

Faith Formation Classes

School-aged Children (Grades K4-5)

Held at St. Sebastian Parish

Program Objectives:

Basic faith formation for children involves age-specific classes at St. Sebastian from 9:00 to 10:15 a.m. on approximately two Sunday mornings each month. Classes are scheduled to facilitate family participation in one of our Sunday morning liturgies.

This program offers:

- Scripture-centered catechetical education
- Supplements to take faith home
- Regular opportunities for prayer and service to others
- Special programs for families and individuals.

Resources:

- K4/K5 uses the **Allelu!** Series, which centers upon God's gifts of creation, our relationship with Jesus, and ways we follow God.
- Grades 1-5 use the **Finding God** series from Loyola Press. This series, rooted in scripture, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and Catholic tradition, seeks to ground children in the basics of our faith and helps them and their families explore how we can live as loving, faithful followers of Christ. Each session has an "At Home" lesson, which allows the entire family to expand the experience.

Help Needed!

In order to keep Faith Formation running smoothly, we need help. We are looking for catechists to help teach the children of our community. If you are willing to share your time and talents, please contact Morgan Frank.

Family Faith Formation

An essential part of our formation program are the family sessions, which are intergenerational lessons focused on one topic. We have scheduled five family programs this year, building upon the liturgical calendar and core themes or teachings of the Catholic Church. Each family program involves a fun activity, sharing in community, take-home resources for continued family engagement and learning. All families are expected to participate in the family programs. We hope these sessions are scheduled in a manner that will allow families from both parishes to participate. Family resources for formation at home are always available, please contact any formation minister if you would like materials to do with your family at home! The cost of these six sessions are included in the registration fee. The dates for family formation sessions are also on the calendar attached.

Families involved in Faith Formation receive monthly updates, parish information, and articles related to growing in faith.

Contact

Morgan Frank

Director of Child Ministry

414-453-7150 x124

mfrank@saintsebs.org



2025 – 2026 Faith Formation for K4 – Grade 5

Location: St. Sebastian

September

Sunday – 21 Catechetical Sunday & Catechetical Training

October

Sunday – 5 9:00 am FF Class

Sunday – 19 9:00 am FF Class

November

Saturday – 1 10am-12:00pm Saints & Souls Family Event

Sunday – 2 9:00 am FF Class

Sunday – 16 9:00 am FF Class

Sunday – 30 4:00pm-5:30pm Advent Family Event

December

Sunday – 7 9:00 am FF Class

Sunday – 21 9:00 am FF Class

Sunday – 21 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm Advent Fun Day

January

Tuesday – 6 5:30pm-7:00pm Scripture & Tradition Family Event

Sunday – 18 9:00 am FF Class

February

Sunday – 1 9:00 am FF Class

Sunday – 15 9:00 am FF Class

March

Sunday – 1 9:00 am FF Class

Saturday – 14 10:00am-12:00pm Catholic Social Teachings

Sunday – 15 9:00 am FF Class

April

Sunday – 19 9:00 am FF Class

May

Saturday – 9 10:00am-12:00pm Mary Family Event

Sunday – 17 9:00 am Last FF Class

Revised 8/28/25

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd – Ages 3-9

Held at St. Catherine Parish

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a Montessori-based approach to the religious formation of children, rooted in Sacred Scripture, liturgy, and respect for the child's rich relationship with God. The word “catechesis” is often defined as oral instruction given to catechumens (those preparing for baptism). It is from a Greek word, related to the word “to teach,” and means “resounding” or “echoing down.” It refers to the passing on of the truths of our faith.



CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD
SHEPHERD

Central to CGS is the Atrium, a room containing beautiful materials that focus the child's attention on key scripture passages or liturgical moments. Children are encouraged to move about, touch materials, discover and develop a relationship with Jesus, the Good Shepherd. St. Catherine has two dedicated Atriums located within St. Catherine School.

During each session, there will be an introduction by the catechist, then children are invited to work with a material on their own to continue their meditation. Because children learn by using their hands, working with materials allows them to enter more deeply into meditation, nurturing their relationship with God.

At St. Catherine we offer two levels of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd:

- Level I (ages 3-6) Sunday Mornings from 8:45-10 a.m.
- Level II (ages 6-9) Monday evenings from 6-7:30 p.m.

