



# Welcome to Catholic Formation!

Dear Lumen Christi Families,

This summer our Catholic Formation team has prayerfully reviewed, revised and rewritten all our curriculum grades K4-11<sup>th</sup>, taking into consideration parent, student, and catechist feedback, learning from our strengths and the areas where we have the opportunity to grow. It is our deepest desire to engage students in their faith, help them recognize God's presence in their life and discover how to enter into a relationship with Him. At every age, and in both the Joys & Challenges of life, one thing remains constant: our faith, rooted in Jesus Christ who established this beautiful Church that we belong to and who calls us into deeper relationship with Him no matter our circumstances in life, and is ever present in the Eucharist.

Included in this packet you will find: 1) Overview & Formation Description for each ministry 2) Calendars for the year 3) Service Form for Middle & High School Students

## ***Our CF Ministry is growing & We need your help!***

We need volunteers to join our team & help teach the faith. We have ready for you the entire year of lesson plans, all materials required and offer monthly meetings for support, encouragement & fellowship. There are only a few requirements for volunteers: a commitment to your own faith Mass on Sundays and a desire to receive the Grace to share your faith through the Holy Spirit. This is fun, rewarding and enriches your own faith as you help our students to develop their own. In addition to teachers (child ministry) or small group leaders (youth ministry) we need aids, people to monitor the halls and subs to step in when teachers or small group leaders are unable to attend. Please reach out to one of our staff for more information.

---

*Please note: All volunteers over the age of 18 must attend a (free, one-time) Safe Environment Education Session, pass a criminal background check and read and sign the Code of Ethical Standards for Church Leaders. Sessions will be available at Lumen Christi and around the Archdiocese at various times and days.*

---

**We are here to serve all families. *If you have any questions, please contact one of the staff below:***

Meaghan Turner	Director of Catholic Formation	turnerm@lumenchristiparish.org
Kate Heinzman	Child Ministry Coordinator	heinzmank@lumenchristiparish.org
Olivia Rapavi	High School Youth Minister	rapavio@lumenchristiparish.org
Kayla Schoof	Middle School Youth Minister	kayla@lumenchristiparish.org
Karen Bersch	General Assistant for CF	berschk@lumenchristiparish.org

## CM Catholic Formation | Grades 4K - 5

---

### **Catholic Formation in Child ministry (4K-5th grade) has 3 components:**

Mass attendance, Formation, and Family Sessions. Through these we hope to cultivate the opportunity for each child to develop a personal relationship with God and support and lift up parents as the first catechists for their children.

### **MASS ATTENDANCE | Regular Sunday Mass attendance is expected of our children and families.**

Lumen Christi offers 4 Mass times: Sat 4:30pm; Sun 7:30am, 9:00am and 11:00am.

Out of town? [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org) will help you find a local Catholic Mass.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word** is the first and third Sunday of each month at the 9:00am Mass and serves children ages 3K up to those who have made their First Eucharist. Smaller children are invited with an accompanying parent.

**CATHOLIC FORMATION CLASS AND FAMILY SESSIONS** - formation is approximately three times a month on Sundays from 10:00am - 11:00am. There are 4 Family Session in the year and are considered as class for the week. Family Sessions begin with Mass followed by family centered Formation activities. Please see the attached schedule for all Formation & Family Session dates.

**Additional Formation Opportunities for Children & Families\*\*** - Child Ministry has additional optional opportunities for families to come in community and faith together

- Dinner and movie nights
- Service projects
- Special sessions on holidays
- Popsicles on the playground
- Vacation bible school
- Pray and play room
- Retreats
- Busy Bags

\*\*See the calendar for these dates:

***Let the Children Come To Me - Family Holy Half Hour*** New this year is a half hour adoration for families on the second Saturday of the month from 9:00-9:30am in the church. This short adoration is specifically designed for young families to pray together and have special time with the Lord.

---

**SACRAMENTS** - First Eucharist and First Reconciliation preparation begins in first grade and continues through second grade. Both sacraments are traditionally celebrated at Lumen Christi in April and May of second grade. For those who are older than second grade or have special needs, preparation is done individually with Kate Heinzman who directs the Child Ministry programs. More information will be sent via email on August 23rd. Dates are currently on the parish website under Catholic Formation.

