



Program Options

Family Program (K3-5):

Family Program is truly one amazing gift for the families at St. Paul's Parish! It meets after the 9 a.m. Mass twice a month from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. The first hour the kids will be in their age levels (see the CGS and Awaken below to find out about their curricula). While the kids are in their formation, the adults will be renewed and refilled spiritually as they grow in their faith with other parents in the program. The second hour the family will come together to learn, pray and grow.

While concerns of the pandemic are still present in our society, families will be divided into two groups. One half will come to St. Paul's and will participate in the Family Program as described above. The other half will be grouped into "pods" that will meet either off site/ virtually. Karen will provide material for you but there will be freedom to do more or veer off course (as families get more excited about their faith).

Should we need to shelter in place, Family Program will go virtual as well.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) (K3-K5)::

CGS is a Montessori based, international program that takes the deepest and richest parts of our faith, and breaks it down into small, bite-sized pieces for our youngest kids. This program is only offered on Sunday mornings and follows the same schedule as the Family Program. However, families can join this program without being in the Family Program. The class meets twice a month from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

While concerns of the pandemic are still present in our society, children will be divided into groups and will come to one of the CGS sessions a month. Karen will provide some simple and easy ways to incorporate faith into your family to help keep children engaged during the lengths between meetings. If we need to shelter in place, we will work with families to continue to engage the faith of our little ones.

Awaken (1-5):

Awaken is a curriculum that seeks to engage children in grades 1-5 using a variety of modalities: games, activities, crafts, video clips and interactive lessons. We seek to engage both the mind and the heart as we teach the children about Jesus. Children will also be exposed to a variety of

prayers and ways to pray. Older children (grades four and five) will be taught basic Biblical literacy as well. We will be adding a brand new component to help connect what we are learning in class to your family life with take home activities to help create a Catholic culture within your home!

For children not in Family Program, new this year is the opportunity to choose either Tuesday or Wednesday evening from 6-7:30 p.m. Please circle the preferred day on the form.

While concerns of the pandemic are still present in our society, children will be able to move their formation to virtual, should the need arise.

Sacramental Preparation:

Sacramental Preparation includes both First Reconciliation and First Communion. **There are two sets of parents' sessions (one set for Reconciliation and one set for Communion) and two retreats that the child and at least one parent or guardian attend** (if you had a child in Sacramental Prep last year, the parent sessions are optional – but not the retreats). In addition, **families are asked to do family faith activities to help develop or foster the spiritual life at home.**

Parent sessions and the family faith activities can be done at home and/or virtually if needed. Retreats are a little different. If there is a need to shelter in place, we will address this at the time. It most likely will become an at home retreat.

The Edge (6-8):

This year is very exciting! We are moving our Middle School Edge program to small groups. Kids will meet twice a month in their small groups which are led by two adult leaders. During this time, the kids will be engaged intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually. And, well, let's be real - they're middle schoolers. They will probably be moving as well! In addition, (when we are able to meet in large groups again) we will have a once a month large group for kids to connect with other kids in their community (while having fun). Families can choose from Sunday, Tuesday or Wednesday evenings from 4-5:30 **or** 6-7:30. We will also provide a way for you to engage with a discussion of faith with your middle schooler to help foster both talking about and sharing faith a loud as a family. Please circle the preferred day on the form.

While concerns of the pandemic are present in our society, children will be able to move their formation to virtual, should the need arise.

Distance/Home Family Formation (K3-8):

This is for families who, for whatever reason, decide it is safest to do their formation at home. Included will be check-ins with the parish - done virtually. This will be similar (but not exactly like) the Family Program in that it is a whole family formation. We will provide packets available for pick up to those families who choose this option.

This option is not available for Sacramental Preparation.

