

FAITH FORMATION AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

LIFT 2026-2027

Welcome to LIFT - Living in Faith Together - Holy Eucharist's Faith Formation program for families with children in grades 1 to 8. At LIFT, we create opportunities for families to learn and pray together, grow as disciples and develop spiritual habits that will lead them into a deeper relationship with Christ.

The LIFT program has three components that work together to help form our children in the faith:

First, **LIFT is a monthly faith formation program** for the whole family to enjoy. In addition to small group experiences for children in grades 1 to 8, we provide formation and volunteer opportunities for adults and teens, as well as a worship and play program called Kidzone LIFT for preschoolers ages 2 to 5.

Second, with the **Alive in Christ and Family Life books**, LIFT provides opportunities for families to keep the conversations around the faith alive throughout the month. Children use their Alive in Christ and Family Life textbooks to complete a meaningful home assignment.

Finally, children will choose and participate in eight **Passbook** experiences within the parish designed to connect their faith journey with the parish community. There are four categories of experiences in the Passbook: **Catechetical, Prayer, Service, and Community**. Children will be asked to attend at **least one** from each category.

So what does the LIFT monthly faith formation program look like?

- LIFT is held on one weekend each month. See the dates to the right. **Mass is at the center of our Faith Formation program** so families attend Mass together as a family. When Mass is over, the whole family heads down to Hoffman Hall for our LIFT program.
- In Hoffman Hall, we share a meal and fellowship together. Then, we introduce the session topic and receive a blessing from Fr. McClane.
- On most weekends, our children in grades 1-8 leave Hoffman Hall with group leaders who work through the assigned chapter of the Alive in Christ book while the adults remain in Hoffman Hall for a presentation. For Christmas and Easter, we offer a seasonal program or experience for the whole family to enjoy together.
- After the hour long program, children return to Hoffman Hall where the experience concludes with prayer and families are dismissed.



2026-2027 LIFT SCHEDULE

LIFT Sessions Begin with Mass:

Saturday at 5:00 pm
Sunday at 8:30 am or
10:30 am

September	19, 20
October	17, 18
November	14, 15
December	5, 6
January	9, 10
February	20, 21
March	13, 14
April	10, 11
May	15, 16

Contacts:

Donna Remaley

Director of Faith Formation
609 268 8383 x 106
dremaley@holyeucharist.org

Paige Cole

Coordinator of Youth Ministry
609 268 8383 x 103

LIFT CONTINUED...

EXPECTATIONS FOR LIFT

- **Attend Mass** as part of the LIFT session each month.
- **Attend each of the nine LIFT sessions.** If a child misses a session, home assignments are to be completed before the next session.
- **Complete work** for assigned chapter(s) between LIFT sessions.
- **Note:** Missing more than two sessions could hinder your child's advancement in the program.
- **Complete 8 Passbook experiences** with at least one from each category over the course of the year.
- **Serve** at least once at LIFT during the 2026-2027 calendar year in one of the many volunteer opportunities in the parish. See the back page and the Passbook for a list of opportunities.
- A parent or guardian **must** attend the Mass and session with the child. **No unaccompanied children will be permitted to attend the program.**

We are delighted to partner with you on your family's faith journey! Participation at weekly Mass nourishes the spiritual growth of your family. We hope that your family will be active members of our faith community. If you have questions, please contact Donna Remaley at 609 268 8383 x 106 or dremaley@holyeucharist.org

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND EUCHARIST PREPARATION 2026-2027

Preparation for the sacraments is a journey for our entire faith community as we renew our understanding and commitment to the gift of grace we receive in the sacraments. Because we view the formation of our children in the context of the family, preparation for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist in our parish takes the form of family faith formation sessions. In accordance with diocesan guidelines, **there is a two year preparation period** for the reception of sacraments. This means that children receiving First Reconciliation and First Eucharist **must be enrolled in LIFT during first grade** so that they are ready to prepare for and receive the two sacraments the following year in second grade.

EXPECTATIONS

- Attendance at all preparation sessions **in addition** to LIFT sessions is required.
- If a prep session is missed, assignments will need to be completed and a meeting with the Director of Faith Formation may be necessary. Missing a session could hinder your child's advancement in the program.

