



1st and 2nd Year Coordinator:
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St. Matthew Catholic Church First Sacraments Year 1 and 2 Faith Formation

Sacramental Preparation

These two years are required by the Diocese of Charlotte as part of the preparation for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist.

The nurturing of a child's faith takes place within the family. As the parents are the primary faith educator, during these early sacramental years it is our goal to enhance the child's learning by introducing the children to traditional Catholic prayer and worship. These years help to build the foundation which will allow the children to embrace and grow in the love of God, as they journey toward receiving the sacraments in First Sacraments Year 2. We encourage you to attend Mass with your child and allow them to see your participation in the sacraments as much as possible.



First Sacraments Year 1

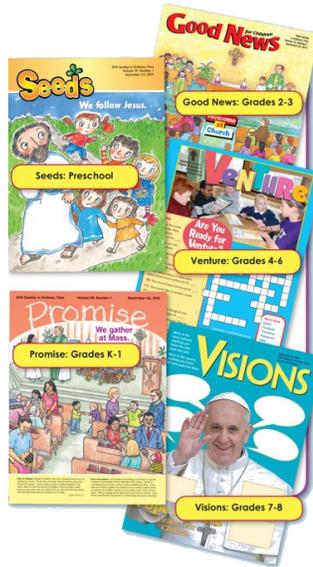
Pflaum Gospel Weeklies
FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM

Why? The Sunday liturgy is the heart of the parish community. The weekly celebration is more meaningful to young people if they are familiar with the Gospel proclaimed each week. During class, the children hear the Gospel and participate in activities related to the Gospel. The message becomes familiar. They learn the Gospel. They love the Gospel. They live the Gospel.

What? This program takes the 'textbook' out of Faith Formation and instead immerses the children in the Gospel through hands-on activities, movement and real-life stories. PGW is written in 8-week editions, allowing the material to reflect current events, keeping it fresh and relevant for the children.

First Sacraments Year 1: *Good News*

We encourage you to subscribe to the Gospel at Home newsletter at [Pflaum Weeklies](#), and read the "Family Corner" within your child's weekly handout.



Special Events 2017-2018

- ☺ Year 2 Parent Learning Opportunities for **First Reconciliation**:
 - Wed. Sept. 13 at 9:30am
 - Sat. Sept. 16 at 10:30am
 - Wed. Sept. 20 at 7:00pm
 - Sat. Sept 23 at 10am
- ☺ Faith Formation Classes Begin, Week of Sept.17
- ☺ Year 2 Parent-Child Retreat for First Reconciliation **Saturday, November 4**
- ☺ Sacrament of First Reconciliation **Thursday, November 30 and Friday, December 1**
- ☺ Year 2 Parent Learning Opportunities for **First Eucharist**:
 - Wed. Jan. 10 at 9:30am
 - Thu. Jan. 18 at 7pm
 - Sat. Jan. 20 at 10am
 - Sat. Jan. 27 at 10pm
- ☺ Year 1 **Tour of the Church**, Main Campus Classes during session **Feb. 5 and 6**
- ☺ Year 2 **Tour of the Sacristy**, during sessions **April 9, 10, 11**
- ☺ Year 2 Parent-Child Retreat for First Eucharist **Saturday, April 14**
- ☺ Year 1 **Parent-Child Rosary Making**, during sessions April 25 (South Campus), April 30 and May 1st at Main Campus.

First Sacraments Year 2

Our Sunday Visitor Bringing Your Catholic Faith to Life™

"In the sacraments, we can hear, see, touch and taste the love of God given to us in His Son. We look into the eyes of Jesus and see His heart, and He looks into our eyes and sees our heart. In this *divine encounter*, we are offered an experience of intimacy that can change us forever." - EWC, CG4

As the children enter their second year of preparing for the sacrament, we have chosen this unique program which offers both parent-led and catechist-led lessons which allows children to come to understand the order of the Rites, the signs and what they signify, and the meaning of the Sacraments in the larger context of our Catholic faith. We encourage families not only to prepare for the sacrament but to engage in full and active participation in parish life. For more information or for games and activities, visit [Encounter with Christ](#).

