



st. perpetua faith formation
2022 – 2023
events & dates



st. perpetua faith formation
1st – 5th grade faith formation
welcome

What is children's Faith Formation?

In children's faith formation it is our goal to provide the fundamentals of our faith in an engaging and supportive atmosphere. Our programs combine religious education, participation in weekly liturgies, faith families, and preparation for sacraments. Each component is equally important and will provide a joyful experience designed to immerse children into our Catholic community while developing their relationship with Jesus.

How does Faith Formation work?

Student Sessions:

Our faith formation sessions will meet approximately twice each month from September through April. The purpose of our sessions is to teach the children about God's word, the Catholic Church and our responsibilities as Christians. During the student sessions, children and teens meet with their catechist leaders to learn the practices of our faith, our beliefs and to explore how to make God an everyday part of life.

Our class offerings are as follows:

Sunday morning Faith Formation	10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	1st - 5th grade
Sunday evening Faith Formation & TEAM	6:00 - 7:15 p.m.	1st - 8th grade

Family Sessions:

We know family schedules are busy. We will offer four "Faith Family Nights." Parents are asked to attend with their children to learn about our rich liturgical seasons throughout the year. Our family sessions give parents the opportunity to deepen their own faith while creating an avenue to pass knowledge, traditions and faith experiences to their children.

Faith Family Nights will be offered on Sunday evenings.

How can you help?

Our Faith Formation program serves over 350 children each year and our success depends largely on the support of many parent volunteers. Each family is asked to contribute volunteer hours to the program. Many opportunities are available with a variety of skills needed. Your participation provides the children with beautiful examples of our faith. The more parent involvement we have, the more loving and nurturing of a program we can provide. The Sign Up Genius with all volunteer opportunities can be found on our registration webpage.

Ready to join?

On the following pages you will find detailed information and schedules for each program. Click to see the faith formation guide to which sessions are your best fit. If you need assistance in choosing which session is best for your family or if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Welcome to the St. Perpetua Faith Formation Program!

Kim Anderson



st. perpetua faith formation
6th - 8th grade TEAM
welcome

What is TEAM?

TEAM is St. Perpetua's middle school (6th-8th grade) youth ministry program that meets twice a month on Sundays from 6:15-7:30 pm. We use the acronym TEAM to remind us of what our middle school youth need most in their faith development:

TEACHING:

As our youth are going through this incredible period of growth, they begin asking some important questions, such as:

What is my purpose in life?

How do I know that God is real?

Who are my real friends and am I a good friend to them?

Who can I believe and trust?

Why should I be part of a Church community?

As their critical thinking skills continue to grow and develop, we want TEAM to be a place where they can find answers to their biggest questions. We want to offer them a space to learn and to be challenged by the Gospel and the wisdom of our Church.

ENCOURAGING:

As we all know, middle school can be a time of intense peer pressure as our youth seek out ways of belonging. Unfortunately peer pressure can lead to conformity—our youth just following the crowd or that popular clique. We want TEAM to be a place where students are encouraged to take a risk, to stand up for what they believe in and to be unafraid to courageously live out what they know to be right and true.

AFFIRMING:

In their search for clarifying their own values and identity, our middle school youth do some pretty amazing things! Oftentimes these great things (e.g. serving at a homeless shelter, taking care of an elderly grandparent, standing up to a bully, etc.) go unnoticed. We want TEAM to be a place where the good work that our youth do is celebrated and affirmed. Our hope is that TEAM is a safe space where our students have their good affirmed so they will continue to make a difference in this world.

MIDDLE SCHOOLERS:

Although middle school is a relatively short three-year time in the lives of these young people, it is a time of GREAT change. It is during this time that our youth are changing socially, physically, intellectually, emotionally and spiritually. Unfortunately, according to the most robust study of young people in the Catholic Church, it is at the age of 13 that most young people make their decision whether or not to stay in the Church. And many do not stay. (Read *Going, Going, Gone: The Dynamics of Disaffiliation in Young Catholics* by St. Mary's Press for more information.) We want TEAM to be a place where our middle school students recognize how vital and important they are to the Catholic Church. They are a huge part of the TEAM!

How does TEAM work?

Throughout the school year TEAM will be meeting a dozen times on **Sunday evenings 6:00-7:15pm**. At each gathering middle schoolers can expect good music and singing lead by a worship band consisting of high school and college students. They can expect fun activities and icebreakers. They can expect to hear a challenging message based on our year's theme. They will have time to meet in smaller groups (led by high school and college students) where they can talk in a safe space about things important in their lives. And they will be sent home hopefully more informed, encouraged, and connected to the rest of the TEAM.

