



Welcome to St Francis Xavier's Religious Education program. Our program uses the Family Formation curriculum for our students in grades K - 7th grade. Family Formation is a family-based catechetical program that helps families grow in the transforming love of God by understanding and living the Catholic Faith.

Family Formation

Family Formation is a Religious program that engages both the parents and the children in the family. Children are more likely to put into practice the faith they see lived out day-to-day at home. In order for children to grow in their faith we ask each family to:

- Attend Mass weekly and all Holy Days
- Attend monthly RE session
- Spend time with your children discussing the lesson of the month
- Complete weekly homework assignments with your children
- Pray with your children and teach them the prayers provided in our Family Formation booklet.

Registration

Registration for Religious Education (RE) takes place beginning April 25th - August 15th. Information on how to register will be sent home with families in April. Families will register online at sfxjoliet.faithenroll.net/. Copies of baptismal and sacramental certificates, along with sacrament dates need to be provided on the registration site at the time of registration. All families must be parishioners of St. Francis Xavier Church.

Late Registration:

- For all late registration, please contact Angie Alwood at re@sfxjoliet.org

Family Formation Fees

\$265 per family

*Catechists receive \$100 discount

First Communion and Reconciliation Fees

\$85

Confirmation Fees

\$85

Days/Times Religious Education classes meet:

- In-Person classes meet once a month at the following times for grades K-7
- Sunday 11:10 am - 12:10 pm or
- Monday 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
- Students must attend only the day they are registered for

Attendance

Classes are held once a month on Sundays from 11:10 am - 12:10 pm or Mondays from 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm. Attendance is required each month. RE meets 9 times throughout the academic year. Families must attend the day they are registered for. We will not switch days. If you will be absent for a session please email Angie Alwood re@sfxjoliet.org. Parents will sign in their children in the back of the Church before each session. Attendance will also be taken in the classroom.

Classrooms

Once a month, parents and children will gather at church to learn about the same topic of Faith. Families will begin each session in church. After a brief introduction of our topic for the month, children in grades K-6 will be dismissed to classrooms divided by grade levels, where trained catechists present the lessons. Parents and 7th graders will remain in church for their own session. Parents are required to stay at this session. At the end of the hour, children will be brought back to the church by the Catechists and families will be dismissed shortly. Homework will be distributed at this time.

Monthly Homework:

- During the monthly session, families are given a packet of weekly homework lessons to use at home throughout the rest of the month. The homework is to be completed by the next session. These Home Lessons are easy to use and bring the whole family together to study and then apply the teachings to their day to day life.
- There will be 3 lessons of homework per month. Monthly in-home lessons are designed to take approximately one hour each week.
- After completion of each lesson there will be a google form to fill out. You will need to complete one per family only. Google links can be found on the RE Calendar on the sxfjoliet.org website.

Service Projects:

- Each family is required to complete (2) service projects.
- One will be a Corporal Act of Mercy
- One will be a Spiritual Work of Mercy
- At least one project should be in conjunction with St. Francis Xavier Church, each project should take a minimum of (1) hour to complete
- The service project is due by April 30, 2026
- Once you family has completed the service projects please fill out the google form below:
[Corporal Act of Mercy Form](#)
[Spiritual Act of Mercy Form](#)

Missed your Session? Families that missed a session will have to pick up their homework packet and complete the following per student in Grades 1st - 7th Grade:

Log into Formed at:

- signup.formed.org
- Select our parish name (St Francis Xavier Church - IL - 60431)
- Create your family account
- Search Littlest Saints for grades 1st - 3rd
- Search The Saints and Heroes Collection for grades 4th-7th grade
- Watch one of the Videos on Saints and complete the Report in the link below.
- Turn in the report at the next RE session with your student's First and Last Name and Grade.

Transfer Students

Children that are transferring to the St. Francis Xavier RE program are required to provide a letter from your previous church regarding your previous dates of attendance of RE. Copies of baptismal and other sacramental certificates, along with sacrament dates, must be submitted at the time of registration.

Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion:

- Require (2) consecutive years of Religious Education
- Typically beginning in 1st grade, with the sacraments being received during the 2nd grade year

Sacraments of Confirmation:

- Requires (2) consecutive years of Religious Education
- Typically beginning in 7th grade, with the sacramental classes being held their 8th grade year and the sacrament being received fall of their freshman year

Communication

All communication for RE will be done through email. The RE calendar is located on the website as well as RE Handbook and homework links. If you ever have any questions, please email Angie Alwood at re@sfxjoliet.org.

Would you like to be a Catechist for the 2025-2026 Family Formation year?

- Catechist are required to meet once a month for one hour to go over the monthly lesson
- Catechist can choose to teach on Sunday or Monday
- Catechist receive a \$100 discount on RE
- Catechist can choose to teach K-3rd grade, 4th-6th grade or help with hospitality
- The commitment is very minimal and it can help you:

1. Deepen Your Faith: As a catechist, you will grow in your own faith and learn the teachings of the Church.

2. Model Behavior: Catechists serve as role models for young people.

3. Personal Growth: As you teach, your own faith will come alive.

4. Honor Religious Education: By becoming a catechist, you demonstrate to your own family that you value religious education.

If you would like to become a catechist next year please complete the link below:

[Catechist Sign Up](#)