

## **St. John the Baptist Family Faith Formation FAQ**

### **What is this? How is it different from standard Faith Formation?**

Family Faith Formation is a parent-led format where the entire family (Parents and students, grades 1-8) learn together. Each family is asked to bring food, potluck style, and then after Mass we will eat together and have Family Catechesis, together with all members. This format is limited to 20 families. Please register early to ensure your spot.

On the weeks we don't meet, there are additional activities, lessons, and time spent in prayer together as a family at home. There is a Parent Guide to lead the family from, and an Activity Guide for the students to work from. These sessions will meet the Saturday evening of the second weekend of the month, after the Vigil Mass.

### **When do the classes meet?**

Family Faith Formation will meet on Saturday evenings, after the 4:30 Vigil Mass in the SJB School Commons. You can bring food to drop off in the commons before Mass. Classes will meet once per month, typically (with a few exceptions) on the Second Saturday of the month.

### **What about Sacramental Preparation?**

If you have students who are in second grade that have completed at least one prior year of Faith Formation, then they can register for First Reconciliation and First Communion classes. These classes will meet on specific Wednesday Nights and are required for Sacramental Reception. For Confirmation, Students will need to complete the two-year Confirmation program starting their freshman year in high school. These Family Faith Formation classes are not a substitute or alternative to Sacramental Preparation Classes.

### **I have students that are older than 8<sup>th</sup> grade, or younger than 1<sup>st</sup> grade. What about them?**

Your older or younger students are still welcome! The Family Faith Formation program cannot be a substitute for Confirmation Prep classes, and there won't be childcare for little family members. But as long as they can sit with you as we eat and have a group lesson, then they are very welcome. The at home lessons are less specific to grade level than they are to age range.

### **Why is this being offered?**

As parents, our job is to be the primary educators of our children in the Catholic Faith. It is through the witness of Christian life given by parents in the family that children are formed to respond to the call of their Baptism. Parental teaching and support of catechesis (teaching) provided by the parish's catechetical program work together to form children in faith.

"Family catechesis precedes...accompanies and enriches all forms of catechesis" (GDC#226).

In short, it will help you to both learn and lead your family in the Catholic Faith, with the goal of creating passionate, lifelong Catholic followers of Christ.