

YOUTH FORMATION HANDBOOK

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH
2022-2023

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
Diocese of Corpus Christi

Fr. Rodolfo D. Vásquez, Pastor

Jacob Ragozzine, Coordinator of Children's
Formation

Moving Mountains Coordinator

Little Flock Coordinator

(361)-991-4400 ext. 107

jragozzine@sjbcctx.org

Lindsay George, Coordinator of High School Formation

Quo Vadis Coordinator

(361)-991-4400 ext. 106

lgeorge@sjbcctx.org

7522 Everhart Road Corpus Christi, Texas 78413

(361) 991-4400 ext. 1006

www.sjbcctx.org

Youth Formation Cell: (361) 739-7896

General Email: *yfo@sjbcctx.org*

Youth Formation Website: *sjbcctx.org/youth-formation*



Baptism

Baptism of Children after Age 6 is required, and the child may be baptized after one complete year. Regular attendance as stated in this handbook is required. No more than 3 absences a semester. Four supplemental lessons will be sent home during the Spring semester. Parents will review/discuss information with their child. Parents and godparents must also attend the baptism preparation classes. Please inform the Youth Formation Office at the start of the year that your child is in need of Baptism so that we may aide you in preparation and registration.

Requirements for Godparents*

- Godparents ***are to be practicing Catholics***. A child may have one Godparent (male or female) or two Godparents (one male and one female). Godparents may be as young as 16 years old. **NO** NonCatholics (especially non-Christians) may serve as Godparents.
- **Must be attending Mass on Sundays** and be registered in a parish. **Must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and First Eucharist.**
- **If married**, Godparents must be married in the Catholic Church and not practice contraception. Marriage Certificate from the church must be presented when registering for baptismal class.
- **If single**, must not be living with someone outside the state of matrimony (heterosexual or homosexual relationship). Sacrament certificates must be presented when registering for baptismal class.
- **Must be in good standing with the Church.**
- Must not be involved in behaviors or in careers contrary to Catholic Morality (working at Planned Parenthood, worker or owner of an immoral establishment, an abortion practitioner, etc.)
- Must attend baptismal instruction class prior to the baptism.

If from another parish, godparents should bring a letter from their pastor verifying their suitability to serve as godparents.

As required by the Diocese of Corpus Christi, **Sacramental Preparation** is a two-year preparation program in order to receive the Sacraments of Penance and the Eucharist. A Baptismal Certificate is required to begin preparation for sacraments.

First Penance

- Will be done in the first year of sacramental formation.
- **Four confessions** per year will be **required**
 - Confession will be held from 5:00pm – 6:00pm on the following days:
 - October 17 - 18, 2022
 - December 12 - 13, 2022
 - February 13 - 14, 2023
 - April 17 - 18, 2022

Sacrament of the Eucharist

Students will be eligible to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist at the end of their second year of formation. If you are transferring from another parish, a letter from the previous parish documenting the formation received and any sacramental classes completed is required and should **be turned in no later than the last day of October** of the current year.

Children and parents are required to participate in the practice session scheduled for their First Communion.

Requirements:

1. Two-year preparation
2. First year students are required to participate in the **Saint Fair**.
 - a. Students will research a saint, create a science board, and present their saints to the Little Flock Coordinator.
 - a. Saint Fair will be on **September 25, 2022**.
3. End of the Year Interview

Attendance at Little Flock (Sundays 9:10-10:10am)

Attendance and participation in the Little Flock classes during the two sacramental preparation years is vital to the full knowledge required for reception of the Sacraments. Therefore, it is required that there be **no more** than **3 excused** absences in a semester for those enrolled in Sacramental Preparation years 1 and 2. A student will be counted absent if they are not present in class by 9:20am. Absences will be excused only for serious situations in instances of sickness or a death in the family.

Catholic school students attending private school are required to attend Little Flock sessions in order to grow in community within the parish. The diocese of Corpus Christi has set the minimum requirements for each parish and from there it is up to each parish to increase the requirement per the discretion of the pastor.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Sacramental preparation is a two-year preparation program before receiving Confirmation.

In order for a high school student at St. John the Baptist to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation they must:

ALL STUDENTS

- All Students are expected to attend weekly Sunday Mass.
- All youth are invited and encouraged to attend all programs of the Youth Formation program regardless of year of Formation.
- **Be registered for the Quo Vadis Program by October 2nd 2022.**
- **First year students:** Must turn in copy of Baptismal Certificate notated with Sacrament of First Holy Communion **at time of registration.**

YEAR ONE STUDENTS

- Must attend **Encounter Saturdays** (5 in total)
 - Students are required to attend all Encounter Saturdays that will take place from 10:00 am – 6:00 pm.
 - October 1, 2022
 - December 3, 2022
 - January 21, 2023

- March 4, 2023
- April 29, 2023
- Parents **MUST attend 1 of the Parent Encounter Sessions and 1 Missio**
 - Encounter Sessions will be held in the afternoon (2:00 pm- 6:00 pm) on the scheduled Encounter Saturday's.
 - Missio is held in the evening once a month typically on a Thursday (6:30pm-7:30pm). Reach out to Angie Windnagle (awindnagle@sjbcctx.org) at the Family Life office with any questions.

YEAR TWO STUDENTS

- Attend Sunday evening **Quo Vadis Nights** from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm.
 - Attendance Requirement: We encourage the teens to attend all Quo Vadis Nights, as they are opportunities for catechesis, to build community, and strengthen their prayer lives. For this reason, confirmation students are asked to attend Quo Vadis during their second year of formation and are allowed **ONE excused absence per month**.
- Students are required to take part in **1 Solidarity project a semester** for a total of two during the 2nd year of preparation.
- Choose a Confirmation Saint and complete **Saint Fair project** to present on **October 30th, 2022**.
- Register for **Quo Vadis Retreat** by November 30, 2022 and attend the entire weekend retreat taking place on March 24, 2023 – March 26, 2023.
- All Student documents are due November 11, 2022.
- Choose Sponsor and turn in Sponsor Documents by February 15, 2023.
 - Guidelines for Sponsors are the same as Godparents found on page 3.*
- Second year students will be required to complete a Second Year of Formation Interview taking place from April 4-6, 2023 & April 11-13, 2023.

Sacramental Preparation at Home

Preparation at home is a collaborative effort between parents and the parish community for the preparation of students to receive sacraments. Please fill out an Intent for Sacramental Preparation at Home to ensure records and contact information is kept current. Students are encouraged to join us weekly to build community but are not required to attend. Events taking place throughout the year are open to all.

Please email your specific coordinator if you need extra support or resources to utilize on your homeschool journey.

Requirements for all students preparing for sacraments at home:

- Complete and submit an Intent for Sacramental Preparation at Home form no later than **October 2nd, 2022**.
- Provide a Baptismal Certificate from the Church of Baptism, and complete all forms required for specific sacrament.
- Be at appropriate age set forth by the Diocese of Corpus Christi and Canon Law for the reception of the sacraments at the time sacraments are administered.

Penance & First Holy Communion

- Sacramental Preparation Parent Meetings
- 4 confessions per year prescribed for Little Flock (documented)
- Participation in Little Flock Saint Fair
- Sacramental Interview

Confirmation:

- First Year:
 - Attend all Encounter Saturdays
- Second Year:
 - Quo Vadis Attendance **1 time a month**
 - 1 Solidarity project a semester
 - Saint Fair participation
 - Quo Vadis Spring Retreat
 - Sacramental Interview