



St. Francis Xavier's Religious Education Program

Family of Faith

At St. Francis Xavier Parish, our Religious Education Program follows the **Family of Faith** model from the Sophia Institute. This model reflects a simple but powerful truth of our Catholic faith:

Parents are the first and most important teachers of the faith.

In choosing a family-based model, we're not simply offering an alternative to weekly classes—we're building a program that recognizes the essential role of the family in forming disciples. When children see their parents pray, go to Mass, talk about God, and live out their faith daily, they come to understand that faith is not just something learned—it's something lived.

The Family of Faith model supports families in:

- Deepening their understanding of Catholic teaching
- Creating meaningful faith experiences at home
- Growing together in prayer and love for Christ
- Becoming active participants in parish life, especially Sunday Mass

Children who witness their families practicing the faith consistently are more likely to carry that faith into adulthood. That's why our monthly parent sessions are not just "meetings"—they are opportunities for parents to grow in faith alongside their children and to lead them by example.

We are here to accompany you—not just your child—on this journey of faith. Thank you for making the commitment to be part of this model. Together, we can form families of faith, rooted in Christ and alive in the Church.

Program Requirements

- **Classes are held twice per month on Sundays**, between the morning Masses.
- **Time:** 9:15–10:15 AM (please arrive on time).
- **Location:** Church Basement (unless otherwise noted).

Parent Participation

- Parents of students in **Grades 1–8 who attend public school** are **required to attend the first session of each month**.
- In place of some regular classes, there will be **four mandatory events for both parents and children** as part of our Family of Faith program. Please see the calendar below for dates and details.
- Parents of public school students in **Grade 2** (First Holy Communion students) should make note of the additional requirements during this special sacramental year.

Please see the calendar below for all required classes and meetings.



Calendar of Classes for our Family of Faith Religious Education Program

All students must attend the following classes, which are held on Sundays in the Church Basement from **9:15–10:15 AM**, unless otherwise noted.

October 2026

- **October 4** — Mandatory session for parents of public school students in Grades 1–8 at the **School Gym**
- **October 18, 2026**

November 2026

- **November 1** — Mandatory session for parents of public school students in Grades 1–8 at the **School Gym**
- **November 15 at 6:00 PM in the Church** — **Mandatory Teaching Mass for Families in place of class**

December 2026

- **December 6**— Mandatory session for parents of public school students in Grades 1–8 at the **School Gym**
- **December 16 at 6:00 PM in the Church** — **Mandatory Advent Holy Hour for Families in place of class**

January 2027

- **January 10** — Mandatory session for parents of public school students in Grades 1–8 at the **School Gym**
- **January 24**

February 2027

- **February 7** — Mandatory session for parents of public school students in Grades 1–8 at the **School Gym**
- **February 28 at 6:00 PM in the Church** — **Mandatory Penance Service for Families in place of class**

March 2027

- **March 7**— Mandatory session for parents of public school students in Grades 1–8 at the **School Gym**
- **March 21**

April 2027

- **April 4** — Mandatory session for parents of public school students in Grades 1–8 at the **School Gym**
- **April 25**

May 2027

- **May 2** — Mandatory session for parents of public school students in Grades 1–8 at the **School Gym**
- **May 16 at 9:15 AM at the School** — **Mandatory End-of-Year Family Rosary and Party**