### **Important Dates:**

September 17	First day of Formation Classes
September 12-14 & 19-21	Sacramental Interview dates
September 30 OR October 7	Reconciliation Parent & Child Retreat 9:00am-3:00pm

---

### **Child Ministry Team:**

Kate Heinzman	Child Ministry Coordinator	<a href="mailto:heinzmank@lumenchristiparish.org">heinzmank@lumenchristiparish.org</a>
Karen Schneiberg	Child Ministry Assistant	<a href="mailto:schneibergk@lumenchristiparish.org">schneibergk@lumenchristiparish.org</a>

## YM Catholic Formation | Middle School | Grades 6-8

---

Middle school students are walking the boundary between childhood and high school, they are exploring independence, and finding their own identity in their interests, friend groups, and faith. We strive to provide an environment where middle school students can have the space to talk about their questions and doubts, and a place and atmosphere where they can encounter a personal relationship with our Lord, commit to that relationship with Him, and live as His disciple.

### **Catholic Formation in Middle School (6-8th grade) has 4 components:**

#### **MASS ATTENDANCE | Regular Sunday Mass attendance is expected of our teens and families.**

- Lumen Christi offers 4 Mass times: Sat 4:30pm; Sun 7:30am, 9:00am and 11:00am
- St. Francis Borgia, Sun 6:00pm | Gesu Sun 11:30am, 4:00pm and 6:00pm.
- Out of town? [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org) will help you find a local Catholic Mass.

#### **FORMATION | Sunday evenings from 6:00-7:30pm | LC School September - April**

**6 & 7th Grade - WONDER:** God is bigger and better than we can possibly imagine. Even if we read every book on earth, we couldn't fully understand Him. We can, however, meet and know God in the Bible, nature, beautiful art, one another, and in the sacraments. So, for 6 & 7th grade formation, we invite you to experience the Wonder of God.

**8th Grade - The Chosen:** The Chosen is the first TV series that walks through Jesus' ministry. Season one highlights how Jesus calls his first disciples and impacts their lives. As we go through this season, we will compare the show to the scripture passages and our own experiences of being called by Jesus to a life of mission. Special emphasis will be placed on preparing students to be leaders in their schools and parish.

**RETREAT |** Retreats are an incredible opportunity to encounter the Lord in ways we haven't yet and hear His voice a bit clearer. We ask that students attend at least one of the retreat opportunities we are providing this year. Please see the calendar for retreat dates; details and registrations will be provided throughout the year.

**SERVICE |** We encounter Christ through the persons we encounter when we serve. This is why we challenge our students to go beyond volunteering and look at how they can SERVE.

*Feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the prisoners, bury the dead, give alms to the poor...love one another as I have loved you [John 13:35]*

We ask that middle school students focus less on hours and more on opportunities to serve their neighbor keeping in mind the Corporal Works of Mercy. Middle School students should participate in 6-8 opportunities of service in the year, at least 2 of which serve with or for Lumen Christi Parish. Families are encouraged to serve together. Please reference the service form & weekly flocknotes for more details.

## YM Catholic Formation | 9th & 10th Grade

---

We know high school students are met with daily challenges, have high academic goals and competitive extracurricular activities. With this in mind, it is our goal to meet students where they're at and show them how a lived relationship with Christ can be their unchanging and unshakable foundation no matter what life brings. We don't aim to compete as just another activity in their busy lives, but to offer them solid, Catholic teachings that will help them understand things such as who they are and why they were created; how to recognize the worth of true, authentic friendships; and most importantly, how to have a personal encounter with Our Lord and cultivate a friendship with Him.

### **9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Catholic Formation\*\* has 4 components:**

#### **MASS ATTENDANCE | Regular Sunday Mass attendance is expected of our teens and families.**

- Lumen Christi offers 4 Mass times: Sat 4:30pm; Sun 7:30am, 9:00am and 11:00am
- St. Francis Borgia, Sun 6:00pm | Gesu Sun 11:30am, 4:00pm and 6:00pm.
- Out of town? [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org) will help you find a local Catholic Mass.

#### **FORMATION | Sunday evenings from 6:00-7:30pm | LC Church September - April.**

The theme for **9<sup>th</sup> Grade** is **Identity**: Who am I? Who is God? How do I relate to Him? How should I live? These are questions that the students will dive into with their small groups as they engage in discussion, activity, Scripture study, retreat, and personal prayer.

