

Good Shepherd Faith Formation Program 2022-2023

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 April 1 – May 31, 2022.

Registration is not complete until payment is received. Payment in Full or a Minimum Deposit must be received no later than May 31 for materials to be ordered. **In order to begin the program on time, you must register by May 31 so that your materials will arrive on time.**

2. **New Parishioner Registration:** Families moving into the parish after registration has closed should contact Stacy Austin at s.austin@gs-cc.org to register your PreK to Grade 12 children and teens for the Weekly Program and Sacrament Preparation.
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 (dates will be posted on our website as soon as they are determined). To ensure all parents can attend (only one parent from each family required), there are 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 throughout the year. 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): **Monday, September 12 6:00-7:00 pm OR Thursday, September 15 6:00-7:00 pm**
- Q2 Meeting (English): **Wednesday, November 9 6:00-7:00pm OR Thursday, November 10 6:00-7:00 pm**
- Q3 Meeting (English): **Tuesday, January 10 6:00-7:00 pm OR Wednesday, January 11 6:00-7:00pm**
- Q4 Meeting (English): **Tuesday, March 7 6:00-7:00pm OR Wednesday, March 8 6:00-7:00pm**

Quarterly Meetings in Spanish

- Q1 Meeting (Spanish) **Monday, September 12 7:30-8:30 pm Thursday, September 15 7:30-8:30 pm**
- Q2 Meeting (Spanish): **Wednesday, November 9 7:30-8:30pm OR Thursday, November 10 7:30-8:30 pm**

- Q3 Meeting (Spanish): **Tuesday, January 10 7:30-8:30 pm OR
Wednesday, January 11 7:30-8:30pm**
- Q4 Meeting (Spanish): **Tuesday, March 7 7:30-8:30pm OR
Wednesday, March 8 7:30-8:30pm**

7. Baptismal Certificates Deadline

For your child to receive his or her sacraments as scheduled, **Baptismal Certificates must be turned in before the first Parent Meeting.**

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

Sacrament Preparation for First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation

1. Students preparing to receive a Sacrament **participate fully in the Gospel Weeklies faith formation program** 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 – Parent/Child Orientation for Year 1 and Year 2 Students (includes distribution of Gospel Weeklies packets):

1. *Meeting in English:* **Wednesday, September 7 6:00-7:00 pm OR
Thursday, September 8 6:00-7:00pm**
2. *Meeting in Spanish:* **Wednesday, September 7 7:30-8:30pm OR
Thursday, September 8 7:30-8:30pm**

3. At least one additional Parent and Child event 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 posted on our website.**

CONFIRMATION – Parent/Teen Orientation for Year 1 and Year 2 Students (includes distribution of Gospel Weeklies packets):

- Meeting in English:* **Tuesday, September 13 6:00-7:00 pm OR
Wednesday, September 14 6:00-7:00 pm**
- Meeting in Spanish:* **Tuesday, September 13 7:30-8:30 pm OR
Wednesday, September 14 7:30-8:30 pm**