

Welcome to the Faith Formation program at Holy Cross. Our program is a combination of an intergenerational program, and a classroom program. Three times per Faith Formation calendar year, we host a presentation, including a meal, for our families. Students in Grades 1-5 and their parents are expected to attend all three of these presentations as part of our formation program. Students in Grades 6-10 and their parents are expected to attend our February GOLF presentation.

In grades 1-8, we use the Pflaum Gospel Weekly program as our curriculum. The series is based on the readings at the Mass each week, so it is imperative that families attend our weekly Masses, so the classroom instruction will make sense to the students. Each week, students in those grades will be given a “weekly” with thoughts, questions, and articles about the readings. The children bring home those “weeklies” and we hope that they spark a continued family discussion. The weeklies are meant to help students relate the Gospel readings heard in church to everyday life. In addition, there is a handbook which stays in the classroom. This handbook contains the basic teachings of Catholicism, and will be used each week as a resource.

Students in grades 1-5 will also be given a Mass passport, which lists the dates of each weekly Mass and Holy Day of obligation during the Faith Formation year. We encourage students to bring this passport to Mass and have it signed by a different parishioner (not a priest!) each week. This will not only encourage students to attend Mass, but will allow our students to get to know the other parishioners in the parish. The cards will be turned in at the end of the Faith Formation year, and prizes will be awarded based on the number of signatures collected, at the last GOLF session.

Grades 1-5 meet on Sunday mornings, from 9:30-11:00am. We have two sections of students, because of the large number of students in our classes. You can sign up your students for Section 1 or Section 2 classes. Section 1 and Section 2 meet on alternate weeks. Please check the dates for the sections, and sign up your children based on the dates and your schedules. If a student has to miss a class in his/her sections, the class can be made up in the alternate section. Classes are scheduled to start after the 8:30am Mass, so that families of children in these grades and attend Mass together, and then have their children come to class immediately after Mass.

This year, our Grades 6,7,8,9, and 10 will meet from 4pm – 5:15, and continue on to the 5:30 Mass, which is geared to young people. Section 1 will have a Grade 6,7,8 and 9, and Section 2 will have a Grade 6,7,8, and 10. There is only one Grade 9 (Confirmation) class which meets on the Section 1 schedule. There is only one Grade 10 class, which will generally meet on the Section 2 nights, but not quite as often as the 6,7,and 8 grades in Section 2.

Please note that our Confirmation program is a 2 year program, beginning in Grade 9 and continuing in Grade 10. Confirmation candidates make their Confirmation at Holy Cross in the spring of their Grade 10 year. If a student has not had one year of Confirmation class when he/she reaches Grade 10, we will ask that student to complete Confirmation 1 before joining the Confirmation 2 class.

Likewise, our First Reconciliation/First Eucharist program is a two-year program. If a student in Grade 2 has not had any Faith Formation at that point, he/she will be placed in the First Eucharist 1 program. If you have a child at the Sacramental age level who has not first had a

year of Faith Formation, please let us know on the registration form, so that we can evaluate and create a solution.

#### Information for Sacramental Prep

For those receiving First Reconciliation and First Eucharist, there are a few additional dates to be remembered:

There is a parent meeting for Section 1 First Eucharist/First Reconciliation parents on October 14, at 9:30 in the Great Room in the Parish Center while their children are in class.

There is a parent meeting for Section 2 First Eucharist/First Reconciliation parents on October 21 at 9:30 while their children are in class. Since there is a parent meeting for each section, if you cannot make it to your scheduled session, please come on the alternate week.

This is an important parent meeting!

First Reconciliation workshop for all First Eucharist 2 students, regardless of section, is on Saturday January 12 at noon. All students and at least one parent should be at this workshop.

First Reconciliation is on Saturday at 10am for students in Section 1, and at noon for students in Section 2.

First Eucharist workshop for all First Eucharist students and at least one parent is on Saturday, April 6 at noon.

First Eucharist will be celebrated on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at noon for students in Section 1, and at 2:30pm for students in Section 2.

