



St. Matthew Catholic Church 3rd, 4th and 5th Grade Faith Formation

The Later Elementary Years

These recommended years are offered to support you in your child's faith development.

The nurturing of a child's faith takes place within the family. As the parents are the primary faith educator, during the later elementary grades, your child will be taught how to build upon their Catholic faith by learning how we worship and how we can live our beliefs in everyday life. We will build upon prayer and emphasize the Ten Commandments, Sacraments, and the Stations of the Cross. **We encourage you to aid in this process by praying as a family at home, attending Mass and Faith Formation classes.** Completion of one service report is encouraged in grade five.



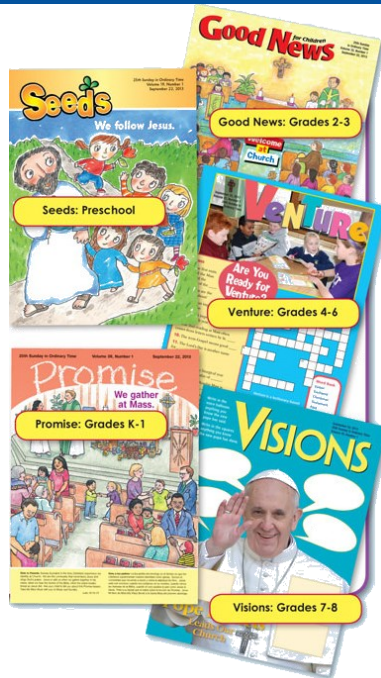
Why? The Sunday liturgy is the heart of the parish community. The weekly celebration is more meaningful to young people if they are familiar with the Gospel proclaimed each week. During class, the children hear the Gospel and participate in activities related to the Gospel. The message becomes familiar.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

3rd Grade Series: Good News

4th and 5th Grade Series: Ventures

We encourage you to subscribe to the Gospel at Home newsletter at Pflaum Weeklies [Parent Page](#).



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3rd Grade

Our children in 3rd grade continue their faith journey after having received the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist. During December, our 3rd graders present **A Christmas Cantata** for all Faith Formation students and families.



4th Grade

Children in 4th grade Faith Formation begin to deepen their exploration of concepts introduced in the earlier elementary years, with emphasis on the Ten Commandments. 4th graders present a living **Stations of the Cross** prayer service during Lent.



5th Grade

In order to prepare our 5th grade students for the upcoming middle school years, the focus begins to shift towards living out our faith through service and acts of charity. Students are encouraged to participate in one of our four **Sandwich**



Ministry. Dates for the 2016-2017 year are: **Oct. 8, Nov. 12, Feb. 11 and Mar. 11** beginning with 9am Mass in the Chapel.