

# My Heart is Ready, Oh God

## GENERATIONS OF FAITH GOF 2019-2020



- ◆ Welcome to the Church of Saint Ann's family faith formation program. This unique program creates opportunities for parishioners to live joyful faith experiences together while forming habits that lead them to grow in their relationship with God.
- ◆ Faith formation takes place within the context of a **FAMILY** and the **COMMUNITY OF FAITH**. GOF is a partnership between families and the Church. During each session, every member of the family is enriched by participating in an age appropriate learning experiences.
- ◆ The children follow the curriculum from *Alive in Christ* published by Our Sunday Visitor. This year, adults will explore Catholic Social Teachings, the liturgical calendar, saints, and end the year with how to lead like Jesus. All of us will make ready our hearts to ponder, serve, and surrender to living the Christian life.
- ◆ Families come together at each session, share a meal and are introduced to a theme. Adults, teens and children move to a room for the learning experience, after the session ends, everyone returns for a closing activity, prayer and announcements. Each session lasts for two and one half hours.
- ◆ At home, families expound on the topics the children explored in class. The parish provides materials and online resources from the *Alive in Christ* curriculum to support the parents' efforts.
- ◆ Religious Education families are asked to engage with parish life by participating in at least 5 liturgical and social events throughout the year.

### 2019-2020 GOF SCHEDULE

**Parent Meeting September 17, 2019**  
6:30 PM -7:30 PM (FDC)

**SEPTEMBER** - Saturday 21 at 9:30 AM, Sunday 22 at 5:00 PM & Sunday 29 at 5:00 PM

**OCTOBER** - Sunday 6 at 5:00 PM, Saturday 19 at 9:30 AM & Sunday 20 at 5:00 PM

**NOVEMBER** - Saturday 2 at 9:30 AM, Sunday 3 at 5:00 PM & Sunday 17 at 5:00 PM

**DECEMBER** - **Two options** Saturday 7 at 9:30 AM & Sunday 8 at 5:00 PM

**JANUARY**—Saturday 11 at 9:30 AM , Sunday 12 at 5:00 PM & Sunday 26 at 5:00 PM

**FEBRUARY**—Saturday 8 at 9:30 AM, Sunday 9 at 5:00 PM & Feb 23 at 5:00 PM

**MARCH** - Saturday 7 at 9:30 AM, Sunday 8 at 5:00 PM & March 22 at 5:00 PM

**APRIL**— Saturday 4 at 9:30 AM, Sunday 19 at 5:00 PM & Sunday 26 at 5:00 PM

**Each month families receive a signup genius invitation via email. Please select a date that works for your family. Space is limited so reserve early.**

#### CONTACTS:

Religious Education Office at  
ReligiousEducation@churchofsaintann.net  
**Gary Maccaroni** - Pastoral Associate, 609-882-6491, ext. 116  
gmacc@churchofsaintann.net

## **First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion Sacrament Preparation**

The specific preparation for a child's reception of Reconciliation and Eucharist rests primarily with the family. The sacraments will be discussed in the children's session but because of the multi-aged classrooms specific preparation cannot be done.

Dynamic Catholic has a web based program called Blessed that comes highly recommended. This is the same publisher we use for Confirmation preparation. Parents are encouraged to use this program to prepare their children.

[dynamiccatholic.com/blessed/parent](http://dynamiccatholic.com/blessed/parent) offers parents the opportunity to register to receive one weekly email with a lesson to watch with their child. This makes it easy for parents to journey along with their child as they prepare to receive the graces of the sacraments.

### **Dates to Remember**

#### **Reconciliation Parent Meeting:**

Tuesday, Nov 12th Community Room 6:00 p.m.

**TBA** First Holy Communion Child & Parent Retreat

#### **First Reconciliation Penance Service:**

Saturday, January 25th Church 9:30 a.m.

#### **First Holy Communion Parent Meeting:**

Tuesday, Jan 28th Community Room 6:00 p.m.

#### **Practices:**

Wednesday, April 29th for one hour  
Practice for 9:30 a.m. Mass Community Room 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 30th Practice for 12:00 p.m. Mass  
Community Room 6:00 p.m.

**First Holy Communion Masses:** Saturday, May 2nd at  
9:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

## **Confirmation 7th & 8th Grade Sacrament Preparation**

The preparation for Confirmation is a two year period of preparation usually beginning in 7th grade.

All Religious Education students use Dynamic Catholic Design Point and Loyola Press—Called to Be Catholic (7th grade) and Confirmed in the Spirit (8th grade) along with multiple resources to develop an engaging program of preparation.

Design Point is web based so the candidates can continue to explore the sacrament independently and with their families.

The preparation is multifaceted and includes discernment, service, and prayerfulness (retreat). This is the time our young people decide if they will confirm the promises their parents made for them at their Baptism.

### **Dates to Remember**

**7th Grade Parent Meeting** -Tuesday, Oct 1st  
Community Room 6:00 p.m.

**8th Grade Parent Meeting** -Tuesday, Oct 22nd  
Community Room 6:00 p.m.

#### **7th Grade Rite of Commitment:**

Saturday, Oct 19th during 5:00 p.m. Mass or  
Sunday, Oct 20th during 11:00 a.m. Mass  
**(choose one)**

#### **8th Grade Rite of Name & Sponsor Acceptance:**

Saturday Feb 1st during 5:00 p.m. Mass or  
Sunday, Feb 2nd during 12:30 p.m. Mass  
**(choose one)**

#### **8th Grade Profession of Faith (choose one Mass)**

April 19 during 9:30 a.m. or April 26 during 11:00 a.m.

#### **TBA 8th Grade Candidate & Sponsor Retreat**

#### **Practices:**

Thursday, May 14th for one hour  
Practice for 9:30 a.m. Service at 6:00 p.m.  
Practice for 11:30 a.m. Service at 7:30 p.m.

**Confirmation Services:** Saturday, May 16th at  
9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.