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For Confirmation students –

The parent/student meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 30 in the Great Room at 6:30pm.

The program will be explained at this time.

There will be an online component to this course and the information on how to access the online portion will be given out at this time. All students and at least one parent should be at this session.

A Confirmation retreat is required for all Confirmation students. Our retreat will be held on January 5 and 6. It is a two-day retreat, but NOT an overnight. The retreat will be held here at the parish center on Saturday, January 5 from 2:30 till 9:00pm, and then on Sunday, from 2:30pm till 6:30pm. If your student is not able to make this retreat, he or she can make arrangements to make a Confirmation retreat with another parish. This must be arranged with us ahead of time.

The Rite of Enrollment will be celebrated at the 5:30pm Mass on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Candidates and their sponsors should be at this Mass.

Afterwards there will be reception and short presentation in the Great Room.

**Section 1 Dates :**

**Grades 1 -5**

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**A REMINDER THAT GOLF SESSIONS ARE FOR CHILDREN AND PARENTS!**

**September 16 GOLF Session – 11:15am-1:00pm**

September 23 9:30-11:00am  
October 14 9:30-11:00am  
October 28 9:30-11:00am  
November 11 9:30-11:00am  
December 9 9:30-11:00am  
January 6 9:30-11:00am  
January 20 9:30-11:00am  
February 3 9:30-11:00am

**February 10 GOLF SESSION - 11:15am- 1:00pm**

March 3 9:30am-11:00am  
March 17 9:30am-11:00am  
March 31 9:30am- 11:00am

**April 28 GOLF SESSION 11:15-1:00pm**

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**Section 1 Grades 6,7,8 and 9**

**ALL CLASSES INCLUDE THE 5:30 MASS**

September 23 4:00pm- 6:30pm  
October 14 4:00pm- 6:30pm  
October 28 4:00pm- 6:30pm  
November 11 4:00pm- 6:30pm  
December 9 4:00pm-6:30pm  
January 20 4:00pm -6:30pm  
**February 10 GOLF SESSION 3:30pm**  
March 3 4:00pm – 6:30pm  
March 17 4:00pm- 6:30 pm  
March 31 4:00pm – 6:30pm

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**(no Grade 9 class on March 31 -Only grades 6,7, and 8 !)**

**CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE GRADE 10**

**September 30 – session for parents and Students at 6:30 in the Great Hall**

**Classes are at 4:00pm on the following**

**Dates: 9/30, 11/4, 11/18, 12/16, 2/10.**

**2/24**

**Special class TBA 12/2**

**Section 2 Dates**

**Grades 1-5**

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**A REMINDER THAT GOLF SESSIONS ARE FOR CHILDREN AND PARENTS!**

**September 16 GOLF SESSION 2:00pm-3:30pm**

September 30 9:30-11:00am  
October 21 9:30-11:00am  
November 4 9:30-11:00am  
November 18 9:30-11:00am  
December 16 9:30-11:00am  
January 13 9:30-11:00am  
January 27 9:30-11:00am

**February 10 GOLF Session 11:15am-1:00pm**

February 24 9:30-11:00am  
March 10 9:30-11:00am  
March 24 9:30-11:00am  
April 7 9:30- 11:00am

**APRIL 28 GOLF SESSION 2:00pm**

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**Section 2 Grades 6,7,and 8**

**ALL CLASS TIMES INCLUDE THE 5:30 MASS**

September 30 4:00-6:30pm  
November 4 4:00-6:30pm  
November 18 4:00-6:30pm  
December 16 4:00-6:30pm  
January 27 4:00-6:30pm  
**February 10 GOLF SESSION 3:30**  
February 24 4:00-6:30pm  
March 10 4:00-6:30pm  
March 24 4:00-6:30pm

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**Confirmation retreat 1/5-6**

**Rite of Enrollment at 5:30 Mass on 3/10**

**Followed by a reception /presentation for Candidates and Sponsors.**

**LIVING STATIONS REHEARSAL 4/7**

**LIVING STATIONS ON 4/12**

**CONFIRMATION DATE WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN JANUARY!**