



Dear Parents and Families of Our Lady of the Fields:

Welcome to our **2024-2025** Faith Formation program!

Thank you for choosing us to support you as your child's first teachers of our Catholic Faith. Our parish Children's Faith Formation program accompanies you in your most important role by providing structured, age-appropriate curriculum, and educational opportunities for your child's spiritual growth and enrichment every year throughout childhood.

Our faith formation program will combine essential elements for in-person learning at our parish center with family faith-sharing in the home. We will offer class sessions in the traditional format with a catechist every other week for children entering pre-Kindergarten through 8th grade. We will provide parents with family-friendly resources for catechesis in the home on alternate weeks, as well as parent enrichment sessions with staff on Zoom, periodic family events and seasonal activities.

We encourage parents to participate in on-going parish prayer, fellowship, and faith sharing opportunities designed for adults throughout the year. We will advertise those events regularly via Flock Note and our website. If you need additional support sharing faith, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Important dates:

- **July 15, 2024 - Registration due**
- **September 5th (Thursday) at 7:00PM** - Parent Orientation Zoom Meeting (option 1)
- **September 8th (Sunday) at 3:00PM** - Parent Orientation Zoom Meeting (option 2)
- **September 15th (Sunday)** - Meet-and-Greet the Catechist for you and your children during the Sunday class session to which your family has been assigned. Family materials will be available for parents to collect at this Meet-and-Greet.
- **September 17th (Tuesday) at 4:45** - Meet-and-Greet the Catechist for you and your children during the Tuesday class session to which your family has been assigned. Family materials will be available for parents to collect at this Meet-and-Greet.
- **September 22nd (Sunday)** - First Sunday Faith Formation Classes
- **September 24th (Tuesday)** - First Tuesday Faith Formation Classes
- **October 2nd (Wednesday) at 7:00PM** - Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist Parent Orientation in the Parish Hall.

Registration will be on a first-come first-served basis. It would be easiest for our families to register for a preferred class session and make changes later if necessary. Tuition fees will cover your child's workbook (Finding God by Loyola Press for Kindergarten through grade 8; and ALLELUI! by Our Sunday Visitor for Pre-K) **Children will be issued one workbook each to bring back and forth for each meeting.** You may request a Digital copy for use at home for students in kindergarten through grade 8 for \$22.00 each. If your child loses a workbook, a new one will be available for purchase from the faith formation office for \$22.00.

Registration for our 2024/2025 Faith Formation Program is online! We will send an invoice by email requesting payment after receiving your registration. To register, please visit our parish website or click this link <https://www.ourladyofthefields.org/childrens-faith-formation/>.



The registration deadline for 2024/2025 classes is **July 15, 2024**. PLEASE HONOR THIS DEADLINE, even if you must change your class selection later. **Those waiting for sports or other extracurricular schedules may not get their first choice of class times. This year we may be forced to eliminate sessions based on the registrations we have received by July 15th.** A completed registration form is required for us to enroll a child in a class. We appreciate your cooperation and assistance in our planning process.

A family's financial need should never be a barrier to faith formation. Please contact faithformation@olfparish.com for assistance.

Children who have not participated regularly in faith formation through the parish or Catholic School after receiving First Sacraments may need to enter special classes if they want to be eligible to prepare for further sacraments.

Please use this form if:

- Your children (ages 3 to 13) are entering **Preschool through the 8th grade**.
- You plan to prepare a child to celebrate **Baptism, Eucharist, or Reconciliation** during this upcoming faith formation year. (Parents will receive further information about sacramental preparation via electronic and "snail" mail after registering for faith formation.)
- **OCIA*- Catechumenate for Children and Teens**: Children (ages 7-13) who are not yet baptized and seek to become Catholic are prepared through our catechumenate. We offer special sessions for children and teens.
- **IFF**: Initial Faith Formation for baptized children with no formal faith formation experience to date.

**OCIA, Order of Christian Initiation of Adults intended for children and teens, was previously called RCIA, the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, intended for children and teens.*

Please note: Orientation for parents interested in preparing their children for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist will be Wednesday, October 2nd @ 7:00PM in the Parish Hall. This meeting is designed for parents only.

If you are interested in learning more about our Catholic faith individually or by joining the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (previously RCIA), please contact us: faithformation@olfparish.com.

Thank you!

Our Lady of the Fields Faith Formation Staff
faithformation@olfparish.com
410-923-6953

Confirmation: for all information and inquiries regarding Youth Ministry and Confirmation for 9th grade and above, please contact our Youth Ministry Team by emailing confirmation@olfparish.com. Thank you!