

RELIGIOUS FORMATION 2026-2027

GRADE EIGHT: The Holy Spirit is With Us

WELCOME TO GRADE EIGHT

Eighth grade is a special milestone in your child's journey of faith. As they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, our goal is to help them embrace not only this important celebration, but a lifelong commitment to Christ and His Church. Through prayer, reflection, retreats, and worship, they will deepen their relationship with the Holy Spirit, who strengthens, guides, and accompanies them throughout their lives.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS WITH US

From the beginning of the Church, the Holy Spirit has been God's gift to His people. The Spirit descended upon Jesus at His Baptism, filled the apostles with courage at Pentecost, and continues to guide and strengthen the Church today. In the Sacrament of Confirmation, we receive a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit, who helps us grow in faith, make wise choices, and bear witness to Christ in our daily lives.

GROWING IN THE SPIRIT

Receiving the Holy Spirit is not the end of our faith journey, but the beginning of a deeper one. The Spirit helps us recognize God's voice, choose what is right, and live with courage, wisdom, and love. As we open our hearts to God's grace, we become more ready to share our faith, serve others, and live as joyful witnesses of the Gospel.

YOUR ROLE AT HOME

Your encouragement and example are an important part of your child's preparation for Confirmation. Pray together, participate in the life of the parish, and talk about the ways you have experienced the guidance of the Holy Spirit in your own life. By living your faith with joy and trust, you help your child recognize that the Holy Spirit is always with us, leading us closer to Christ.



GRADE EIGHT FORMATION GUIDE

August 29/30 & September 5/6

Please be sure to pick up your family's Formation Kit in the church hall after any Mass. The kit includes your XP tokens, *Faith at Home Guide*, and *Faith in Action Guide* for the upcoming formation year. Staff will be available to answer questions and help you get started.

PARENT MEETING (choose one to attend)

September 13 | Parent Information Meeting
(Following the 12:00 p.m. Mass)

September 15 | Parent Information Meeting
6:00 PM in the Church Hall

October 3 | Fall Retreat | 11:00 a.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Opening our hearts: Preparing to receive the Holy Spirit.

January 9 | 3:00 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Receiving the Holy Spirit: "He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." Students will prepare to serve at the 5:00 p.m. **Ministry Mass**.

January 17 | 10:30 a.m. Mass

The Holy Spirit lives within us: "Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit."

February 14 | 10:30 a.m. Mass

Choosing God's way: The Holy Spirit gives us strength to follow Jesus.

March 13 | Spring Retreat | 11:00 a.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Living as a disciple: Growing in faith before Confirmation.

May 16 | Noon Mass

Sent by the Holy Spirit: Pentecost reminds us that Confirmation prepares us to live and share our faith.

Dates and times for Confirmation and rehearsal will be announced.