All age levels focus on the life of Christ, the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist, and on a range of parables. For the youngest learners in Level One, the heart of the Catechesis is the parable of the Good Shepherd, who knows his sheep by name and keeps them safe. For the 6-9 year old child in Level Two, the focus is on the moral parables and the image of the True Vine: "I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing."

Family Faith Formation

An essential part of our Family and Youth Formation are the Family Programs, which are intergenerational lessons focused on one topic. We schedule five of these Family Programs each year, usually building upon a core theme or teaching of the Church. Each Family Program involves a fun activity, sharing in community, and take-home lessons, resources, or material for continued learning. All families are expected to participate in the Family Programs. Families also receive monthly up-dates, faith formation information, and articles related to growing in faith.

Contact

Bernadette Davel (CGS coordinator)

Coordinator of Catechesis of Good Shepherd

bernadettedavel@sbcglobal.net

Marie Fessenbecker (level I catechist)

marie.fessenbecker@gmail.com

Pam Schein (level II catechist)

jschein1@wi.ri.com

2025 – 2026 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Location: St. Catherine

Level 1

8:45-10:10am

September 21

September 28

October 5

October 12

October 19

October 26

Saturday, November 1

November 2

November 9

November 16

November 23

Sunday, November 30

December 7

December 14

December 21

Sunday, December 21

January 4

January 11

Tuesday, January 6

January 18

January 25

February 1

February 8

February 22

March 1

March 8

Saturday, March 14

March 22

March 29

April 12

April 19

Saturday, May 9

May 10

May 17

Level 2

5:45-7:30pm

October 6

October 13

October 27

Saints and Souls Family Event

10am – 12pm

November 3

November 10

November 17

Advent Family Event

4:00pm – 5:30pm

December 1

December 8

December 15

Advent Fun Day

12:00pm – 3:00pm

January 5

Scripture & Tradition Family Event

5:30pm – 7:00pm

January 19

January 26

February 2

February 9

February 23

March 2

March 9

Catholic Social Teaching Family Event 10:00am – 12:00pm

March 23

March 30

April 20

Mary Family Event

10:00am – 12:00pm

May 11

May 18

Program Fees

Faith Formation fees are designed to defray part of the cost of materials and programs. The fees are a necessity for the programs to occur. However, we are committed to providing catechesis to all families, no matter the ability to pay. No one is denied Faith Formation due to an inability to pay fees. If there is a concern, please contact one of the Faith Formation Ministers or Father Peter Patrick to discuss reductions, special arrangements, or waiver of fees.

Fees are the same for participants registered in Catechesis of Good Shepherd, K4-5 Faith Formation and Youth Ministry.

- \$75.00 for one child
- \$150.00 for two children
- \$225.00 for three or more children

Please note:

- Registrations and one-fourth payment of fees are due by September 21st.
- SCRIP credit, if applicable, may be applied to reduce fees.
- Registrations and fees for sacramental preparation, Reconciliation/First Eucharist and Confirmation, are separate registrations.
- *If you need financial assistance, please reach out to a faith formation minister or Father Peter Patrick to discuss options. We do not want any family to not participate due to financial issues.*

Payment Logistics

Families may choose one of the following payment plans:

- Fee paid in full with registration by September 21st
- Two equal payments: September 21st and January 18th
- Four equal payments: September 21st, November 30th, January 18th, and March 15th

By Check - Please make checks payable to either St. Sebastian or St. Catherine Parish and send to the parish or give it directly to a member of the faith formation team, by September 21st.

Online Registration & Payment Link

[CLICK HERE](#)

- ★ Registration for these programs must be done online, through WeShare.
- ★ Through this link you can sign up your child(ren) participating in programs for grades K4-10th.
- ★ If you want to make installment payments, there is an option to do so.
- ★ If you need to make alternate arrangements for payment, please contact us **before registering**.
- ★ If you pay all fees upfront, you will not need to create a WeShare account. If you need to use the installment plan or pay later option, you must create a WeShare account.
- ★ If you need further assistance with registration, please contact Patrick Schley at pschley@saintsebs.org or 414.453.1061 x149.