/10 Youth Group           | 9th                  | 29/30           | 9/10 Youth Group           |
| 10th                 | 29/30           | 9/10 Youth Group           | 10th                 | 30/31           | 9/10 Youth Group           |
| 11th                 | 30/31           | Jr/Sr Youth Group          | 11th                 | 31/32           | Jr/Sr Youth Group          |
| 12th                 | 31/32           | Jr/Sr Youth Group          | 12th                 | 32/33           | Jr/Sr Youth Group          |

| <i>Class of 34 +</i> |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 7th                  | Confirmation     |
| 8th                  | Fr Mike          |
| 9th                  | 9/10 Youth Group |
| 10th                 | 9/10 Youth Group |
| 11th                 | Jr/Sr Youth      |
| 12th                 | Jr/Sr Youth      |

Each student in every year level will be required to complete:

- Family Retreat
  - 9<sup>th</sup> year requirement – Choice of retreat or 2 Mornings of Prayer – with parents
  - 10<sup>th</sup> year requirement – Confirmation Retreat in Spring on Saturday, April 18, 2026
  - 11<sup>th</sup> year requirement – Confirmation Retreat in Fall on Saturday, November 1, 2025
- Family Enrichment Hours
  - 9<sup>th</sup> year requirement – 3 hours
  - 10<sup>th</sup> year requirement – 3 hours
  - 11<sup>th</sup> year requirement – 3 hours
- Service Ministry Hours
  - 9<sup>th</sup> year requirement – 4 hours
  - 10<sup>th</sup> year requirement – 5 hours
  - 11<sup>th</sup> year requirement – 6 hours

### Individual Year Requirements

#### 9<sup>th</sup> Year

Retreat/2 morning sessions-w/parents  
 Family Enrichment Hours – 3  
 Service Ministry Hours – 4

#### 10<sup>th</sup> Year

Confirmation Retreat in Spring  
 Family Enrichment Hours – 3  
 Service Ministry Hours – 5

#### 11<sup>th</sup> Year

Confirmation Retreat in Fall  
 Family Enrichment Hours – 3  
 Service Ministry Hours – 6

### Family Retreats and Family Enrichment Hours

Family Retreats are retreat experiences that families share together. [For Summer Retreats you must call when email is sent out for accepting registrations.](#) All retreats will be family hours and service hours combined. Great way to get both. For retreats during the school year or Mornings of Prayer, you must register by filling out the blue card.

### **Summer Retreats**

**May 31/June 1, 2025 and July 26/27, 2025 – Registration will be announced in an email in a week or so. These retreats do have a fee, because of meals and such.**

### **Retreats during year:**

#### **High School Student/Parents Retreat Schedule**

#### **Retreats INCLUDE 4:00 PM MASS AT ST. JOSEPH**

- October 11, 2025 – Attend Hope Youth Fest - \*\*This is a change from May form\*\*\*\*
- January 10, 2026 – Sacred Heart PSR–10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

#### **High School PSR Mornings of Prayer Schedule – Family Enrichment hours**

- September 27, 2025 – SM Hall – 9:00 AM – NOON \*\*This is a change from May form\*\*\*
- November 22, 2025 – SM Hall – 9:00 AM – NOON
- February 7, 2026 – SM Hall – 9:00 AM – NOON
- March 21, 2026 – SM Hall – 9:00 AM – NOON

**10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> year Formation must attend the Confirmation Retreat assigned for that class:**

**11<sup>th</sup> Grade – Class of 2027 Saturday, Nov 1– Sacred Heart PSR – 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

**10<sup>th</sup> Grade - Class of 2028 Saturday, April 18 – Sacred Heart PSR – 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

### **Other Family Enrichment Hours – Must attend with a parent or grandparent**

- Student and parents from St. Michael may attend The Living Rosary on Sunday, October 19 at 6:30 in St. Michael Parish Hall.
- Students and parents may attend the Family Mission, March 2-4, 2026 at Sacred Heart from 6:30-8 pm.
- Participate in programs offered by FORMED – information will be included in newsletters.
- Attend together a special mass such as a non –obligatory mass. (ex. Mass for Feast of St. Michael, Feast of Sacred Heart of Jesus, Thanksgiving Mass, Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday, or Good Friday Services. Also extra masses during Lent and Stations of the Cross)

