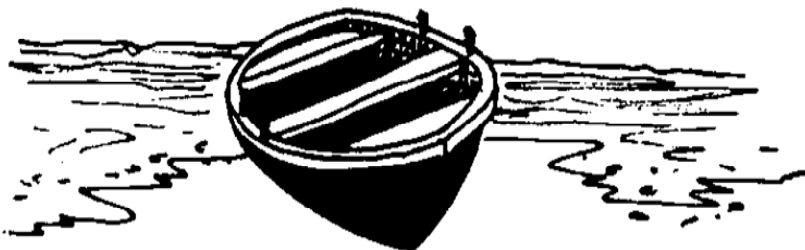


Sacramental Preparation

Children are typically prepared to receive First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation in second grade. The Diocese of Pueblo requires that the child first have received one full year of catechesis before beginning Sacramental Preparation. Please try to sign your child up for first grade Faith Formation so as to stay on schedule. Older children will be accommodated on a case by case basis.

Youth Ministry

Middle School students are invited to attend Wednesdays from 6 to 7 p.m. and/or Fridays from 7 to 9 p.m. for Youth Group.



Pre-School students are typically 4 years old, but 3-year-olds are welcome if they are self-sufficient in the restroom and if a parent accompanies them.

Family Nights

- 9/7 Parent Meeting with Irene & Fr. John
- 9/28 New Missal Translation Workshop w/ Fr. John
- 10/5 Feast of St. Francis Family Night
- [10/12 Sacramental Preparation begins]
- 11/2 Feast of All Souls Mass
- 11/30 Parish Reconciliation Service
- 12/7 Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass
- 12/14 Advent Pageant
- 1/25 St. John Bosco Festival
- [2/1 Sacramental Preparation Resumes]
- 2/22 Ash Wednesday Services
- 4/4 Living Last Supper
- 5/2 End of Year Potluck Celebration

Adult Formation Opportunities

- 9/21 Film Screening "Not in Our Town"

Irene Fritzler

Children's Faith Formation
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IMMACULATE HEART
OF MARY CATHOLIC
CHURCH

Children's Faith Formation

2011-2012



Pre-school - 5th Grade

Lifelong Faith Formation

If you are older than 5 years old, the terminology surrounding religious education has likely changed several times in your lifetime. Some may remember attending “CCD,” “Catechism” or “Sunday School,” and still others may have been forced to memorize the “Baltimore Catechism.” Today, however, the catch phrase is “Lifelong Faith Formation.” You may

ask yourself why the Church bothers changing the name of the same old thing. But the truth is that the changes in terminology also reflect the changes in our approach to handing on our faith. No longer do we strictly

emphasize memorization with children, but we strive to form ALL disciples throughout the different phases in life. While teaching children prayers, Mass etiquette and the symbols of our Sacraments is still important, even more crucial is the need to introduce children **AND** adults to **an experience of Jesus Christ.**



We plant seeds and He nurtures throughout the seasons.

Faith Formation at IHM is a family affair. While we offer programs directed at children, we continually invite families to participate together through **Family Nights, Liturgy, Service Projects, and Seasonal Festivals.** We welcome your children and are honored to give them their first formal introduction to learning the Catholic Faith. But we also invite you, as **parents**, to play an **integral role** in the formation of your child in the faith, just as you do in other areas of his/her life. We will strive to provide you with tools, but we hope that you will take seriously the importance of your role as a catechist, or teacher, of the faith. **The National Directory for Catechesis states, “Parents are the most influential agents of catechesis for their children. They have a unique responsibility for the education of their children; they are the first educators, or catechists”** (pp. 727.) We invite you to approach the staff and catechists with questions and challenges you may have with the Catholic faith. Together, we can all continue to grow in faith and love for Jesus Christ and for one another our whole lives long. Conversion does not end with Confirmation; rather, it begins. We are called to lifelong conversion. **Adult Formation opportunities will be offered periodically in Seton Room.**

IHM utilizes the Holy Family Catholic School (HFCS) and Parish (IHM) Buildings to host Faith Formation sessions. Please refer to the list below for room assignments by grade.

Pre-school	~	IHM Nursery
Kindergarten	~	HFCS Room 340
1st Grade	~	HFCS Room 341
2nd Grade*	~	IHM St. Jude
3rd Grade	~	HFCS Room 336
4th Grade	~	HFCS - Room 337
5th Grade	~	HFCS - Room 327

[Middle School Youth Group meets in Youth Center Wed./Fri.]

Classes meet on Wednesdays

6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

First Class is September 7, 2011

PARENT MEETING

WITH FR. JOHN