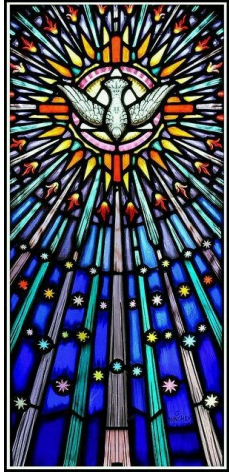


FIRST RECONCILIATION PREPARATION

Date	Description	Time
Tuesday , October 6, 2026	Parent Orientation	7:00 pm— 8:00 pm
Saturday or Sunday October 17 or 18, 2026	First Reconciliation Blessing at all Masses	Choose one Mass Also a LIFT Weekend
Saturday, October 24, 2026	First Reconciliation Prep 1 Parent and Child	10:00 am—12:00 noon
Saturday, November 21, 2026	First Reconciliation Prep 2 Parent and Child	10:00 am—12:00 noon
Wednesday, December 2, 2026	First Reconciliation	7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

FIRST EUCHARIST PREPARATION

Date	Description	Time
Saturday or Sunday January 9 or 10, 2027	First Eucharist Blessing at all Masses	Choose one Mass Also a LIFT Weekend
Saturday, January 23, 2027	First Eucharist Prep 1 Parent and Child	10:00 am – 11:30 am
Saturday, February 27, 2027	First Eucharist Prep 2 Parent and Child	10:00 am – 11:30 am
Saturday or Sunday March 13 or 14, 2027	Children receiving First Holy Eucharist will invite someone to pray for them	Choose one Mass Also a LIFT Weekend
Saturday, March 20, 2027	First Eucharist Prep 3 Parent and Child	10:00 am – 11:30 am
Saturday, April 24, 2027 Thursday, April 22, 2027	First Eucharist Rehearsal for April 24	5:00 pm Mass 7:00 pm — 8:00 pm
Sunday, April 25, 2027 Friday, April 23, 2027	First Eucharist Rehearsal for April 25	10:30 am Mass 7:00 pm — 8:00 pm
Saturday, May 1, 2027 Thursday, April 29, 2027	First Eucharist Rehearsal for May 1	5:00 pm Mass 7:00 pm — 8:00 pm
Sunday May 2, 2027 Friday, April 30, 2027	First Eucharist Rehearsal for May 2	10:30 am Mass 7:00 pm — 8:00 pm
Saturday, May 8, 2027	May Crowning of Mary	5:00 pm Mass



CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2026-2027

Confirmation is the final sacrament of initiation. Paige Cole, the Coordinator of Youth Ministry, heads up our Confirmation Preparation program.

Year 1 (Level 7) Those children who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation must be **enrolled in the program for two years prior to the celebration**—typically beginning in 7th grade. Confirmation candidates attend a parent/candidate orientation session and five preparation sessions **in addition to** the LIFT Faith Formation program.

Year 2 (Level 8) Candidates attend a parent/candidate orientation session, a Service Project orientation, six preparation sessions and a retreat **in addition to** their LIFT Faith Formation program. Candidates are introduced to service and ministry opportunities, and our Year 2 (Level 8) candidates also design and complete a service project. Candidates are introduced to our high school youth ministry program, HERO. **NEW THIS YEAR:** We will have a mini, evening retreat at the parish for candidates and their sponsors! At Holy Eucharist, Confirmation is celebrated in the fall of 9th grade.

EXPECTATIONS

- Attendance at the preparation sessions **in addition to** LIFT sessions is **required**.
- If a prep session is missed, assignments will need to be completed and a meeting with the Coordinator of Youth Ministry may be necessary. Missing sessions could hinder your child's advancement in the program.

CONFIRMATION YEAR 1 (LEVEL 7)

Date	Description	Time
Monday, October 5, 2026	Orientation for Parents and Candidates (<i>only session required for Parent</i>)	7:00 pm—8:30 pm
Sunday, October 11, 2026	Level 7 Confirmation Prep Session 1	7:00 pm— 8:30 pm
Sunday, October 25, 2026	Level 7 Confirmation Prep Session 2	7:00 pm— 8:30 pm
Sunday, November 1, 2026	Level 7 Confirmation Prep Session 3	7:00 pm— 8:30 pm
Sunday, November 22, 2026	Level 7 Confirmation Prep Session 4	7:00 pm— 8:30 pm
Saturday or Sunday December 5 or 6, 2026	Blessing for Level 7 and 8 Confirmation Students	Choose one Mass Also a LIFT Weekend
Sunday, December 13, 2026	Level 7 Confirmation Prep Session 5	3:00 pm-7:00 pm Retreat

CONFIRMATION YEAR 2 (LEVEL 8)