### Service Ministry Hours

Service Ministry is an experience where you perform a needed service for an individual or organization within our CHURCH parish cluster. Below is a list of the acceptable experiences. **If it is not listed below, than it does not count, without prior consent from Fr. Laz, Missy Laurent, or Jackie Copponex.** This is to help build our Church community and the Kingdom of God here on the River Road. We encourage that hours in this area be earned in **at least 2 different ministries.** This will help you to volunteer and experience many of the different ministries available. Time served is time earned. You cannot earn extra time if you did a good job, as a good job should always be done.

- Altar Server – Contact the pastoral center
- Choir Member – Contact the choir leader for that choir. Must attend practices, you cannot just show up and sing.
- Usher – See head usher at that Mass, you will receive 10 minutes of service each time you usher. 6 times equal one hour.
- Aide for a PSR Program – Contact Mrs. Liz(SH) or Miss Carol Ann(SM).
- Aide for First Reconciliation Retreat on Feb 7, 2026 – Contact Mrs. Liz(SH) or Miss Carol Ann(SM)
- Aide in helping with Chalice Painting on March 14, 2026 - Contact Mrs. Liz(SH)
- Aide for First Eucharist Retreat on April 18, 2026– Contact Mrs. Liz(SH) or Miss Carol Ann(SM)
- Leader for Catholic Boot Camp in Summer – TBA Contact Mrs. Liz
- Volunteer to work at any of the Parish Blood Drives – Contact the pastoral center
- Volunteer to work at the St. Vincent DePaul (Store, Food Pantry, Uniform Give Away, Food Collection) – Contact Emery Forsythe
- Volunteer to work at St. Peter Chanel Spring Festival on March 13-15, 2026 – Contact Chanel School
- Volunteer to work at KC Functions (Bingo, Monthly Dinner) – Contact Barry Weber
- Volunteer to work at the Prayer Garden (Contact Anne Detillier) or one of our Churches gardens (Contact the pastoral center)
- Volunteer to assist in cleaning one of our parish Churches – Contact the Pastoral Center
- Volunteer to help at any of the Church Parishes or Church Functions – These will be listed in bulletin as available.
- Volunteer to work at one of the St. Vincent DePaul Shelters in Baton Rouge. Dates will be announced in newsletters or via email.
- Participate in the Living Nativity and Living Stations – meaning practice and performance – on TBA

## Confirmation

Students wishing to be presented for Confirmation must be baptized and registered in the parishes. They must have completed religious education for grades 1 through 10, and must attend sacramental preparation classes for Confirmation. This is in addition to their normal religious education.

### Class of 2027

August 3, 2025 - Sacred Heart Church, Gramercy

6:15 PM Confirmation Information Session for Student & Parent

September 7, 2025 Rite of Welcoming for Fall Confirmation Students &

Sponsors You and sponsor may attend any one of the following masses.

8:00 AM - St. Michael; 10:00 AM - St. Joseph; 5:00 PM - Sacred Heart

November 1, 2025 - Confirmation Retreat

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM at Sacred Heart including 4:00 PM Mass at St. Joseph

November 2/3, 2025 – Give out Student/Sponsor packets at class. These are to be completed with the student and the sponsor and turned in at class on November 16/17, 2025

Confirmation Practice -January 25 at 11:30 am at St. Joseph for those making Confirmation on January 27 at St. Joseph.

Celebration of Confirmation Class of 2027 - January 27, 2026 – 6:00 PM – St. Joseph, Paulina

### Class of 2028

January 4, 2026 – Sacred Heart Church Gramercy – for Confirmation in Spring – 6:15 – Student & Parent

Feb 1, 2026 Rite of Welcoming for Fall Confirmation Students &

Sponsors You and sponsor may attend any one of the following masses.

8:00 AM - St. Michael; 10:00 AM - St. Joseph; 5:00 PM - Sacred Heart

March 29, 2026 – Give out Student/Sponsor packets at class. These are to be completed with the student and the sponsor and turned in at class on April 12/13, 2026

April 18, 2026 - Confirmation Retreat

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM at Sacred Heart including 4:00 PM Mass at St. Joseph

Confirmation Practice –May 23, 2026 at 5:30 pm at St. Joseph for Confirmation on June 1, 2026 at St. Joseph.