What is this year's theme?

This year's theme is very simple—YOU BELONG! Music artists, ranging from Linkin Park (“Somewhere I Belong”) to Taylor Swift (“You Belong With Me”) have addressed the question of belonging. Sociologists have identified that one of the greatest needs that young people have today is to feel a sense of belonging. And at TEAM this year we are going to make sure that everyone knows that they belong! We will begin by looking at Jesus and who he invited to belong. (You may be surprised at some of the people he called to join him in his mission!) We will then take a good look at the sense of belonging when it comes to the Catholic Church. Who are the people who belong to the Church? We are reminded in John 14:2 that in our Father's house “there are many dwelling places.” We are part of a Church that has many dwelling places as we have over one billion followers. Who are all those people who belong to our Church? We will then explore the things we can do to stay belonging to this Church (e.g. the Sacraments) and to our God. We will end the year exploring the ways we can help others feel like they belong , and challenge ourselves to invite others to belong (evangelization). Our hope is that by the end of this year our young people will know without a doubt that they absolutely BELONG!

How do I join TEAM?

We want all students in 6th-8th grades to feel welcome at TEAM meetings. We hope TEAM can become a supportive community for all middle school teens. Students are encouraged to invite their friends to be a part of TEAM. Please fill out the “**Registration Form**” tab on this page to be part of the TEAM.

Welcome to TEAM!

Elizabeth & Andrew Berkes



st. perpetua faith formation
sunday morning events & dates

◆ parent information meeting ◆

Please plan to have at least one parent attend - no children. Meetings last one hour.

August 14 at 7:00 p.m. or August 17 at 9:30 a.m.

◆ faith family sessions ◆

Faith Family sessions will be held on Sundays in the Community Center.

On Faith Family Sessions grades 1st - 8th are asked to attend with at least one parent.

October 23 at 6:00 p.m.

December 4 at 6:00 p.m.

February 5 at 6:00 p.m.

March 26 at 6:00 p.m.

◆ student sessions ◆

Students grades 1st - 5th grade are invited to meet by grade with a parent leader
in the School Building from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Students meet in the vestibule immediately following communion after 9:30 a.m. Mass.

August 21

September 18

October 2

November 6

December 11

January 8

March 12

April 11 or 13 (year two only)

April 30

◆ rise and shine mass ◆

Each month the students in our faith formation program and parish school actively participate in
leading our liturgy. All Rise and Shine Sundays are held during our 9:30 a.m. Mass.

August 28

September 25

October 30

December 18

January 29 (Catholic Schools Week)

February 12

March 19



st. perpetua faith formation
sunday events & dates

◆ parent information meeting ◆

Please plan to have at least one parent attend - no children. Meetings last one hour.
August 14 at 7:00 p.m. or August 17 at 9:30 a.m.

◆ faith family sessions ◆

Faith Family Nights will be held on Sundays in the Community Center.
On Faith Family Sessions grades 1st - 8th are asked to attend with at least one parent.

October 23 at 6:00 p.m.

December 4 at 6:00 p.m.

February 5 at 6:00 p.m.

March 26 at 6:00 p.m.

◆ student sessions ◆

All classes being at 6:00 p.m.

1st - 5th grade will gather in the School Building.

TEAM 6th - 8th grade will gather in the Community Center.

All students will gather at the end of our classes in the Church for prayer & song 7:00 - 7:15 p.m.

August 21

September 18

October 2

November 6

December 11

January 8

March 12

April 13 or 18 (year two only)

April 30

◆ rise and shine mass ◆

Each month the students in our faith formation program and parish school actively participate in leading our liturgy. All Rise and Shine Sundays are held during our 9:30 a.m. Mass.

August 28

September 25

October 30

December 18

January 29 (Catholic Schools Week)

February 12

March 19



st. perpetua faith formation
sacrament of first eucharist events & dates

The following dates are for the families of children who are preparing to celebrate First Eucharist typically in 2nd grade and above.

◆ first eucharist parent meeting ◆

Please plan to have at least one parent attend - no children. Meetings last one hour.

Tuesday, November 1, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

OR

Wednesday, November 2, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

St. Francis Room in the Community Center

◆ preparing our hearts for jesus, a reconciliation ceremony ◆

Please plan to have at least one parent attend with child. Ceremony lasts one hour.

Monday, February 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

OR

Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

St. Perpetua Church

◆ family retreat & rehearsal ◆

Please plan to have at least one parent attend with child.

