

Elementary Faith Formation (Age 3-Grade 6)

Re-opening Information

Our Faith Formation staff and volunteers, in conjunction with our parishes and Saint Monica Catholic Academy, are preparing to re-open our Faith Formation program following established guidelines to promote the physical, spiritual, social, emotional, and intellectual care of all participants. In order to accommodate parish families in this uncertain time, we will be offering the following options for the 2020-2021 school year:

❖ In-Person Sessions

- Traditional classroom program with online program
 - In addition to the individual paper materials for each student, all families will be given access to the online program.
 - We will use the online program approximately once a month for flexible learning days, and in case of snow days or other classroom closures.
 - Accommodations can be made for those without reliable technology access, please notify the Faith Formation Coordinator if this situation applies to your family.
- Health & safety accommodations include socially distanced seating, symptom monitoring including temperature checks, hygiene practices including wearing masks when not seated, rolling dismissal times to avoid congestion in the exit areas, regular cleaning and disinfecting, and avoiding shared materials.
 - Parents will need to provide each child with his/her own pencils, erasers, and colored pencils for classroom use.
 - Any COVID-like symptoms—including cold/flu symptoms—will require a 14-day absence, including at least 3 days symptom-free, from in-person sessions. Children at home will utilize the online program for attendance credit.
- This is the only option available for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program for Pre-K & Kindergarten children, due to the nature of the program. Children in this age group are exempt from Parish Faith Formation and can spend this year learning about Jesus and the Church from their parents at home.

❖ Online Program

- Distance learning program with individual paper materials
 - After initial pick-up of individual paper materials, students will follow the online lessons and work in their workbooks/worksheets at home each week.
 - Regular Catechist follow-up with students will occur through virtual meeting programs (such as Zoom).
 - Catechist/Coordinator will track attendance through the completion of online modules and participation in virtual meetings.

❖ Homeschool

- Parents are responsible for the formal religious education of their child(ren), there is no virtual or in-person contact with parish catechists.
- Available to families on a case-by-case basis, using your own or parish-provided materials. Please contact the Faith Formation Coordinator for more information or to request consideration for this program.

Please select your preferred program option when completing the registration form. Any questions or concerns about any of these options can be directed to Virginia Samosky, Faith Formation Coordinator, at the parish you are registering for: education@saintmonica.us or faithformation@stblaiseparish.com.