

Holy Name Faith Formation Family Policy

Holy Name Parish offers family based/intergenerational faith formation that is open to the entire parish. We believe that lifelong formation is key to handing on our faith and intergenerational interaction is crucial in addition to celebrating the Sunday Mass and family prayer.

There are nine intergenerational formation sessions offered from September through May each year. These are the foundation of our faith formation. You must attend seven of the nine sessions to be considered an active participant. These monthly sessions are offered on Sunday at 10:15am or Monday at 6:15pm in the gym of the school building. You may attend either session each month.

In addition to the whole group meetings, children in grades kindergarten through sixth grade are to complete weekly lessons in the *Pflaum Gospel Weeklies* series. These weekly leaflets are based on the Sunday Gospel and address doctrine, teachings, and traditions of the Catholic faith. We believe parents are the first teachers of faith, this time spent with your child enables both of you to walk together on a faith journey. We will provide additional tools for you through the Pflaum website as well as practical advice from families who have used the program in the past.

We are not a grade-based program. The following are the guidelines for formation and celebration of sacraments that will help all families come into Holy Name faith formation regardless of ages or circumstances:

The earliest a child can begin formation for the sacrament of First Reconciliation is 2nd grade. There are three sacrament specific parent and child sessions that take place at the end of January and beginning of February. These sessions take place in addition to normal Generations of Faith participation. The sacrament is celebrated at the completion of the sessions.

The earliest a child can begin formation for the sacrament of First Communion is 3rd grade. There are four sacrament specific parent and child sessions that take place between the end of February and the end of April, in addition to regular Generations of Faith participation. The sacrament is celebrated at the completion of the sacrament specific sessions. This can take place on a Sunday afternoon or at a regularly scheduled weekend Mass depending on circumstances.

The earliest a child can begin formation for the sacrament of Confirmation is 7th grade. This is a two-year formation with five to six event and/or content-based experiences each year in addition to regular Generation of Faith participation. Some of these include parents, and one is an afternoon of reflection with the child's sponsor. There is an orientation for parents and students at the beginning of the formation to explain the entire calendar and events.

Your family is to complete one full year of faith formation (Generations of Faith) immediately before beginning formation for the above sacraments regardless of age or grade. We accommodate all ages in our formation.

Questions, comments or concerns: mercedes@holynamecl.org 219-232-2778