

Pastoral Council

November 6, 2024

Faith Formation



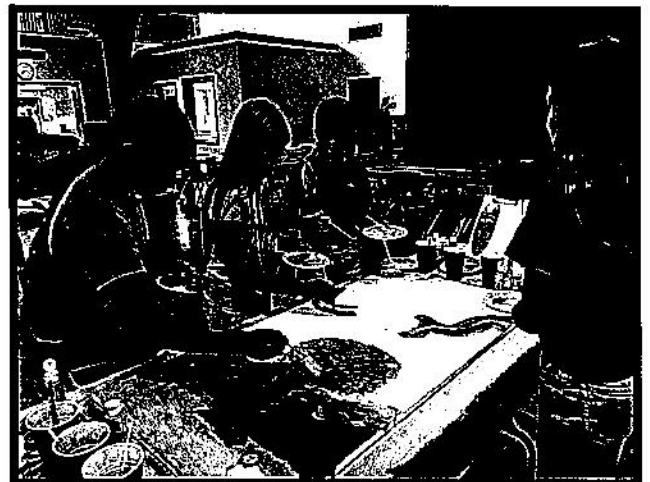
Family-Centered Elementary Faith Formation Program

- Parents and kids learn and pray together and bring discussion and prayer about their faith all the way home and into their daily lives, with the ultimate goal of building lifelong, faithful, faith-filled Catholics.
- Current enrollment: 82 kids in 53 families. Last year's enrollment was 72 kids in 50 families, so we're growing! We have 16 families that are brand new to us this year! (And 9 families who have graduated to middle school or moved away).
- As we explore Salvation History, we're building Bible timelines and learning how to look up scripture references.
- We're learning about our place in God's plan, and how the little bit we see of God's plan might look like the back side of a fancy sweater, but God sees the intricate design of the beautiful plan that he's creating!
- We've learned about Creation, Adam & Eve, Noah and the Flood, Abraham & Sarah, and Joseph. This weekend we'll be learning about Moses and his place in God's plan.
- Instead of a Christmas party this year, we're going to have a Baby Shower for Mary. We'll celebrate with baby shower games and cake! We're collecting items for HIS Restoration Ministries, which serves homeless pregnant women, just like Mary.



Middle School Youth Ministry

- As the middle schoolers are exploring Salvation History, they're working on collaborative paintings for each story and writing their own summaries of each. They'll combine their work into a book at the end of the year.
- Tag night is a youth ministry tradition. Our teens tie the tags for sharing trees across the county. This year, they tied 3500 tags.



Family Fun Events

- Family Fun Events are open to parishioners of all ages. You don't have to be a young family to come—all are invited!
- Trivia Night was a huge success with more than 80 people! We will definitely be doing this again!
- All Souls Event scheduled for November 2 ended up being cancelled due to lack of interest.
- Look for our Advent Event coming up on November 24! Build an Advent wreath, decorate a cookie, and do some Advent themed activities with your kids or grandkids!



Sacraments

- First Reconciliation prep has begun! We have 19 kids enrolled in Sacramental Prep this year. The kids will celebrate First Reconciliation at their retreat in December.
- First Eucharist prep will begin in February with a retreat in April and First Eucharist Masses in May.
- Confirmation prep begins this year with a year of discernment for our 6th graders. They'll begin their first of two years of Confirmation classes in their 7th grade year, using the *Purpose* curriculum by LifeTeen. We'll collaborate with Assumption on this program, as we do for our Youth Ministry programs. Christine has written a very detailed description of the program that you can find on our website at <https://www.blessed-midland.org/faith-formation/confirmation/>



ADULT FORMATION

Recent Events

- Rosary Poles (class of 11 people)
- Building Bridges- Let's Talk Even When We Don't Agree (appr. 50 attended)
- Praying in Nature (Chippewa and Eagle Ridge)
- Laidback Book Club (Bishop Gumbleton, next book by Mitch Albom)
- Grave Blanket Event (12 crosses made)

Change

- All areas of Faith Formation will be creating Rosary Poles featuring the 4 mysteries: Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous to be placed on the side of the former school building. This will become a rosary prayer garden for the parish to use.

Ongoing

- Small faith groups
- Little Rock Scripture study
- Afternoon Bible Break
- CARE
- Special Event Task Force (team to help with events)
- Laidback Book Club
- Christ Renews

Upcoming

- Advent series from Norb Bufka (3 classes)
- Mary, Mother of God class
- O'Antiphons class
- Theater and Theology featuring Cabrini (would like to repeat with different movie in the winter)
- Caring Card Ministry (will meet monthly or bi-monthly)

Questions?

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