Date	Description	Time
Saturday or Sunday December 5 or 6, 2026	Blessing for Level 7 and 8 Confirmation Candidates	Choose one Mass Also a LIFT Weekend
Monday, January 4, 2027	Year 2 Parent and Candidate Orientation <i>(only session required for Parent)</i>	7:00 pm—8:30 pm
Sunday, January 24, 2027	Year 2 Confirmation Prep Session 1	7:00 pm—8:30 pm
Monday, February 1, 2027	Year 2 Service Project Meeting Candidates only	7:00 pm—8:00 pm
Sunday, February 7, 2027	Year 2 Confirmation Prep Session 2	7:00 pm— 8:00 pm
Sunday, February 28, 2027	Year 2 Confirmation Prep Session 3	7:00 pm— 8:30 pm
Sunday, March 7, 2027	Year 2 Confirmation Prep Session 4	7:00 pm— 8:30 pm
Monday, March 15, 2027	Year 2 Sponsor & Candidate Mini Retreat	7:00 pm— 8:30 pm
Sunday, April 18, 2027	Year 2 Confirmation Prep Session 5	7:00 pm— 8:30 pm
Sunday, April 25, 2027	Year 2 Confirmation Prep Session 6	7:00 pm— 8:30 pm
Saturday, May 1, 2027	Retreat	9:00 am— 3:00 pm
Thursday, May 13, 2027	Year 2 Pizza and Project	6:00 pm— 8:00 pm

CONFIRMATION CELEBRATION (LEVEL 9)

Date	Description	Time
Sunday, September 27, 2026	Level 9 Evening of Reflection Parents and Candidate	7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Tuesday, November 10, 2026	Level 9 Confirmation Practice Candidates only	7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Monday, November 16, 2026	Level 9 Rehearsal Candidate and Sponsor	7:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Thursday, November 19, 2026	Confirmation	6:00 pm

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR CHILDREN, TEENS AND ADULTS



OCIA FOR CHILDREN

OCIA for Children is open to children ages 8 to 13 who have not been baptized or have been baptized in another faith. Our children meet once a week from October to May. Children in this program will learn about Catholic teachings and beliefs while connecting these truths to their everyday lives. Also, these children will attend the LIFT program with the rest of the children in the Faith Formation program and get connected into the community. For more information, contact Donna Remaley, Director of Faith Formation at dremaley@holyeucharist.org.

OCIA FOR TEENS

Our Breakthrough program is for teens who would like to receive the Sacraments of Initiation. The program begins with our youth ministry program, HERO, at 6:30pm on Wednesday evenings from September to May. The teens engage in service, community building, games, and reflect on their lives through the lens of faith. Then, when HERO is over at 8pm, the teens participating in Breakthrough shift gears and learn about a topic related to the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus and the teachings of the Catholic Church. Many dynamic speakers are lined up to present the weekly topics, lead discussions and activities that bring our faith to life. For more information contact Paige Cole, our Coordinator of Youth Ministry, at pcole@holyeucharist.org.

OCIA FOR ADULTS

If as an adult, you have never been baptized, or have been baptized as a Catholic or another Christian faith but never received further faith formation, then OCIA is for you! The process by which adults come into the Church is called "OCIA" - the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults. Adults are fully initiated into the Catholic Church during this process, celebrating Baptism, if needed, Confirmation and First Eucharist. Holy Eucharist offers a year round OCIA process, so a person may enter the first phase, at any time throughout the year. Our adults meet after the 8:30am Mass and engage in an hour long reflection on the Sunday readings and how they connect to our lives and the Catholic faith. For more information, contact our parish office at 609-268-8383 x 100.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

The Child and Youth Protection unit of the Diocese of Trenton works with parishes to ensure that all employees and volunteers that have regular and consistent contact with children receive the proper training and have current criminal background checks. We currently offer mandatory, volunteer training programs through VIRTUS (www.virtus.org). The Trenton Diocese has mandated that all parishes comply with the "Protecting God's Children" Program. Diocesan policy requires background checks for all volunteers who have contact with minors and vulnerable adults. Background checks will be obtained through fingerprint analysis conducted by the New Jersey State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. A Volunteer Application and Code of Conduct must also be completed. If you are an adult or teen over the age of 18 and wish to volunteer, you must comply with the Diocesan "Protecting God's Children" Program. Contact Janet Boris at jboris@holyeucharist.org for more information.



YOUR WEEKEND STARTS HERE

Welcome to the weekend at Holy Eucharist!

Every weekend we come together to experience vibrant liturgies, beautiful seasonal environments, relevant messages and inspiring music. We offer...

