

TLC FAQ



What is TLC? TLC, which stands for Total Lifelong Catechesis, is a ***Family Formation Model of Catechesis*** and the primary faith formation offering at St. Albert's Church for families with children in Kindergarten through 7th Grade. TLC enriches the entire family and is most fruitful for handing on the Catholic Faith to the children of the parish.

Who is TLC for? TLC is for all families of St. Albert's. While TLC centers on families with school-age children (K-7), we invite all parishioners to participate who are looking for faith formation and education, along with community and friendship within the parish.

Why Join TLC?

- Strengthen your family's spiritual foundation.
- Learn how to live the faith at home, not just on Sundays.
- Meet other young families walking the same journey.
- Give your children a joyful, lasting love for the Church.
- Receive support and assistance to be the *domestic church*, the place where children first learn about God, experience love and forgiveness, and begin to understand the faith.

When are TLC Sessions? TLC Sessions are held twice a month on-site. The first TLC Session is the ***TLC Wednesday Formation Session*** and is held generally on the first Wednesday of each month. The second TLC Session is the ***TLC Sunday Funday Session*** and is held generally on the third Sunday of each month. Families attend both sessions each month. TLC Sessions are held October through May each year.

What time are the two Monthly TLC Sessions?

- **Wednesday Formation Sessions are from 5:30-7:30pm:**
 - 5:30pm - Dinner (*with free will offering with suggested donation of \$4/person*).
 - 6:00pm - Family Formation Session begins.
 - 7:30pm - Session concludes.
- **Sunday Funday Sessions are from 9:00-11:00am:**
 - 9:00am- Family-based learning, activity, and fun!
 - 10:00am - Mass together as a TLC family.
 - 11:00am - Hospitality follows Mass and Session concludes.

TLC Kick-Off Session is [September 24, 2025, from 6:00-7:30pm](#). All participants are asked to attend this important Kick-Off Session which begins with the celebration of Mass at 6pm. Information, guidance, and materials will be provided at the Kick-Off for both the on-site TLC Sessions and instructions for the at-home TLC Sessions that are taught by parents using parent-friendly materials.

TLC Sessions 2025-2026 are:

2025

Wed, Oct 1 and Sun, Oct 12
Wed, Nov 5 and Sun, Nov 16
Wed, Dec 3 and Sun, Dec 14

2026

Wed, Jan 7 and Sun, Jan 11
Wed, Feb 4 and Sun, Feb 8
Wed, Mar 4 and Sun, Mar 15
Wed, Apr 8 and Sun, Apr 19
Wed, May 6 - Final

What does TLC Look Like? Every TLC session has three essential components:

1. **Mass or Prayer** – Families are strengthened through sacred liturgy and prayer.
2. **Meal** – Families enjoy a shared meal and time of fellowship and community.
3. **Message** – Families learn about a specific faith topic at each session.
 - **On-Site Sessions** include faith formation through family-based learning and activities, along with children and adult breakout sessions.
 - **At Home** during the month parents teach and share with their children using parent-friendly materials. These lessons vary by age level and length of time to complete.

How do I register for TLC? Registration for [TLC HERE](#)

What is the program fee for 2025-2026?

- The TLC Family Formation fee is **\$150 per family** of the same household.
- The First Communion and Reconciliation Preparation fee is an **additional \$50 per child**.
- The Preparation Fee for Confirmation is **\$25 per child** and is assessed at the time of discernment, in addition to a separate retreat fee.
- Please **register by September 2** to assist with classroom and volunteer needs. Scholarships and payment plans are available for families who need assistance, call or email for details.

Can I bring children younger than Kindergarten to TLC Sessions? Yes! Childcare is available for those under the age of 5 years old free of charge. However, if needed, little ones are always welcome to stay with parents during any of the TLC Sessions. We encourage both parents to attend TLC if possible.

