

Family Faith FAQ's (for families with children in Grades 3-8)

- 1. Are Sunday morning Religious Education classes still being offered?**
Sunday morning Religious Education is now being offered as Family Faith. In this program, the family gathers together 1x/month in the school cafeteria for 50 minutes - either at 9:00am or 11:00am. Families will be assigned to a specific Sunday of the month and a specific time. The program will run from Oct. 2020-April 2021.
- 2. Do I need to re-register if I already registered last spring?**
You do not need to re-register, BUT you will NEED to fill out the Preference Form online at <https://forms.gle/3Rjk7jZZGCCn6uJC6>

Please contact Kristen Eggers at yassistant@stgertrude.org if you have any questions.
- 3. We're a new family. What do we need to do to register?**
Please fill out the [Preference Form](#) and then go to FACTS to pay your tuition online (\$80/student) at <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3XH4B>. Contact Kristen Eggers at yassistant@stgertrude.org if you have questions.
- 4. When will I know the session to which we've been assigned?**
We will be communicating session assignments by September 1st.
- 5. What if we are uncomfortable attending in-person Family Faith Sessions?**
If you are not comfortable attending in-person sessions, we will have a Remote Learning live-stream option available on the third Sunday of the month at both 9:00am and 11:00am.
- 6. Is the Tuesday Evening option still available?**
Yes, we will also offer Family Faith on Tuesday from 6:30pm - 7:30pm. However, there will be no dinner like last year.
- 7. What happens during Family Faith?**
During the 50 minutes, members of our team, as well as our volunteer catechists, will help to lead discussions, activities, games, and talks. The 50 minutes together will be dynamic, interactive, and thought provoking -- while remaining child-centered and providing opportunities for parents to engage their children on topics pertaining to the Catholic faith.
- 8. What happens if I miss a Family Faith session?**
Life is busy and there may be a month where neither parent is able to attend a Family Faith session. In this case, someone from our team will follow up with you and invite you to the live-stream session the third Sunday of the month.
- 9. Do both parents attend Family Faith sessions?**
Yes! It is preferred that both parents (in fact, the entire family!) are present for Family Faith sessions.
- 10. What if I have younger children in the CGS class/Atrium (3 years old thru 2nd grade)? Is Atrium still being offered?**
Yes! Children signed up for CGS will meet in the Atrium at the same time that the rest of the family is at Family Faith in the Cafeteria. Please note, CGS classes will run 2x a month instead of 1x a month (and there will be supplemental virtual opportunities). Additionally, families will be invited to checkout Atrium 'work' to take home after having a presentation on how to pray with it.

11. **Why are we asking both parents to attend Family Faith sessions?**
Given the current climate, we need to maximize religious education offerings this year, limited as they are, and strengthen our community by bringing whole families (i.e. parents and children) together for a common formation experience. In the past, our program did not offer parents the opportunity to be a part of the religious education of their child, but this year, we have a unique opportunity to diligently and safely engage in this task together -- with simplified programming, a low time commitment (7 hours vs. 30 in years past), and more opportunities for parents to directly engage their children with regard to the faith.
12. **If I only have children in 2nd grade or younger, am I required to attend the Family Faith sessions?**
No. Family Faith is offered for families with children in 3rd thru 8th grade. Parents will have opportunities to do family faith in the home through the CGS method with their 3yo-2nd graders.
13. **What if I have children who are in a sacramental prep year (1st, 2nd and/or 8th grade)?**
In our typical Religious Ed program, we see your children weekly, which is about 30 hours over the course of a year. This year, with limitations placed on us such as space and cleaning costs, we've had to cut those hours by over half. To adequately prepare them, we ask that you make the sessions, listed below, a priority.
- If you have a child who is preparing to receive First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion (2nd grade) the child will need to attend CGS classes twice a month, as well as 6 additional parent/child sessions, and a half day retreat before each sacrament. 1st grade students need to participate only in CGS classes, but are invited to participate in virtual prayer time and take home CGS work presentations. To inquire about receiving these sacraments, email Cindy at cwurzelsbacher@stgertrudesch.org
- If you have a child who is preparing to receive Confirmation (8th grade), they will attend the Family Faith session/Remote Learning session with your family (1x/month) and a Confirmation preparation session on the 4th Sunday of the month at either 9:00am - 9:50am or 11:00am - 11:50am. Other events TBD (i.e. retreats). To inquire about receiving this sacrament, email Bryan at bwells@stgertrude.org
14. **Are my older children allowed to come to Family Faith sessions?**
Yes! The entire family is invited to come and participate in our Family Faith sessions.
15. **What if my kids attend Catholic School or are Homeschooled? Are we still able to join?**
Yes, you are welcome to join Family Faith sessions if you have a child in 3-8th grade! And, if you have a 3yo-2nd grader, they can participate in CGS.



ST. GERTRUDE
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