



Growing with God (Ages 2,3,4 yrs.)

Growing with God combines age appropriate academic curriculum with Catholic Christian Religious formation. Children meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 am - 1:30 pm with extended hours 7:45 am - 8:30 am and 1:30pm - 2:30pm. Program runs September 4th - May 22nd. Fees: \$40.00 Registration Fee, \$30.00 Supply Fee and \$165.00/month tuition. Extended care is \$50.00 additional fee per month.



Elementary Religious Formation (PreK-5)

The St. Martin de Porres religious education program is a blended model of classroom instruction, faith sharing and interactive learning. Call to Faith is an all new comprehensive religion program. It provides a solid foundation of Scripture and Tradition, a rich diversity of prayer, and a developmental sequence of activities. Sessions run September - May. Fees: \$65.00/child \$120.00/2 children - \$175.00/3 or more.



Middle School "The Edge" (6th - 8th grades)

Designed with middle school needs and energy in mind! This program is dynamic, experiential and will include a variety of education, worship, prayer, social & service opportunities designed to build Catholic Community identity. Our goal is to bring students to a place where they can reflect on the meaning of faith in their daily lives. Students meet on Wednesday Evenings from 6:00pm - 7:30 pm.

Help Wanted:
Catechists are needed for all grade levels



® High School Life-Teen (9th-12th grade)

Serving the youth of St. Martin de Porres through teaching, faith sharing, and fellowship. Students meet on Sunday Evenings from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm. Retreats, service opportunities, praise and worship and a variety of other programming seek to engage students in their faith and creating an environment to build meaningful Christian friendships.



Ruth & Naomi Ministry: (6th Grade and up with female mentor)

Girls in middle and high school and their moms, sisters, aunts, grandmoms and friends are invited to share faith as only girls can! Studies show that females have a unique way of approaching spirituality. Drawing on the story of women in scripture and our rich Catholic tradition, we hope to foster the spiritual journey of girls and one another. Held approximately two times a year. Dates: TBD



Our Lady of Guadalupe

Each year we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12th. Our middle/high school youth bring the story of Juan Diego alive during Mass.



Advent VBS

This one day event provides children in pre-K thru 5th grade the opportunity to explore the mystery and excitement around the birth of our Savior. Children participate in crafts, activities and witness stories and dramas that illustrate the true meaning of Christmas.



Children's Christmas Choir: The children's choir sings of the joy of Christ' birth at the Christmas Eve Family Mass. Elementary and middle school students are invited to join this choir. Rehearsals are held throughout November and December.



Christmas Pageant: Each November preparations begin for the annual Christmas pageant that is held during the Christmas Eve Family Mass. Angels, shepherds, characters and animals invite a delightful welcome of Christ into our hearts.



Little Rock Scripture Study

This group meets weekly (Wednesday mornings) to study and share their faith through individual study and small group discussion.

Leader: Sr. Yvonne Feeney Fee: Cost of Book

Advent Bible Study: As part of the diocesan Year of the Word program, this 6 week study will focus on the Gospel of Matthew. Format is small group discussion. Thursday Evenings 7:00 - 9:00pm. (Dates to be determined) Fee: Cost of Book.



SACRAMENTS



Sacramental Preparation: The Religious Education staff and volunteers, in accordance with diocesan policy oversee the preparation of children and adults to receive the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In some cases, students are required to attend class one to two years prior to the preparation for the sacrament.

Baptisms for infants to age 7 are arranged with the Deacon through the church office. Older children who have not been baptized will receive age appropriate preparation to be received into the church.

First Reconciliation and First Eucharist require participation in grade level religious education classes beginning in first grade, and attendance at two retreats with at least one adult from their household.

Confirmation candidates are eligible if they have participated in grade-level religious education and then attend a six week session as part of a formation process that includes participation in the liturgical, ministerial and communal life of the parish.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is for adults who are seeking to join the Catholic Church, receive First Communion, Confirmation, or who would just like to learn more about their faith. These sessions are held on Thursday evenings from September through May.

Reconciliation Retreat: This retreat is required for reception of the sacrament of reconciliation. Note: Retreat must be attended by child and at least one parent/guardian

Eucharist Retreat: This retreat is required for the reception of the sacrament of Eucharist. Note: Retreat must be attended by child and at least one parent/guardian.

Confirmation Preparation: Six week session follow the recommended curriculum for confirmation preparation. TBA

A \$20.00 Sacrament Fee is due in addition to tuition



CATECHIST & VOLUNTEER CLASSES

Orientation & Training: These sessions connect your grade level team and partner you with the other catechists. Program includes teaching resources, objectives and strategies.

Protecting God's Children: Required of all catechists and parents involved in field trips assisting with children's classes or with vulnerable adults. This diocesan course must be completed within 90 days from the day you start working with children. Day & Time: TBA





INFORMATION & QUESTIONS

1. Review the classes and programs offered in this booklet
2. Complete the Registration & Volunteer Form Online
3. Send payment to St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church, P.O. Box 1062, Dripping Springs, TX 78620, Attn: RE Department.
4. Put the class and event dates on your family calendar.
5. Attend opening day parent meeting during your child's session. This includes elementary, middle school and high school.

NOTE: CLASSES WILL BE CANCELLED IF NOT FILLED
BY SEPTEMBER 12, 2008

What is Religious Formation? Religious Formation encompasses all parishioners, not just our youth. It is the multifaceted development of a person's faith, including but not limited to, education in the basic beliefs of our Catholic faith, community sharing of our faith, sacramental preparations and reception, studies of our faith via the bible, sacred tradition and other literature, serving our community and those outside our community and celebrating our faith as a family of believers.

Why do I need to register for classes with no fee? Hours of planning and preparation are put into these classes and programs by staff and volunteers. Registration is appreciated so that interest can be gauged and time and resources can be wisely obtained and used in preparation for the event or class.

Why should my child attend Religious Education classes if they aren't receiving a sacrament this year? First and foremost your choice to baptize your child in the faith obligates you to bring them up in the faith and provide an education in our Catholic faith for them. Second, it may be a disservice to the child if their faith is only brought forward during sacramental years. They tend not to fully understand the sacrament which

they are receiving if they haven't had consistent learning and growth in the faith. Third, attending classes allows them to meet other youth from their parish; a sense of community develops and promotes their sense of belonging at mass and at other parish events. Fourth, the diocese requires that a student be enrolled for the two years prior to receiving a sacrament.

Can I join a class once it's begun? In most cases, yes. As long as space is available, (determined by available classroom space) new students moving to the area can be accepted once classes have begun.

Do I need to be registered in the parish to attend these classes and events? Yes. If you have not yet registered, you can find the Parish Registration Form in the foyer of the Church or at the parish office. Welcome to the parish - we are glad you are here!

What if I cannot afford the fee required for the class? Please contact the Religious Education Department for scholarship opportunities.