



## St. Brendan the Navigator Parish

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### Home Education - Faith Formation and Sacrament Prep

Thank you for being a part of St. Brendan the Navigator Parish Community! We feel blessed to have wonderful, Catholic families to surround our Parish children with each weekend at Mass and at the many liturgical and social events our ministries host. We understand that you have chosen to homeschool your child for Faith Formation and/or Sacrament Prep. If we can provide any assistance along the way, please reach out. The smallest questions are just as important as the big ones.

The Diocese of Portland has a set of guidelines and protocols to ensure that children are properly educated in their Catholic faith. In your first meeting with our Faith Formation team or our Pastor, we will review these guidelines and assist you in any way to meet these goals. These guidelines consist of, but are not limited to the following:

- Two-year Sacrament Preparation
- A knowledge of certain prayers, vocabulary, stories, Saints that are vital to understanding their faith or approaching sacrament.
- The use of curriculum that has been reviewed by the USCCB and adheres to the Catechism of the Catholic Church.
  - o The USCCB (United States Council of Catholic Bishops) has thoroughly vetted the numerous curriculum options for children, so they are taught information that is true and theologically sound. As stated on their website, “The review process is meant to assist in the conformity of catechetical texts and series in an authentic and complete way to the Catechism.” Not all texts and materials are on the list for a variety of reasons, but this helps cut down the lengthy process of reviewing each and every curriculum out there.

As your child(ren) near readiness for a celebration of their Sacraments, we ask that you once again meet with our Pastor and/or Faith Formation team to review any necessary details. Each year, the Diocese provides us with a date that the Bishop will visit our Parish and celebrate the Sacraments. It is best to check in during “year one” to ensure your formation plan will line up with the following year’s date.

#### Please review the following and sign below:

- My children and I will be active participants in the Parish, attending weekly Mass and other Holy Days of Obligation.
- I understand that I will need to meet with the Pastor and/or Faith Formation team prior to initiating the Sacrament prep for my child(ren).
- I will use curriculum and resources that conform to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, as provided in the USCCB’s Conformity List.
- I will attend the four required parent sessions and/or retreat day if offered.
- I will prepare my children according to the guidelines set out by the Diocese of Portland and the Pastor of St. Brendan the Navigator Catholic Church.

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(Parent Signature)

(Date)