

Good Shepherd Faith Formation Program 2021-2022

Policies and Procedures

Weekly Mass Attendance and Pflaum Gospel Weeklies are the foundation of our Faith Formation program.

1. **Registration:** Registration is open on-line from May 24 – June 24, 2021. **Registration is not complete until payment is received.** Payment in Full or a Minimum Deposit must be received no later than June 24 for materials to be ordered. **In order to begin the program on time, you must register by June 24 so that your materials will arrive in time.**
2. **New Parishioner Registration:** Families moving into the parish after June 24 should contact Prek12ff@gs-cc.org to register.
3. **Mass Attendance** is at the core of our program. The Mass teaches and reinforces so many aspects of our faith. Completing weekly assignments without attending Mass gives children and teens a disjointed and incomplete experience.
4. **Gospel Weeklies** focus on the Sunday Gospel readings and should be completed in as close proximity to Sunday Mass attendance (in person or virtual) as possible. These weekly worksheets are distributed quarterly at a mandatory parent meeting (see below for dates). To ensure all parents can attend (only one parent from each family required), there are two options for each meeting. In addition to material pickup, the parent meetings offer important catechetical ideas for guiding your children and teens in their faith and incorporating the Gospel messages into family activities at home.
5. **Family Events** will be offered at Good Shepherd as soon as we are able. These fun family events will offer a variety of activities to support and reinforce the Gospel Weeklies lessons.
6. **Mandatory Parent Meetings** – The family is where children and teens learn how to live their faith daily. Parent Meetings will provide essential support as you guide your children and teens in their faith journey. **Parents' attendance at these meetings is a required element of the program.** Please mark these dates on your calendar now to avoid conflicts:

Quarterly Meetings in English

- Q1 Meeting (English): **Sunday September 12** from 5:30-6:30pm OR **Tuesday September 14** from 6:00-7:00pm
- Q2 Meeting (English): **Monday November 8** from 6:00-7:00pm OR **Wednesday November 10** from 6:00-7:00pm
- Q3 Meeting (English): **Monday January 10** from 6:00-7:00pm OR **Tuesday January 11** from 6:00-7:00pm
- Q4 Meeting (English): **Monday March 7** from 6:00-7:00pm OR **Tuesday March 8** from 6:00-7:00pm

Quarterly Meetings in Spanish

- Q1 Meeting (Spanish): **Sunday September 12** from 3:30-4:30pm OR **Tuesday September 14** from 7:30-8:30pm
- Q2 Meeting (Spanish): **Monday November 8** from 7:30-8:30pm OR **Wednesday November 10** from 7:30-8:30pm
- Q3 Meeting (Spanish): **Monday January 10** from 7:30-8:30pm OR **Tuesday January 11** from 7:30-8:30pm
- Q4 Meeting (Spanish): **Monday March 7** from 7:30-8:30pm OR **Tuesday March 8** from 7:30-8:30pm

7. **Assignments.** Students will complete a weekly on-line assignment. Completion of assignments will be checked on a monthly basis and recorded as Complete or Incomplete at that time.

Sacrament Preparation for First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation

1. Students preparing to receive a Sacrament **participate fully in the weekly faith formation program** detailed on the previous page in addition to other Sacrament-related requirements and special events.
2. Students who are attending Catholic School should specify so on their Registration Form. These students will not be required to participate in the Gospel Weeklies portion of the faith formation program but are required to complete all Sacrament Preparation requirements and deadlines.
3. At Good Shepherd, Sacrament Preparation is a two-year process – students preparing for their sacraments must attend the appropriate meetings along with one parent:

FIRST COMMUNION

a. 1st Year Parent/Child Orientation:

- i. *Meeting in English:* September 26 (Sunday) from 5:30-6:30pm OR
September 28 (Tuesday) from 6:00-7:00pm.
- ii. *Meeting in Spanish:* September 26 (Sunday) from 3:30-4:30pm OR
September 28 (Tuesday) from 7:30-8:30pm.
- iii. An additional Parent & Child event will be held in the Spring – details coming in the Fall.

b. 2nd Year Parent/Child Orientation:

- i. *Meeting in English:* August 29 (Sunday) from 5:30-6:30pm OR
August 31 (Tuesday) from 6:00-7:00pm.
- ii. *Meeting in Spanish:* August 29 (Sunday) from 3:30-4:30pm OR
August 31 (Tuesday) from 7:30-8:30pm.
- iii. Additional Parent and Child events will be held throughout the year to support and reinforce the *faith* topics covered in preparation for the sacraments. A calendar of all required event dates for the year will be provided after your child is registered.

CONFIRMATION

c. 1st Year Confirmation Parent/Teen Orientation

- i. *Meeting in English:* September 20 (Monday) from 6:00-7:00pm
- ii. *Meeting in Spanish:* September 20 (Monday) from 7:30-8:30pm

d. 2nd Year Confirmation Parent/Teen Orientation

- i. *Meeting in English:* September 21 (Tuesday) from 6:00-7:00pm
- ii. *Meeting in Spanish:* September 21 (Tuesday) from 7:30-8:30pm

4. Baptismal Certificates Deadline

For your child to receive his or her sacraments as scheduled, **Baptismal Certificates** should be turned in as soon as possible, but **no later than September 30**.

- Bring a copy to the parish office marked Attn: Stacy Austin; or Email to Registrar@gs-cc.org
- If your child was baptized at Good Shepherd, no further action is required.

5. **Assignments** must be submitted on time for sacraments to proceed as scheduled. A syllabus will be provided and posted on-line so you know the schedule of assignments and due dates.