



St. Bridget Faith Formation Registration FAQs



▪ **What are my options for Faith Formation?**

- Enroll in our parish school, where faith formation is integrated into the daily curriculum.
- Attend Wednesday evening FF classes at the church.
- Use RCL's Faith First books to assist you in an "at-home" program.
- Do a combination of any of the above options!

▪ **Why would anyone do a combination of the two programs?**

Some parents use the "At-Home" program for most of their study, but bring their children to classes occasionally so that they can meet/socialize with other children in the parish. It also allows the parents to get to know other parents in the parish.

Some parents combine these concepts by meeting with another family or two and studying their "At-Home" books together in one of their homes.

▪ **What is expected of the parents?**

It is very important that parents model and live the faith that they are trying to share with their children. As we all know, children learn MUCH more from what we do, than from what we say!

Coming to class with your children, or regularly setting aside time to do the "At-Home" program, is a way of living your faith. You are showing your children that your faith, and spending time with them are important to you.

▪ **What if I have more than one child and can't be in two places at once?!**

We certainly understand this, and ask you to go with the child that you think would benefit most from having you with them. We are sensitive to this situation and will not leave your other child feeling alone. We will have your child work with a friend whose parent is staying in that class.

If you are not comfortable with this, you are always welcome to keep your children together and all go to whichever class you think your children would enjoy/benefit from the most.

▪ **Is there a Faith Formation Program for preschoolers?**

Faith Formation for 3, 4, and 5 year olds is held during the 10:30 Mass in the West View room on the first three Sundays of each month from October through April. There will be registration forms in the room, so you can register there on the first day of class if you haven't already.

▪ **What if my kids ask questions that I can't answer?**

First, pat yourself on the back! You have obviously created an environment that made your child curious and want to learn more, and he/she also feels safe asking you his/her question! Great job! ☺ None of us have all the answers and very few of us remember everything that we were taught in our own faith formation classes.

One book that I have referred to many times to answer my own children's questions is:

[This Is Our Faith](#) (A Catholic Catechism for Adults)

ISBN # 0-87793-653-6

by Michael Francis Pennock

published by Ave Maria Press

- **What if I have a child that will be preparing for sacraments this year?**

Children in the 2nd grade or above are welcome to prepare for and celebrate the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion.

Please note that 2nd grade is only a guideline. If you do not believe that your 2nd grader is ready to understand one or both of these sacraments, you do NOT need to have them do it as a 2nd grader. There is no issue with having them wait until next year, or even 4th grade if that is when they are ready.

If your child is ready for First Communion as a 2nd grader, but not ready for First Reconciliation yet, that is fine ... they can prepare and celebrate First Communion this year and First Reconciliation next year, or whenever you feel that they are ready.

Preparation for these sacraments is done mostly through an "at-home" study program. Parents will meet with Father at the beginning of the preparation time to ensure that they understand the concepts and are comfortable preparing their children for the sacrament. They will be given a book and a suggested schedule to guide their study.

In addition to the at-home preparation, there will be an evening Learning Center where a parent and child work through a series of activities related to the concepts of the sacrament. And, there will be a Retreat just before the day of celebration, where Father will answer any final questions about the sacrament and guide parents and children through what they can expect on the day of the celebration.

- **If my child is preparing for a sacrament, are they also expected to do the regular FF classes or "At-Home" program?**

If your child is preparing for the sacraments, that is their FF program for the year.

Although they are always welcome to come or do more, they do not need to attend the regular classes or do the general "At-Home" book. Preparing well for these sacraments will take time, and should be their priority.

- **What is the fee for the Faith Formation Program?**

The fee for FF is \$60 for the first child, plus \$10 for each additional child. (With a family maximum of \$80.)

This is a "flat fee" and covers whatever options you feel will help you share your faith with your children. (There is not an additional fee for sacrament preparation, or for doing both the At-Home program and the classes, etc.)

- **What if I just can't afford the fee right now?**

We absolutely do not want money to be an obstacle and understand that times are difficult for many people. Please contact me, Diane Wengelski, at 425-1874 or faithform@stbparish.com and we will confidentially work something out.