

Sunday School:

Sparks is offered for ages 3 through Kindergarten during Sunday morning Masses during the course of the school year. It provides age appropriate faith formation guided by biblical faith and the teachings of the Catholic Church. Our program incorporates bible-based curriculum, seasonal lessons and activities, scripture and prayer, music and singing programs, and other various ways for children to grow in their faith.

Sparks Sunday School is only one of the many opportunities for fostering faith that extend from the church to the home and into the community.

FIRE Grade 1-5:

Our FiRE 1-5 program is dynamic and growing because of parish input.

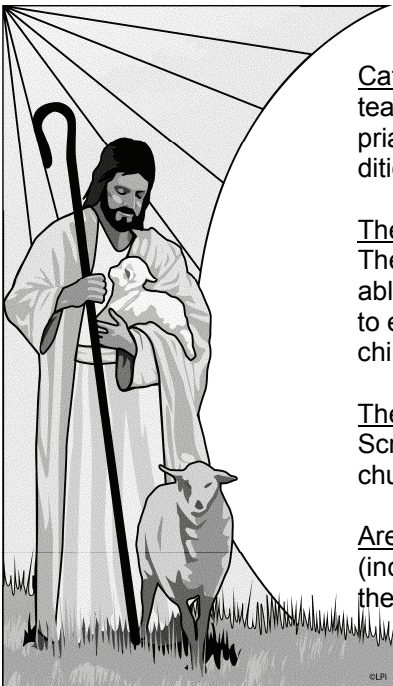
We offer 2 class options for grade school children:

Option #1: Wednesdays from 6:15–7:30 PM.

Option #2: Sunday mornings prior to Mass from 8:30–9:45 AM.

This will assist families that want a community faith formation experience for their children, but can't attend on Wednesdays. After class on Sunday, families will be able to attend Mass together.

Our program has multiple elements. During class, students participate in two 35 minute stations. Once a month on Wednesdays, we have Service Night. Students preparing for first sacraments are required to register for FiRE program if not attending Rochester Catholic Schools.



Edge Middle School (Gr.6-8) Faith Formation

Welcome to the Edge! Middle School FiRE classes will use the Edge program by Lifeteen. This is a vibrant program - a whole new attitude in faith formation! It provides a safe, fun place for youth to find solid Catholic community, to get answers to their questions about faith, and, most importantly, to experience Jesus in a profound and personal way. Both the Wednesday night and First Sunday programs will use the Edge program. Friends are welcome to attend Edge programs.

Confirmation Preparation Classes for Gr. 9

All students in Gr. 9 preparing for Confirmation will register for Confirmation classes on the Confirmation Registration Form later this year. Confirmation preparation information will be available in May. Students in Grade 9 have the option of Wednesday night or Sunday Confirmation class sessions. Wednesday night classes will meet weekly on most Wednesday nights. Grade 9 students who opt for the Sunday classes will attend class 2-3 Sundays per month.

YDisciples for Gr. 10-12

YDisciple is small group discipleship program that encourages youth to continue to deepen their relationship with Jesus and grow in discipleship while building community and accountability for their faith. The program offers flexibility to meet the needs of each small group. Youth will meet in single gender small groups with adults who will facilitate discipleship through video studies, activity sessions, and parent resources. YDisciple meets the fundamental needs of teenagers through a model that is relational, relevant, and parent-driven. YDisciple groups may meet at Holy Spirit on Wednesday nights, Sunday afternoons or evenings, or on a different day or location depending on what the group chooses.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a method of faith formation that combines the Bible and Liturgy of the Church with Montessori based teaching methods. The children meet in a special place prepared for them referred to as an "atrium." The atrium is full of simple, age appropriate materials that will help the child draw closer in relationship with God. They work with materials that will help them understand the traditions and rituals of our Catholic faith.

The Atrium & Materials

The atrium is best described as a retreat space. It is a place to grow in relationship with Christ. Children are presented with scripture, parables, and church life. The catechist serves as a guide in helping the child meditate and work with the materials so the Spirit of God is free to engage the child. The materials are made specifically for children to use. They are straight forward, yet carefully selected to help the child explore some of the essential truths of scripture or ritual they see at church.

The Work of the Child

Scripture is read together as a time of listening and reflecting. The materials are moved to illustrate the story. The work on the life of the church helps children put what they see at Mass into context.

Areas of Study include prayer and meditation, nomenclature and movement in the church, eucharist, biblical geography, biblical study (including prophecies, infancy narrative, parables, paschal narratives, and books of the bible), moral formation, sacraments, practical life, the history of the kingdom of God, and celebrations of the church year.