



Faith Formation Opportunities

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Our Community's Faith Formation Programs

Elementary Program – Kathy Works, kworks@catholicsofpleasanton.org 474-2773

The Elementary Program is for students in 1st through 5th grade. The program offers a blended-age, learning stations format to teaching the essentials of the faith. **Page 4**

Middle School Ministry – Kim Schnall, kschnall@catholicsofpleasanton.org 474-2775

AMP (All My People) Middle School Ministry is a youth group for preteens and young teens in 6-8th grades. AMP blends small group discussion and prayer with social time. Saturday Supper Clubs and service projects are also offered throughout the year. **Page 5**

High School Youth Ministry – Lien-Thi de la Pena ldelapena@catholicsofpleasanton.org
474-2774

The high school youth ministry program walks with young people on their journey of faith toward an ever-deepening relationship with Jesus Christ & His people, the Church. **Page 6-7**

SPRED - 846-3531

This Special Religious Education Program is for developmentally disabled Catholics aged 11 and up, some flexibility of ages based on registrations. **Page 7**

Baptism/First Eucharist/Reconciliation- Kathy Works, kworks@catholicsofpleasanton.org 474-2773

In addition to weekly Faith Formation classes or the Family Programs, preparation for the Sacraments includes age appropriate catechesis and the celebration of both Reconciliation and Eucharist. **Page 7-9**

Confirmation – Lien-Thi de la Pena ldelapena@catholicsofpleasanton.org 474-2774

The Confirmation program is a two-year program that is available to students starting their Freshman year of high school or after. The sacrament of Confirmation will be received in the Spring of their 2nd year of preparation. **Page 9**



Faith Formation Programs at a Glance

See p. 4 for Baptism Requirement

<u>Grade in Public School</u>	<u>Faith Formation Program(s)</u>	<u>Sacraments</u> When Baptism is needed for children ages 7 or above, contact Kathy Works at 925-474-2773
Elementary: Grades 1 st through 5 th	Elementary (p. 4)	First Reconciliation & First Eucharist* (p. 8-9)
Middle School: Grades 6 th through 8 th	Middle School Ministry (p. 5)	First Reconciliation & First Eucharist (please contact the Sacrament Coordinator, Kathy Works at 474-2773 kworks@catholicsofpleasanton.org
High School: Grades 9 th through 12 th	Youth Ministry (p. 6-7)	Confirmation – Year 1 & 2 (p. 9)

*This is a two-year process. If your child is in 5th grade and above and baptized, please contact the Sacrament Preparation Coordinator.

Baptism Requirement

Baptism is the gateway sacrament for First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation.

If your child is not baptized:

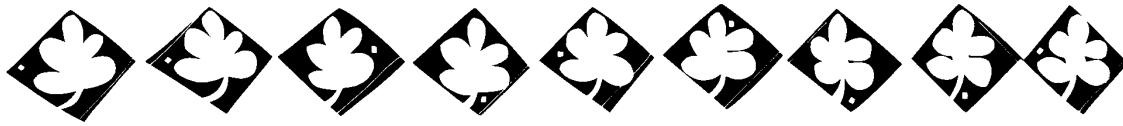
- And is 0 - 6 years old please contact the Parish Rectory at 846-4489 to make an appointment with a priest.
- And is 7 - 17 years old, speak with our Sacrament Coordinator, Kathy Works at 474-2773

Elementary Program

The Elementary Program is for children in grades one through five. Children participate in a session that is led by volunteer catechists and meets one day every other week for an hour and a half.

The program components are as follows:

- Sessions are held in the classrooms in St. Augustine Hall.
- Families choose a day and time that best fits with their schedule. Classes are held every other week (excluding some holiday weeks) on either Tuesday or Wednesday afternoons from 3:45 to 5:15 pm and Wednesday early evenings from 5:45pm to 7:15 pm
- Regular attendance is required particularly during Sacrament preparation years.
- Various activities and methods provide formation that is more experiential, relevant, and engaging.
- During the year parent enrichment sessions will be held.
- The program strives to integrate the teachings of the Church at age appropriate levels and gives students a sense of belonging to the great Body of Christ, which we call the Church!
- Program basics are reinforced in the home by regular attendance with the parish community at weekend liturgy, prayer at home and regular discussion of faith topics.



Middle School Ministry

The goal of the Middle School Ministry at CCOP is to grow the faith of our students, instill a sense of ownership of their faith, and provide a safe platform for students to examine and evaluate their beliefs. Students meet Jesus through scripture, faith sharing, and prayer.

The program includes the following:

Youth Group

Weekly meetings occur every Tuesday from 7:30-8:45 pm in St. Augustine Hall. These sessions combine large and small group activities. Middle schoolers spend half of the evening in small group and the other half in a large group setting. Small groups are grade specific and remain together for the entire year. Our goal is to encourage open dialogue and deepening friendships within the small group. Each group is facilitated by adults working with 10-20 middle schoolers. Small groups read scripture, pray, and talk about their faith journeys.

In the large group setting, the middle schoolers continue to learn about the theme of the night. They do so through guided discussion and activities.

Social Events

A couple of times a year, the Middle School program hosts "Supper Club," a social event following the 5 PM mass at St. Augustine. The Middle School Ministry also sponsors various social outings and service projects through the year.



CCOPYM

Catholic Community of Pleasanton Youth Ministry: Grades 9-12

CCOPYM is the ministry here at CCOP that serves all our high school age teens grades 9-12. Teens who participate in CCOPYM will be drawn nearer to Christ, experience Christian community, and grow in and celebrate their faith. CCOPYM offers: preparation for Confirmation, faith formation, service projects, retreats, leadership opportunities, ministry and socials.

