

# SS. Peter & Paul Youth & Family Faith “FAQ’s”

Below are some **F**requently **A**sksed **Q**uestions about our 2021-2022 Youth & Family Faith Program

## Is the shift to the “Youth and Family Faith” model due to Covid19?

Transitioning to this model of faith formation was always part of our long range plan. It turns out that the pandemic just helped us to move up our timeline.

## What has been the response in parishes that use this model?

At first, there can be some nervousness or even resistance. Change can be difficult. However, once engaged in the model, the overall feedback has been overwhelmingly positive! Parents end up loving it. They talk about how much they themselves have learned and how they treasure spending quality time with their family .

## Has something like this been done before anywhere else?

Absolutely! Parishes all over the country have been doing something similar for years. Our goal here at SSPP is to implement the best aspects of what other parishes have done.

## Are other local parishes making a shift like this?

Yes! Many parishes in our local area and throughout the Sacramento Diocese are making similar shifts.

## How important is it that a parent/guardian attend the “Parent Sessions”?

It is absolutely essential!!! During the Parent Session you will receive the necessary formation, training and materials needed for the “Faith@Home lessons, in addition to building community with other parents. Our goal is to make these sessions, meaningful, informative and engaging.

## What if a parent/guardian can’t make it to a “Parent Session”?

For consistency and community building, it will be very important to attend each time your child attends. We understand that there may be times where you or your child get sick or a major conflict pops up. In those situations, we ask that you contact us to arrange another time to attend another session.

## If only one parent attend, does it matter if it’s mom or dad (or guardian)?

No. However, we certainly hope this does not become merely a “mom thing”. Too often, we see the mother being the only one making decisions about Mass or Faith Formation. While we love our moms for that, we want our dads/men to be equally involved. Every major study shows that when the father is actively involved in matters of faith, the likelihood of the children embracing the faith significantly increases!

## Will there be childcare available during the “Parent Sessions”??

We offer youth classes for PreK-8th grade. If you have a child in 1st-8th grade, it is the expectation that they are registered and attending their grade level class. Children not enrolled in PreK or K and those under the age of 3 years old are welcome at the Parent Sessions!

## What if I carpool?

Attendance at the “Parent Sessions” by one or both parents/guardians is expected. Since Youth and Family Faith sessions are only held 1-2 times per month. We ask parents to plan accordingly. Having a friend attend the Parent Sessions on your behalf is not acceptable.

## What will be required for the “Faith@Home” component of this program?

The Faith@Home sessions will take place on the weeks that Youth & Family Faith does not meet in-person. The at-home sessions will follow the same materials that are used in class and will follow along with the Sunday Mass readings and themes.

## What about Sacrament Prep?

Sacramental Preparation for Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation is a two-year program. Participation in Youth & Family Faith Formation is required. The second year of preparation will include in-person parent/child sessions, at home lessons, retreats, and service activities in addition to continued involvement in Youth & Family Faith.

## What if my child is in high school but has not yet been confirmed?

If you have a high school student who was enrolled and completed Year 1 Faith@Home last year, then this year they would register for Year 2 Sacrament Prep and Life Teen High School Youth Ministry. If you have a high school student who was NOT enrolled last year, then they would register for Life Teen High School Youth Ministry and participate in a small faith group and Life Nights.

## Are there additional fees for Sacrament Preparation?

In the second year of sacrament preparation for First Communion and Confirmation, there is an additional registration fee of \$50 per student. As always, if your family is experiencing financial hardship, please contact us to work something out. We never want finances to be a barrier to registration and participation.