The theme for **10<sup>th</sup> grade** is **Calling**: Students will explore life's purpose, their individual calling, discipleship, their role in the Church, and dependence on God to grow in greatness. Together with their small groups they will choose a path of deeper learning for the last 6 sessions of the year. The formation experience will include discussion, activity, retreat, hearing witnesses, and personal prayer.

**RETREAT** | Retreats are an incredible opportunity to encounter the Lord in ways we haven't yet and hear His voice a bit clearer. We offer a 9<sup>th</sup> grade retreat and a 10<sup>th</sup> grade retreat and ask that students prioritize attending it, or plan to attend one of the alternative retreat options. Please see the calendar for retreat dates; details and registrations will be provided throughout the year.

**SERVICE** | We encounter Christ through the persons we encounter when we serve. This is why we challenge our students to go beyond volunteering and look at how they can SERVE.

*Feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the prisoners, bury the dead, give alms to the poor...love one another as I have loved you... [John 13:35]*

We ask that students focus less on hours and more on opportunities to serve their neighbor keeping in mind the Corporal Works of Mercy. High School students should participate in 10-12 opportunities of service in the year, at least 5 of which serve with or for Lumen Christi Parish. It is the responsibility of each teen to set up his/her own opportunities to serve. Please reference the service form & weekly flocknotes for more details

**\*\*9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grade Formation is a prerequisite for Confirmation in 11<sup>th</sup> grade**

# YM Catholic Formation | 11th grade Confirmation Preparation

---

**What is Confirmation?** *“Confirmation unites us more firmly to Christ, it strengthens our relationship with the Church, and it gives us a special strength from the Holy Spirit to defend the faith and confess the name of Christ.” Pope Francis*

---

Preparation for reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation builds on the foundation that was established for students in 9th and 10th grade. During this year of preparation, our desire is for students to grow in a personal commitment to Christ within the context of the whole Faith Community, the Church. Christ has said, “It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you, and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain.” (John 15:16) Confirmation is not the “Sacrament of Graduation”, but Christ’s choosing of individual souls to be His lifelong disciples, sharing in His mission through the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

## **MASS ATTENDANCE | Regular Sunday Mass attendance is expected of our teens and families.**

- Lumen Christi offers 4 Mass times: Sat 4:30pm Sun 7:30am, 9:00am and 11:00am
- St. Francis Borgia, Sun 6:00pm | Gesu Sun 11:30am, 4:00pm and 6:00pm.
- Out of town? [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org) will help you find a local Catholic Mass.

## **FORMATION | Sunday evenings from 6:00-7:30pm | LC Church September - April.**

The theme for Confirmation preparation is **Mission**. Within their small groups, students will come to a deeper understanding of the Great Mission of Jesus, the Apostles, the Church, and the Saints, and how they too will share in this Mission as Confirmed Catholics. Prayer will light the way and the Holy Spirit will be the guide! The year will involve engaging in discussion, forming strong bonds with sponsors, attending a retreat, hearing witnesses, and entering into deep personal prayer.

Confirmation is not graduation and our schedule intentionally extends beyond Confirmation Mass so that teens can receive the Graces of the Holy Spirit at Confirmation and continue deepening their faith through fellowship and prayer, thereby strengthening their faith roots.

**RETREAT** | Retreats are an incredible opportunity to encounter the Lord in ways we haven’t yet and hear His voice a bit clearer. We offer a Confirmation Retreat in October and ask that students prioritize attending it, or plan to attend an approved alternate Confirmation retreat. Please see the calendar for retreat dates; details and registration will be provided in September.

**SERVICE** | We encounter Christ through the persons we encounter when we serve. This is why we challenge our students to go beyond volunteering and look at how they can SERVE.

*Feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the prisoners, bury the dead, give alms to the poor...love one another as I have loved you... [John 13:35]*

We ask that students focus less on hours and more on opportunities to serve their neighbor, keeping in mind the Corporal Works of Mercy. High School students should participate in 10-12 opportunities of service in the year, at least 5 of which serve with or for Lumen Christi Parish. It is the responsibility of each teen to set up his/her own opportunities to serve. Please reference the service form & weekly Flocknotes for more details.

**Save the Date:** Wednesday, September 20th at 7:00pm **Confirmation Orientation**