- A **Mass schedule** with times convenient for your busy schedules: Saturday 5:00 pm, Sunday 8:30 am or 10:30 am.
- A **Welcome Center** where you can find information on our parish, register for our many activities, or just be welcomed by a friendly face. Introduce yourself!
- Our **Café** offers a fresh cup of coffee and light refreshments after Sunday 8:30 am and 10:30 am Masses. It's a place to gather and meet others from our faith community. Our Café is open from September to June.
- **Kidzone:** worship and play for kids ages 2 to 5 years old. We offer a warm environment for your child to play, and worship through song and activities in a small group setting. Kidzone is offered each weekend at the 10:30 am Sunday Mass during the school year. Kidzone is offered during **all** Masses on LIFT Faith Formation weekends. (See the first page for the LIFT calendar.) No previous sign up or payment is required and there is a secure check-in and pick up procedure. Contact Lynne Beamer for more information at lynnebeamer9@gmail.com.
- **Time Travelers:** offered each weekend at the 8:30am and 10:30am Sunday morning Masses during the school year. Time Travelers is offered at **all** Masses on LIFT Faith Formation weekends. (See the first page for the LIFT calendar.) It offers children ages 5 to 9 years old the opportunity to experience the Liturgy of the Word (readings and homily) at an age appropriate level during Mass. Children arrive at Mass along with their families and then are invited forward to depart with trained volunteers for their twenty minute program. Children return to their family after the homily for the remainder of the Mass.
- **Middle School Ministry:** for children in grades 5 to 7. This ministry meets once a month during the school year for fun snacks, interactive games, scripture reflection, service projects and more! Contact Paige Cole at pcole@holyeucharist.org for more information.
- **HERO:** our youth ministry program, open to all teens, 13 –18 years of age. We meet from September to May on Wednesday evenings from 6:30pm to 8pm. At our weekly meetings, we offer young people a spiritually challenging and world-shaping vision that meets their hunger to participate in a worthy adventure. As our young people learn more about their Catholic faith, their spiritual identity grows and matures, and they build friendships. Every meeting includes dynamic youth leadership, Gospel centered conversation, peer faith sharing, and tasty snacks. Challenge your teen to attend one Wednesday meeting, we know they will come back for more. Want more information? Contact Joe Casano and Courtney Fysz, the leaders of HERO, at HERO@holyeucharist.org.

Every year, we ask each family to serve one hour in our LIFT program. Each time you serve, each child will earn a Passbook stamp and you will know that you are helping the LIFT program to thrive!

Ready for more? We have a place for you to serve and a role that only YOU can fill! Consider one of our LIFT ministries. We provide training and guidance so that you feel comfortable in the role that you choose!



Group Leader: (enrollment fees are waived): Responsible for leading children in a small group. Materials and training are provided.

Commitment: Leaders commit their service for one session each month for nine sessions and attend planning sessions. (See below for the LIFT calendar.)

Aide: Works with the group leader and assists with children's small groups. A teen aide is always accompanied by an adult leader and this experience may be used for community service hours.

Commitment: Aides commit their service for one session each month for nine sessions. (See below for the LIFT calendar.)

Substitute: Lead a small group when group leader is not available. A lesson plan and all materials will be provided.

Commitment: One session or more

Hall Monitor: Supervise the hall of the Faith Formation Center while children are in small group sessions.

Commitment: One session or more

Contact: Jamie Garrett at jgarrett13@yahoo.com

Arts and Crafts Team: Assemble centerpieces for Hoffman Hall and set up for Meal Prep.

Commitment: One session or more

Meal Prep Coordinator: (enrollment fees are waived). Responsible for coordinating meal/drink prep, clean up and volunteers for the nine monthly sessions during one time slot.

Commitment: Nine sessions for one year. (See below for the LIFT calendar.)

Meal Preparation: Assist meal prep coordinator in set up, serving, and/or clean up during LIFT sessions. Teens welcome.

Commitment: One session or more

Check In: Check in LIFT families before Mass. Arrive 20 minutes before the start of Mass.

Commitment: One session or more

Kidzone: Assist with our preschool program. Teens welcome. Arrive 20 minutes before the start of Mass. To attend Mass, you will need to choose a time other than the Mass you are serving.

Commitment: One session or more

Contact: Lynne Beamer at lynnebeamer9@gmail.com

Time Travelers: Assist in Time Travelers, our vibrant Children's Liturgy of the Word program, during the first 20 minutes of Mass. Middle Schoolers and Teens welcome!

Commitment: Serve as often as you like.

Contact: Donna Remaley at dremaley@holyeucharist.org

LIFT Schedule for 2026-2027

September	19, 20	February	20, 21
October	17, 18	March	13, 14
November	14, 15	April	10, 11
December	5, 6	May	15, 16
January	9, 10		