Saturday, March 4, 2023 at 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

St. Perpetua Community Center

◆ rise & shine mass ◆

Children will ask the congregation to pray for them as they prepare for First Eucharist.

Saturday, March 18, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. Mass

or

Sunday, March 19, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. Rise & Shine Mass

◆ first eucharist masses ◆

Date requests will be issued at the November parent meetings.

Saturday, April 15, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 16, 2023 at 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, April 22, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 23, 2023 at 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.

If you are unable to attend these events, please contact kima@stperpetua.org



st. perpetua church
rise & shine mass schedule

Each month the students in our faith formation program and parish school are invited to actively participate in leading our celebration during Rise & Shine. Please join us in supporting the integration of their classroom efforts and participation in celebrating the Eucharist and Liturgical Seasons throughout the year.

Rise & Shine Masses will be held at St. Perpetua Church

celebrating the gift of community

Sunday, August 28, 2022

5th year students

9:30 a.m. Mass

celebrating the gift of family

Sunday, September 25, 2022

3rd year students

9:30 a.m. Mass

celebrating the gift of forgiveness

Sunday, October 30, 2022

4th year students

9:30 a.m. Mass

celebrating the gift of generosity

Sunday, December 18, 2022

1st year students

9:30 a.m. Mass

celebrating the gift of learning - catholic schools week

Sunday, January 29, 2023

All St. Perpetua School students

9:30 a.m. Mass

celebrating the gift of leadership - scout sunday

Sunday, February 12, 2023

TEAM students

9:30 a.m. Mass

celebrating the gift of friendship - first eucharist prayer buddies

Sunday, March 19, 2023

2nd year students

Students receiving First Eucharist are asked to attend

Saturday, March 18 at 5:00 p.m. Mass or Sunday, March 19 at 9:30 a.m.



st. perpetua faith formation volunteer opportunities

Please consider how you might be able to share your gifts with the children of St. Perpetua.

◆ catechist (teacher/team leader/coach)

Parent volunteers are needed to lead the monthly student sessions. Professional teaching experience is not required. Classes range from 12-20 children. All curriculum, teacher guides, training, and lesson outlines are provided. Just bring a willingness to share your faith with the children of St. Perpetua. Full time teachers receive free tuition for one child. Teachers also receive first choice date/seating selection for sacraments. Being a teacher is truly a gift to our children and you will be amazed at how much you learn from them!

...one step closer to sainthood

◆ classroom assistant

Parents are needed during the monthly student sessions in the lower grades to help with classroom management. No preparation is needed. Simply arrive 10 minutes prior to the start of class to assist the teacher with set up, class activities and clean up and just be a extra adult on Zoom.

...an extra hour of quality time with your child...priceless

◆ traffic duty

Parents are needed for the student sessions to lead the efforts in the drop off/ pick up carpool lane. Traffic Duty parents arrive 10 minutes prior to the start of class and help children get to and from their cars safely. Shifts are usually complete 10 minutes after class is finished.

...everyone knows the parking lot is where the real action is

◆ sunday morning shepherd

A parent volunteer is needed to lead the children from the Church to the School. Children are dismissed immediately after communion on Sunday mornings. The Shepherd will be asked to sit near the front pews so as to exit the church immediately after receiving communion to greet the children in the vestibule and then walk over to the school for class. Once children are in the classroom shepherd will welcome late students and make sure they are in the correct classrooms.

...take a walk on the wild side

◆ baking and snacks

Throughout the year we have celebrations. Our parents provide treats or snacks for the children and teens.

...want to be the most loved parent in faith formation?...bake a name for yourself!

◆ retreat assistant

Each year we have a Sacrament Retreat for the children preparing for First Eucharist and their parents. Over 250 people attend. Assistants help with set up, retreat stations and clean up. This year our retreat is scheduled for March 6, 2021 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. This opportunity is *not* available to Year Two Sacrament parents.

...like a saturday morning workout without the sweat and tears



st. perpetua faith formation
registration fees

Faith Formation/TEAM/Youth Group per student	\$200.00 each
First Eucharist sacrament fee (to be paid in November)	\$100.00 each
Confirmation	\$210.00 each

All parents are asked to volunteer for a minimum of 3 - 4 hours per school year.

*

Please complete the online registration form, permission slip, and
volunteer commitment through Sign Up Genius at stperpetua.org
and return with payment no later than August 8, 2022.

*

Children registering for the first time must include a copy of
their baptismal certificate with registration (not needed if baptized at St. Perpetua)

*

Please do not hesitate to discuss financial assistance with our office.
All requests will be handled confidentially.

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