



St. Richard's Catholic Church - Faith Formation

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Sunday Morning Growing in Faith Together (G.I.F.T.) Registration

Children's Faith Formation – **Registration Opens Sunday, September 20**

Plans for our Sunday Faith Formation program for children in grades 1-8 are well underway. We have 2 options to choose from:

1. **Weekly In-person Sessions with Catechists**, similar to past years, and
2. **Parent-led Catechesis At-Home**, with resources provided by the parish,

New Timeline for In-Person sessions:

10:00am - Mass (must pre-register by Saturday, 8pm, at www.strichards.com)

10:50am - Health & Attendance Check-In with Hall Monitor at student's pre-assigned entrance

11:00am - Session with Catechists – children in grades 1-8 will go DIRECTLY to their room.

12:00pm – Dismissal begins, staggered by grade level; exiting through specific doors for parent pick-up

Interested families should go to <https://www.strichards.com/faith-formation> to review our **Risk Prevention Safety Protocol & Expectations**, learn more details, and to register. **Registration deadline is October 1.**

Contact Susie Osacho or Beth Gaetz (habla espanol) with questions.

First Sacraments Preparation

First Communion (Eucharist) and First Reconciliation (Confession)

Description: First Sacraments Preparation is a two-part process that starts with a Parent Information Session for First Reconciliation (Confession) on October 24. Due to COVID, First Sacraments Preparation will be parent-led and take place at home. Once First Reconciliation is completed there is a break in the sacramental preparation process (although candidates will continue to attend the weekly Sunday program which meets regularly throughout the school year). Part 2 of the process, First Communion (Eucharist) Preparation, is scheduled to start with a Parent Information session in March, 2021. First Communion dates will be determined; hoped-for dates will be in Spring, 2021. See page 2 for additional details.

First Sacraments Registration Guidelines:

- Open to children in grades 2 through 5 who are already baptized. Parents will provide a baptismal certificate from the church of baptism prior to receiving First Sacraments.
- Each child is required to register for and participate in the weekly Sunday morning Faith Formation program **in addition to** the First Sacraments program*.

**EXCEPTION: Children who are currently attending a Catholic school must contact Susie Osacho or Beth Gaetz (habla espanol) directly for further instructions.*

- The tentative schedule is included below.
- **Registration Deadline: Monday, October 1, 2020**, so the appropriate resources can be purchased.

Contact Susie Osacho as soon as possible (before submitting your registration) if:

- * your child is older than 7 and has not be baptized or was not baptized Catholic; or
- * your child is in 6th grade or older and has not prepared for First Reconciliation (Confession); or
- * your child is in 6th grade or older and has not prepared for First Communion.

First Sacraments Preparation Schedule 2020 - 2021

NOTE: Because of COVID-19, the following schedule is offered as a guide as of September 12, 2020, and will be modified if the ability to keep participants safe changes and/or families do not feel comfortable participating in on-site activities. Anyone over 2 years of age is expected to follow safety protocols when participating at parish events.

Part 1 of 2 – First Reconciliation (Confession) Preparation:

Parent Informational Session - Sunday, October 24, 2020, 12:15pm

- Parents choose between in person session at St. Richard's OR request link to watch a recording at home.
- A packet complete with ALL resources for At-Home preparation with parents/guardians will be provided in person on October 24, or will be available for pick-up the week of October 19, 2020.
- Candidates are expected to register for the Sunday Faith Formation program **in addition to** First Sacraments Preparation.*
**EXCEPTION: Children who are currently attending a Catholic school must contact Susie Osacho or Beth Gaetz (habla espanol) directly for further instructions.*
- Candidates will be expected to complete activities at home with guidance from parents and catechists.
- **Parents must schedule 1:1 Zoom session** with Susie Osacho BEFORE signing up for First Reconciliation Learning Centers, to ensure each candidate understands the sacrament.
- **First Reconciliation Learning Centers** (on-site unless otherwise instructed) - Families will sign-up in advance via Sign-up Genius for individual time slots to participate at 1 of 2 Learning Center options:
 1. **BEFORE CHRISTMAS** - Saturday, December 12, 2020
 - a. Candidates and parents will then be able to go to Confession on their own on Sunday morning in the Chapel between 9:00 – 9:30am.
 2. **AFTER CHRISTMAS** - Saturday, January 16, 2021
 - a. Candidates and parents will then be able to go to Confession on their own on Sunday morning in the Chapel between 9:00 – 9:30am.

First Communion (Eucharist) Schedule 2020

Part 2 of 2 – First Communion (Eucharist) Preparation:

Parent Informational Session – Sunday, March 6, 2021, 2:15pm

- Parents choose between in person at St. Richard's OR request link to watch a recording at home.
- A packet complete with ALL resources for at home preparation will be provided in person or will be available for pick-up the week of March 1, 2021.
- Candidates will be expected to complete activities at home with guidance from parents and catechists.
- **Parents must schedule 1:1 Zoom session** with Susie Osacho BEFORE signing up for First Reconciliation Learning Centers, to ensure each candidate understands the sacrament.
- First Communion Masses will hopefully take place in the Spring of 2021. DATES TBD.

