



2019—2020

Faith Formation Grades 1-5

During this time, students first focus on God's love for us through creation and the life and ministry of Jesus. They go on to study the sacraments—especially Reconciliation and the Eucharist—the beliefs of the Church, guidelines to living a Christian life and explanations of the rituals and beliefs of Catholicism. Specific highlights of each year include—



1ST GRADE

Emphasizes God's love for all of us as shown through creation and in the life and ministry of Jesus.

Christmas Plays: Dec 9-11, parents are invited

Presentation of Gifts: at Masses on Jan 25 & 26

Note: Attending first grade is mandatory for a child to celebrate First Reconciliation and First Communion in 2nd grade.

2ND GRADE

Emphasis is placed upon the meaning of the sacraments, the relationship between Baptism and Eucharist, the need to live a peaceful life, God's love and forgiveness, the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and the study of the Mass.



Eucharistic Afternoons: Jan 19, Feb 16 or Mar 29

Rite of Enrollment: Nov 17

1st Reconciliation: Mar 8

1st Communion: Apr 18 or 19



3RD GRADE

Focuses on the meaning of Church with lessons on the marks of the church, creed, Holy Trinity, sacraments and a review of the Mass. In addition, a unit on forming our conscience and the need to follow the spirit of the Ten Commandments.



Hospitality Project: Jan 25/26 or Feb 1/2

4TH GRADE

Deepening youth's awareness and understanding of God's love and mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The Beatitudes and Commandments are presented as guides for living a Christian life.

Reconciliation Workshop: Feb 24, parents attend



5TH GRADE

Focuses on the rituals and beliefs of Catholicism. In addition, traditions, devotions, seasons, and feasts of the Catholic faith are presented.

Teaching Mass: Nov 26, parents attend

PRAYER SUPPORT

Prayer Angels: Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, and Grades 1–5 have a Prayer Angel (parishioner volunteer) assigned to their class and he/she prays for them throughout the year and sends notes of encouragement and recognition for milestones.

Faith Friends: Grades 2 and 5 are partnered for the year. Students in 5th Grade pray for and write notes of encouragement for the 2nd Graders as they prepare for and receive their sacraments. The 5th Graders also host an Advent Party for their 2nd Grade Faith Friends.

PARISH-WIDE CELEBRATIONS

Everyone is invited to join in celebrating feast days in the Church. Look for more information on:

All Saints Party: Nov 3

Las Posadas: Dec 15

Mardi Gras: Feb 25

QUESTIONS?

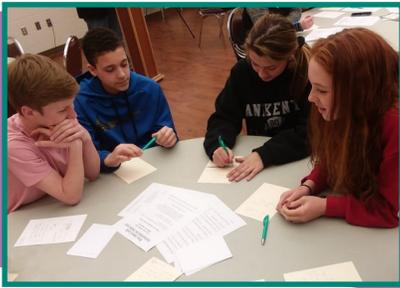
Contact Joyce Clawson

Joyce@olih.org or

515/964-3545



GR 6-8 MSM



2019—2020

The middle school years are all about examining roots—the study of the Old Testament and the writings of our Church fathers—and then applying that wisdom to our prayer life and our outreach to others. Highlights include—



6TH GRADE

Emphasizes a study of the Hebrew Scriptures by focusing on a different person from the books of the Old Testament each week and helping the 6th graders see the connections between the Old Covenant of the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Covenant in Christ.

Seder Prayer Celebration: Apr 8, parents attend

7TH GRADE

Introduces a more small-group faith-sharing model. 7th Graders study Pope Saint John Paul II's Theology of the Body, including a night for parents, followed by a study of Scripture, particularly the New Testament and how to study/read the Bible. The spring semester is spent studying prayer and being exposed to, and participating, in many different forms of Catholic prayer (including adoration, cupcake rosary and lectio divina).

Theology of the Body: Feb 5, parents attend



8TH GRADE

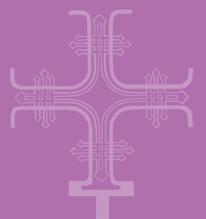
Utilizes both classroom and large group lessons, spending the first semester on the Church that Christ founded. In the spring 8th Graders study the 7 Corporal Works of Mercy and participate in several outreach projects during class time, reinforcing our call as Catholics to serve others.

Self Care Meeting: Oct 2, parents attend



MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY

Grades 6 - 8 students meet the 3rd Sunday of every month 6:00-8:00 pm; occasionally other events are offered such as a book club and the annual 'Christ's Hands'—a faith in action opportunity.



CONTACT

For more information on Grades 6-8 or to help with Middle School Ministry, contact Abby Henderson, Abby@olih.org or 515/402-7432