Celebration of Confirmation Class of 2028 – June 1, 2026 – 6:00 PM – St. Joseph, Paulina

## Sacred Heart & St. Joseph High School Faith Formation

Formation Years (grades) 9-11  
Sacred Heart PSR Building  
Grade 10 & 11 Sunday 6:15 PM  
Grade 9 Sunday 6:15 PM

## St. Michael the Archangel

*Faith Formation*  
Formation Years (grades) 9-11  
Grade 11 Monday: 6:00-7:30 PM  
Grades 9 & 10 Monday 6:30-7:30PM

| Dates     | 11th Year  | 10th Year    | 9th Year     |
|-----------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| August    | 3 (PS),    | 3(PS)        | 3(PS)        |
| August    | 17,24      | 17,24        | 17,24        |
| September | 7,14,21,28 | 7,14,21,28   | 7,14,21,28   |
| October   | 5,19,26    | 5,19,26      | 5,19,26      |
| November  | 2,9,16     | 2,9,16       | 2,9,16       |
| December  |            |              |              |
| January   | TBA        | 11,25        | 11,25        |
| February  | TBA        | 1,15,22      | 1,15,22      |
| March     | TBA        | 1,8,15,22,29 | 1,8,15,22,29 |
| April     | TBA        | 12,19        | 12,19        |

| Dates     | 11th Year  | 10th Year    | 9th Year     |
|-----------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| August    | 3 (PS),    | 3(PS)        | 3(PS)        |
| August    | 18,25      | 18,25        | 18,25        |
| September | 8,15,22,29 | 8,15,22,29   | 8,15,22,29   |
| October   | 6,20,27    | 6,20,27      | 6,20,27      |
| November  | 3,10,17    | 3,10,17      | 3,10,17      |
| December  |            |              |              |
| January   | TBA        | 12,26        | 12,26        |
| February  | TBA        | 2,16,23      | 2,16,23      |
| March     | TBA        | 2,9,16,23,30 | 2,9,16,23,30 |
| April     | TBA        | 13,20        | 13,20        |

**(PS – is Parent Student Session)**

## Policies for Youth Faith Formation in the Cluster

### *Dress Code*

It is the obligation of our church parishes to provide a proper educational and religious atmosphere which shall be conducive to the learning process as well as spiritual growth and morality. Students, teachers, and staff have the right to be free from distractions which hinder the learning process and go against the moral code. No mode of attire will be considered proper for school wear that distracts from or disrupts classroom learning. The DRE makes the final decision as to what is considered proper or improper dress according to the guidelines provided.

The Parish Staff believes it is the responsibility of each student/parent to use good judgment in one's total appearance so that the attention of others is not distracted from the purpose of their school.

**Boys:** Your own school approved uniform or: a sleeved shirt and pant or short (not more than 3" above the knee).

**Girls:** Your own school approved uniform or: a sleeved shirt and pant or short/skirt/dress (not more than 3" above the knee).

**Not allowed**—Sleeveless, cut-off shirts, backless, strapless, low cut or crop tops shirts. Shirts containing inappropriate words or graphics. Hats are also not allowed.

### *Dress Code Offense*

Grades 9-11 – Parent will be called to bring a change of clothes to student..

### *Attendance Policies*

It is the obligation of our parishes to provide a consistent and enriching program for our students. Students are expected to attend all classes and to be on time.

Parents are expected to drop off and pick up their children on time.

**High School Students** are encouraged to attend **ALL classes**. For this reason we offer classes on Sunday and Monday. Please choose the day that you will be able to attend the most classes. If there is an absence, each one will be dealt with accordingly between student, parent, DRE, and pastor.

**Elementary/Middle School Students** are encouraged to attend **ALL classes**. For this reason we offer classes on Sunday and Monday. Please choose the day that you will be able to attend the most classes. If there is an absence, each one will be dealt with accordingly between student, parent, DRE, and pastor.

### *Make-up Work:*

Students will be given a copy of the lesson he/she missed to take home and complete for the following class. Parents must sign the completed assignment/absentee form.