Where do youth in 8-12 Grades fit in? They can join us in two ways:

- First, we highly encourage those teens who have younger siblings at TLC to come with their family and volunteer for one of the many needs of TLC. What a wonderful way to be of service to our parish! [See the TLC Registration for all the ways for youth to volunteer and to sign up.](#)
- Second, our Youth Ministry Team has many offerings for youth to grow deeper in their faith. Check out the [Youth Ministry webpage](#) for the many Middle School and High School opportunities such as Middle School Bible Study, Alpha Youth, High School Nights, and Theology 101, and more!

My children attend Catholic School - do we still participate? Yes! Families with children attending Catholic School are highly encouraged to participate in the life of the parish through TLC Family Formation. Family based catechesis is one of the best ways for children to learn the faith through the teaching, sharing, and witness of their parents. TLC compliments education at a Catholic School. Also, if you desire your child to receive the Sacraments of First Holy Eucharist and First Reconciliation at St. Albert's – register for TLC! Contact Jean Wold for information regarding specific requirements and fee structures.

What if we have a conflict and cannot attend one of the monthly sessions? While we ask families to make every effort to attend both TLC Sessions each month, we understand that there can be an interruption. We ask that families do their best to make TLC participation a priority! And with the flexibility of this model of catechesis, parents continue to teach and share with their children the scripted lessons and activities from the recourse provided.

Why use a family formation model of catechesis?

Engage families – Learn to follow Jesus – Rebuild the Domestic Church. Studies show that parents are the most important element in a child's faith life. Based on the principle that *"Parents are the primary educators in the Faith"* [General Directory for Catechesis 255], family formation revolves around weekly family gatherings and home lessons. This shared learning experience spills over into the family's everyday life. Our ultimate goal is to assist parents in their responsibility as educators of the faith. We want to help you keep Jesus at the center of your family!

What is the goal of TLC? The goal of TLC is to build strong Catholic families in which children learn the joys of following Jesus Christ and the truths of their Faith through the witness of Christian life given by their parents. TLC provides education and formation, along with a place to form community and friendship with an emphasis on encouraging, equipping, and supporting parents as they raise and educate their children in the Catholic faith.

What about First Reconciliation and First Communion? Children in 2nd grade and older can prepare to receive these two Sacraments. Families with children preparing to celebrate these Sacraments are asked to attend TLC as a family. There is

a Parent and Child Informational Meeting on Monday, September 15 from 6:00-7:00pm to explain sacramental preparation and to distribute materials. Preparation includes weekly Wednesday classes and Learning Centers, along with Home Lessons. For more details see [First Communion Preparation](#)

What about Confirmation? We invite all youth in Grades 8-12 to choose to receive the gift of the Sacrament of Confirmation. In combination with Formation Nights for Youth, Parents, and Sponsors; Youth are asked to participate in Alpha Youth under the leadership of STMA Youth Ministry on Wednesday evenings throughout the school year. There is a Parent Inquiry Meeting for Confirmation on Wednesday, September 17 from 6:30-8:00pm. For more complete details and registration for Confirmation preparation see [Confirmation](#)

What is available for Pre-K Children? Children, ages 3-6 (through Grade 1) are invited to participate in **Children's Liturgy of the Word**. Children's Liturgy of the Word is held during the 10:00 am Mass on most Sunday's September through May. During this time, the children are invited to listen to the Gospel at their level of understanding. No registration is required. For more details see [Children's Liturgy of the Word](#)

Do you still need catechists and other volunteers? YES! Each of our faith formation offerings needs many volunteers. We need adults and teens to lead and help with TLC's Children Breakout Sessions, Meals, Nursery, Greeter Table, Hallway Monitors, and Saint Visits, along with First Communion and Reconciliation Preparation, and Children's Liturgy of the Word. If you enjoy helping behind the scenes or up front and close, we have a spot for you! Please prayerfully consider volunteering your time. Training and support are provided. Contact Jean Wold if you are interested or have questions.

Need more information and help?

Contact Religious Education Coordinator Jean Wold at jwold@churchofstalbert.org or 763-497-2474, Ext 2.