

ST. KATERI TEKAKWITHA CATHOLIC CHURCH
FAMILY FAITH FORMATION
Fr. Terrence Kerner, Pastor
Grace Lakatos, Director of Faith Formation
Parish Office Hours
Monday – Friday 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Faith Formation Office Hours
Monday & Wednesday 1 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Parish Office: (313) 336-3227

Mission Statement

Our parish-wide Family Faith Formation program promotes a deep understanding of our Catholic faith and strengthens our relationship with Jesus, our family members and other members of our parish family. Incorporating the building blocks of the Eucharist, Sacred Scripture, and Sacred tradition, we explore our year's theme with dialogue, readings, activities, and sharing amongst one another. With parents as our first and best teachers, our parish is here to support families as they grow and mature in faith.

Registration

Registration is required for both our Family Faith Formation program and our Sacramental Preparation program. Please fill out the registration forms by printing clearly and legibly. Tuition for the Family Faith Formation program is \$100.00 per family. For students preparing for Reconciliation, First Eucharist, or Confirmation, there is an additional tuition fee \$50.00 per student per sacrament. These fees help pay for textbooks and supplies for the program. Families that work with the program on a regular basis may have their tuition reduced or waived. Registration forms will be available online at stkateridearborn.org and in the parish office. Completed forms and fees may be placed in the Sunday collection (in a sealed envelope marked Faith Formation), dropped off at the parish office or mailed to the parish office.

If your child was baptized at a parish other than St. Joseph or St. Martha, it is your responsibility to contact that parish and request a notarized Baptismal record be sent directly to St. Kateri. Without a notarized Baptismal record on file, the celebration of Sacraments may be delayed.

If your child has any special medical needs, allergies or learning & behavioral concerns in regards to learning styles, please include this information on the registration form.

Schedule

Our Family Faith Formation program takes place each month on scheduled Saturdays in the late afternoon/early evening beginning in mid-September through the beginning of May. The entire family will meet in the church for Mass. Students and parents will be expected to participate in the celebration of the Eucharist by altar serving, lecturing, assisting with the collection and bringing up the gifts. Following the Mass, we will adjourn to the parish hall for a snack and then classes. Some grades will be clustered. Parents will also be attending classes during this time. A calendar will be given on the first evening of class.

For Reconciliation and First Eucharist, Sacramental Preparation takes place twice a month beginning in September through May. Parents' attendance and involvement are an integral part of the preparation. Reconciliation and First Eucharist preparations are for students in the second grade. Students are required to have had one full year of Faith Formation before starting Sacramental Preparation Classes and must be enrolling in a Faith Formation program or Catholic school. A letter from the Faith Formation Director/Director of Religious Education or school principal verifying completion of the prior year's Faith Formation or enrollment in the Catholic school will be requested.

Confirmation preparation will be a two year preparation program, beginning with in seventh grade, continuing through eighth grades and with Confirmation held in the Fall of ninth grade. Confirmation students must also be enrolled and actively attending the Family Faith Formation program. Prior to beginning Sacramental Preparation Classes for Confirmation, students must have completed Faith Formation classes for first through sixth grades. A letter from the Faith Formation Director/Director of Religious Education or school principal verifying completion of the previous years' Faith Formation or enrollment in the Catholic school will be requested. Confirmation students must also attend a group retreat as part of their preparation. Date, location & cost of the retreat will be announced once all details are finalized. Service projects are an integral part of the Sacramental preparation and will be discussed at the beginning of the year and will be announced throughout the program and at church. Some projects will be held in a collaborative effort with other parishes in the Archdiocese. Students are encouraged to seek out projects on their own as well. Participation in the projects by the students and their sponsors is strongly advised.

Attendance

Attendance will be taken during each class. If your family will be absent, please call the parish office or email the director at dre@stkateridearborn.org. If your child is absent 4 times within a program year, arrangements must be made with the Director of Faith Formation for additional formation opportunities. Failure to do so may prevent advancement.

Service

Service is an integral part of our lives as Christians. Families will be encouraged to participate in a variety of service projects throughout the calendar year. Students in sixth through eighth grade are required to maintain a record of service/volunteer hours in the areas of family, church, community, world service and service in prayer. Service logs can be obtained from the Faith Formation Director. These service logs will be part of their preparation for Confirmation and will be reviewed periodically. Service projects may also be required of the students during their high school years.

Safety

Volunteers are always needed and welcomed. We continue to follow the guidelines required by the Archdiocese of Detroit. All of our adult employees and volunteers have undergone a background check and have attended the program "Protecting God's Children". Likewise, high school volunteers have fulfilled the required attendance at the program "Called to Serve".

The program, "Circle of Grace", will be offered once a year to all of our students. This is an age-appropriate personal safety program designed for students in religious education programs and schools. If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact the Faith Formation Director.

Actions necessary in case of a fire, tornado or shelter in place will be reviewed with the families at least once a year.

Should it be necessary to cancel a class, as much early notification as possible will be given. In the case of inclement weather or building problems, catechists will be contacting the families as soon as possible.

Communication

The parish, Faith Formation Director, and catechists will communicate with families through the parish bulletin, letters sent home with students, emails, postal mail and phone calls. Please continue to check for these communications on a regular basis. If there is any change to your home address, email address or phone numbers, please notify the parish office as soon as possible.