

# **St Joseph the Worker Children's Catechism and Sacramental Preparation**

## **Grade 1 Introduction to The Bible. Approximate age 6-8 years old**

Through teaching of the Theological Virtues Faith, Hope and Love. Weekly sessions of crafts games and songs. Children will start their catechism journey with a walk through the bible. We will introduce key bible stories that will be easy for the kids to understand the teachings of Jesus and help to come to understand the Sacraments that they will receive along the way of their faith Journey. The Liturgical Calendar will be used to help guide the flow of this class so we will study Christmas and Easter lessons during the appropriate times. Children are encouraged to attend all group program events as well as weekly sessions.

## **Grade 2 Walking with the Saints Approximate age 7-9 years old**

We will continue the catechism journey towards our Sacraments in this class. We will study the Saints who exemplify our love for the Eucharist and Holy Spirit. We will learn and memorize our staple catholic prayers, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be and the Guardian Angel prayer. Weekly sessions will be a combination of songs, crafts and teaching material. Children are also encouraged to participate in Children's Masses.

## **Grade 3 First Reconciliation Approximate age 8-10 years old**

This is a Sacramental year. Children will be prepared to make their First Reconciliation with Father. The sacrament of Reconciliation must be completed before the Sacraments of Confirmation and Communion can be received. Participation in Children's Mass is encouraged. Attendance will be taken during our sessions, if attendance is low this sacrament may be delayed until the child is ready to complete the sacrament.

Highlights of class will be:

- Examination of Conscience Venial sins vs Mortal sins,
- 5 traits of a Good confession
- Absolution
- Penance
- Sins vs their opposed Virtue ie, Pride> Humility, Anger> patience ( start of the Gifts of the Holy spirit teaching)
- Ten Commandments
- Confessional Prayers, Prayer before confession, Act of Contrition
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## **Grade 4 Confirmation and 1st Communion Approximate age 9-11 years old.**

**This is a sacramental year, attendance will be taken at each session and Children's Mass if a Child misses too many classes they may have to defer their receipt of the sacrament.**

### **Confirmation**

#### **Highlights of the class**

- Study of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit
- Study of the Fruits of the Holy Spirit.
- Study of Saints
  - Focus each week on Different Saints who demonstrated the gifts and fruits of the holy spirit.
- Study the Beatitudes
- Study prayers of the Mass, Apostles Creed and Nicene Creed
- Participate in Monthly Children's Mass

Resources needed Education in Virtue, Cat Chat, Saint cards

### **First Communion**

#### **Highlights of the class**

- Study the Parts of the Mass
- Recreate the Last Supper
- Study the Stations of the Cross
- Study the 5 steps of a Worthy Communion
- Make Communion Banner
- Participate in Monthly Children's Mass

Resources Cat Chat, Banner, Virtues project

## **Grade 5 Faith into Action Approximate age 10-12 years old**

This group would meet weekly classes would focus on exploring the "doing" portion of our faith and sacraments. How are we recognizing our Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit? What can we do to proclaim our love of our Lord through the week not just Sunday Mass?

Highlights for the classes.

- Projects of service
- Games in the gym
- Presence in the Mass encouraged. Altar Servers, Ushers, Gifts, Greeters
- Focus on friendships and relationship building. What makes a good friend.

### **Catechism program session ( whole program participation)**

- All saints celebration
- Advent reconciliation
- Advent celebration
- Childrens pageant during Children's Mass on Christmas eve
- Mardi Gras Celebration
- Feast of St Joseph the Worker

- At least 2 other Feast Celebration in the year, focus should be on Saints that lived the Gifts or Fruits of the Holy Spirit.