

If this is your first year at Ave Maria for RE/youth group or you need a little refresher, here is some basic info about what the year looks like. RE will meet on Sundays 3:15-4:30 OR Wednesdays 4:45-6. You choose which session your child(ren) goes to and they will attend the same session every week. The same information is shared on Sunday as on Wednesday. Class begins on November 3rd/6th. ALL children come EVERY WEEK. Last year middle schoolers had a variable schedule. We are not doing this this year. All of the kids K-8 will be here all week. Please drop off and pick up your children in front of the school. If your eldest is in 7th-8th grade or higher, they can sign in/out their younger siblings. Otherwise, please come inside to drop off/pick up your children. All students will meet in the school. We will let you know when specific classrooms are assigned! In the event that class is canceled due to weather, this will be communicated by Flocknote and email by NOON. All official information regarding catechesis will be communicated by these two channels. You can expect an email about what we are covering in class every week.

Below I have linked our Curriculums! We are using a curriculum from Loyola Press. Grades k-5 will follow traditional catechesis. 6th grade will follow traditional catechesis with sporadic youth groups, largely shared with the 7th and 8th graders. 7th and 8th graders will have a Youth group every three weeks or so. I will periodically update these if more information/clarification is needed or scheduling changes happen. Please note: whether your child has a "youth group" session or a "class" session, ALL children come EVERY week. I have linked the calendars as well.

K: Finding God- "God Calls Us"- the Foundations of Faith

1st: [Finding God- "God Found Everything Good"- God and Creator](#)

2nd: [Finding God- "I Am the True Vine"- Eucharist and Reconciliation](#)

3rd: [Finding God- "Fishers of Men"- Church & Holy Spirit](#)

4th: [Finding God- "Blessed Are The Poor"- Beatitudes and the Ten Commandments](#)

5th: [Finding God- "The Bread of Life"- Sacraments and Worship](#)

6th: [Finding God- I Am Who I Am- The Old Testament](#)

7th: [Finding God- "This is My Beloved Son"- Jesus Christ](#)

8th: [Confirmed in the Spirit](#)

Sacraments are also happening in two grades! 2nd graders are on track to receive First Communion/Reconciliation and 8th graders are due for confirmation. If you have yet to follow through on all the steps below, please be sure to click the links.

Step 1: Register your child through the faith formation office. communion/reconciliation is [HERE](#) and confirmation is [HERE](#).

Step 2: Fill out a sacrament enrollment form (attached) and either scan it/bring it to the parish office.

Please reach out to Molly Sacha (msacha@avemaria.church) if your child needs 1st Communion/Reconciliation or has yet to be baptized.

For 8th grade confirmation, they have additional requirements. This mainly comes in the form of the retreats. We have two retreat dates this year: January 17th-19th and April 25th-27th. They are first come first serve and fill up fast! Please list your preference [HERE](#). We will be headed up to Annunciation Heights in Estes Park. Transport will be provided. After both retreats, Bishop Golka will be coming up to have our confirmation masses. Please reach out if you or your child have any questions, comments, or concerns about confirmation!

Finally, we understand that the month of October is a little intimidating, especially if you are used to your child having faith formation! Father has asked us to run 3 spiritual conversations with all of our volunteers. Michelle, the director of Faith Formation, wrote a nice letter about why we are doing this. See [here](#)! One of the great things about this time is you get to be the "front line" of catechizing your children. At home catechesis ideas each week will be sent out via email and posted to the website. Please check them out! We also have some free resources available in the Faith Formation office if you would like any of those!

As always, don't hesitate to reach out with any questions!