CCOPYM Descriptions:

- **CCOPYM Youth Group:** Our youth ministry program is for all high school students who want to actively learn and engage with their peers while continuing their faith formation. The youth ministry classes will give a deeper understanding to many of the church's teaching while giving teens a place to come together in faith and fellowship. Teens in the youth ministry program will also have the opportunity to participate in retreats, service projects and socials. This program will meet on a weekly basis from October through May.
- **Confirmation:** Confirmation preparation is a two-year process in which high school youth learn more about their faith and take a more active role in their faith development. The process of preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation is rigorous and meant to fully prepare the young heart for a Christ-centered life. This process includes formation, service, mass, community and retreat. (Please note Baptism Requirement p. 4)
- **Liturgy & Worship:** A youth mass geared to teens is celebrated EVERY Sunday night at 6:30 pm at St. Elizabeth Seton with teens as the primary ministers: lectors, greeters, ushers & choir. Family Reconciliation services are scheduled during Advent & Lent.
- **Retreats:** Retreats are offered throughout the year and are a great way for teens to unplug from their busy lives and reconnect with God and each other. Some retreats are specifically offered for teens preparing to celebrate the sacrament of confirmation while others will be offered for any high school student interested in attending.
- **Social Events:** Socials are a great time for teens to get together to enjoy good friends and fun. Socials range from ice skating to movie night to a van hunt. All high school teens are welcome and friends are encouraged to join in as well. These are offered for a nominal fee just to cover the cost of the event.
- **Justice, Service and Solidarity:** CCOP Teens love to do service and one of the ways we do this is through group service projects. These range from making blankets for the veterans at the Veteran's Hospital in Livermore to serving at St. Anthony's Dining Room in San Francisco. These are open to all high school teens and teens are encouraged to invite friends outside our parish to participate as well.

- **Leadership Team:** Teens come for fellowship and to exercise their Christian Leadership skills on Core Team. This group helps plan and execute service projects and social events. Retreat teams are also formed throughout the year and teens who are confirmed are encouraged to join retreat teams as leaders. Teen retreat leaders must be currently enrolled in and regularly attending youth ministry classes.
- **Teen Confirmation Catechists:** High school youth who are confirmed are encouraged to become confirmation catechists. Teen catechists are paired with an adult to teach classes to teens preparing to be confirmed. All teen confirmation catechists must be concurrently enrolled in and regularly attending youth ministry classes.

SPRED

SPRED is a program for awakening & deepening the faith life in Catholic teens and young adults with developmental disabilities. Our goal is to provide appropriate catechetical, liturgical and sacramental experiences for those who desire to share and grow in faith with others.

The program components are as follows:

- Meetings are twice each month from 7:00 to 9:00 pm
- Age requirements: 11 and up
- The meeting format has three parts
 - Quieting activities after a busy day
 - Celebrating with scripture, sharing experiences, and prayerful singing
 - Agape – Social

Sacrament Preparation

Please note Baptism requirement, page 4.

The sacramental dimension of the Catholic Community of Pleasanton Faith Formation Program is designed to support and deepen the life of our parish family. In the sacraments, the Church celebrates and acknowledges that the center of every sacrament is the presence of Jesus Christ. The opportunity for deepening one's relationship with Jesus and the Christian community is a unique part of each sacrament. Preparation for all sacraments includes prayer and shared faith, as well as study and reflection on their meaning.

- Preparation for First Reconciliation/Eucharist can begin as early as the 1st grade.
- First Reconciliation/Eucharist is a two-year process in the Oakland Diocese. The first year is foundational and the second year involves direct preparation for the sacraments.

- Parents with children preparing for First Reconciliation/Eucharist are expected to participate in the sacramental formation of their children.
- Unbaptized children ages 7 – 17 should contact Kathy Works at 474-2773 or at kworks@catholicsofpleasanton.org to discuss your child's formation process.
- Parents of already baptized children who are in the 4th grade (and older), and have not received First Reconciliation or First Communion should contact Kathy Works at 474-2773 or at kworks@catholicsofpleasanton.org to discuss your child's formation process.
- All children preparing for First Eucharist will also celebrate their First Reconciliation as a part of the formation process.



First Reconciliation/Eucharist

Kathy Works, kworks@catholicsofpleasanton.org

474-2773

The First Reconciliation/Eucharist preparation process is, first & foremost, family-centered, and recognizes the fact that there is no better or more effective catechist for a child than his or her parent(s). Children must be baptized before First Reconciliation or First Eucharist.

Participation in the Elementary Faith Formation classes is a requirement for First Reconciliation/Eucharist preparation.

Various components comprise the First Reconciliation/Eucharist program which are meant to nourish the faith of the whole family.

These components may include the following:

For Year 1 First Eucharist families:

- Parent meetings
- Parent-Child “Mini-Retreat” in Spring

For Year 2 First Eucharist families:

- An initial meeting with the Sacrament Preparation Coordinator in August or early September
- Family sharing of Reconciliation/ Eucharist materials
- Parent-only meetings and parent-child gatherings
- Celebration of Sacrament of Reconciliation
- The First Eucharist celebration during the Easter Season



Confirmation

Confirmation preparation is a two-year process in which high school youth learn more about their faith and take a more active role in their faith development. The process of preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation is rigorous and meant to fully prepare the young heart for a Christ-centered life. This process includes formation, service, mass, community and retreat. (Please note Baptism Requirement p. 4)

