



Parish Council Overview: Elementary Faith Formation

Jilinda Dygert, Coordinator of Elementary Faith Formation • 03.01.2021



Elementary Faith Formation Mission Statement

To assist parents in their mission as primary educators of their children's faith by providing a Parish catechetical program that teaches the Gospel and helps them discover their vocation as members of God's family. When children live in this type of blessed life, they return the blessings given to them by contributing to the growth in holiness of the family as a whole.

Elementary Faith Formation Vision Statement

We, the Catholic Faith Formation Family of St. Peter, share our lives and gifts by gathering together to teach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Through our living examples, we will model to children how to grow in faith and love as members of God's blessed family. And so, we will prepare hearts and minds for the service of today, and souls for the fruits of tomorrow.

Student Count = 124

- Kindergarten = 16
- First Grade = 16 (2 are “virtual”)
- First Communion Class = 23
- Third Grade = 19 (3 are “virtual”)
- Fourth Grade = 9
- Fifth Grade = 20 (2 are “virtual”)
- Sixth Grade = 21 (1 is “virtual”)

Sacramental Year

In the Fall semester we celebrated the Sacrament of Confession with students who had been preparing to go to Confession for the first time.

This Spring, we will have 2 First Communion celebrations.

- On May 1, twenty-two St. Peter School children will receive the Eucharist.
- On May 2, twenty-three Faith Formation students will receive the Eucharist.

Sacramental Year - Parent Formation

We use the “Forgive” study for Confession preparation and the “Presence” study for Communion preparation.

Both are from the Augustine Institute

Curriculum

- All classes, except for the Sacramental Prep class, use “Spirit of Truth” parish edition from the Sophia Institute.
- Our virtual learners are using a digital app version of the “Spirit of Truth” curriculum.
- Our Sacramental Prep class is using “Signs of Grace” from the Augustine Institute.
 - “You are Forgiven” for Confession.
 - “You are Loved” for Communion.

Elementary Faith Formation Volunteers

- 10 Lead Catechists
- 9 Assistant Catechists
- 4 Teen Volunteers
- 1 Sunday Assistant for the Coordinator

Catechist Training

Newly released Diocesan-wide catechist certification program.

- Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained

All Diocesan catechists and assistant catechists are highly encouraged to participate.

Ideally I'd like to host a group study.

- Beginning in June - meeting weekly for summer months
- Beginning in September - meeting bi-monthly/monthly

Safe Environment Training

Students

- All EFF classes have had their SE class except for 5th & 3rd. However both of those classes are on the schedule.

Volunteers

- All EFF catechists and adult volunteers are SE trained and up-to-date with VIRTUS.
 - Teen volunteers are not yet trained.

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