

Christian Formation

Adult Formation: Seeks through formation programs and processes to achieve “the definitive aim of catechesis” which is “to put people not only in touch, but in communion and intimacy” with Jesus Christ. (GDC 80) The parish encourages a living, explicit, and fruitful profession of faith for all disciples. (GDC 66)

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): Inquiries into the Christian life and the process for the sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist for families inquiring into joining or becoming fully initiated into the Catholic Church. The process is designed for adult who, after hearing the mystery of Christ proclaimed, consciously seek the living God and enter the way of faith. People are in many different stages of initiation. Some will participate in Sacraments within months, and some are looking towards next Easter.

Contact Terri Chang at 564-3819 for more information.

We meet Thursday evenings at 7 pm, September to May. For the summer months of May, June, July and August we will meet at least twice a month. Look for dates and times in the bulletin.

Women's Spirituality and Faith Formation: A group of women meet regularly Wednesday mornings at 10 am in the Parish Center. We are a group that occasionally travels, so we welcome women that come in and out of the group when their schedule permits. We converse about life events that enrich and affect our faith. We share current events with Scripture and traditions of the Church.

Contact Terri Chang at 564-3819 or join us on a Wednesday morning.

We are meeting in September to December using “The Gift of Years: Growing Older Gracefully” by Sr. Joan Chittister OSB to be invited to explore our spirituality while embracing older age as a natural part of life that is both active, productive, and reflective.

Children Christian Formation: It deepens the faith experienced in conversion to Christ and a systematic presentation of the Christian faith through a developmentally appropriate design of experiential, rational, apprenticeship, community and memorization catechesis. The parish programs are in three age groups: kindergarten to fifth, middle school, and high school.

GET INVOLVED. HERE'S HOW.

Under the leadership of Christian Formation there are many opportunities to serve the parish. Contact Terri Chang for more information at 564-3819.

Catechists: They echo the Word of God through Jesus and his ministry and Scripture that aid in the formation of the faith of the young children and youth of the parish throughout the school year, vacation time and within the liturgy. Training and materials are provided and involves class gatherings on Sunday and catechist formation classes held periodically for the teachers.

Sacramental Preparation: Catechist assists parents in preparing their children for Baptism, Eucharist, Reconciliation and Confirmation.

Youth Ministry: Youth Ministry Core Team plan and run programs of formation, prayer, social activities, retreats, worship, service projects, and preparation for Confirmation.

Adult Formation: Assisting in the selection of programs, scripture study, Catholic practices and beliefs, current issues and other topics that would become available for parish adults.

RCIA Sponsors: Confirmed Catholic Adults who will "walk with" one person who is in the RCIA program.

Children Formation:

Give Glory to God

We all like to receive gifts. When someone gives us a gift, they are showing us they love us. We feel happy because God's Promised One is with us. Jesus has come to be the Savior of the world. The name Jesus means "God saves."

Why do we say that Jesus is the Prince of Peace? Imagine a world filled with peace and harmony. Think of a world in which no families are homeless and all children eat well each and every day. The Son of God lives among us to show us how to build such a world. When Jesus was born, God's plan for all people to live in peace was born again too.

At each Eucharist, the priest sends us forth to love and serve as Jesus' witnesses in our world. To accomplish the great work of spreading the good news of Easter, the risen Jesus is always present in the Christian community, especially when his followers worship together. Jesus, whose resurrection shows he is the Messiah or Christ, is present in the priest, in the sacraments, in his word in scripture, and in us who gather to worship.

Family Activity: We started our Catechetical program with a family discussion and activity of What's your Catholic IQ? - Parents verses kid groups. It helped the children and their families learn about the Catholic faith with a fun quiz show. To cultivate the habit of regular spiritual reading, decide how it fits into your schedule. Select a book or article that feeds you spiritually and keep it where you will read a snippet every day.

Catechists for the children, youth, and adult were blessed and commissioned. Congratulations to **Gary Sylakowski, Sean Quigley, Geri Shaner, Margaret O'Brien, Kelly Lockeman, Nancy McNelly, Elizabeth O'Connor, Susan Zoboli, Carol Dovi, Maureen Price, Peggy Peterson, Nancy Webb, Richard Bain, Timothy O'Connor, Christine Morillo** for completing the "Pathways Parish and Master Catechist" formation process for the Diocese of Richmond.

How do Catholics live their faith? Catholics encounter Jesus Christ in many ways, primarily through the Word of God and the seven sacraments. The sacraments are actions of the Risen Christ made visible through sacred signs that give God's grace. Grace is participation in the life of God, a freely given help.