

# FAITH FORMATION

GUARDIAN ANGELS  
**GIFT**

Growing In  
Faith Together



**Program Mission - Engaging children, teens, and families in following Jesus by BEING church through faith development, community building, worship, and service.**

## What are the GIFT Programs?

### **Early Childhood for ages 3, 4, and 5, Sundays, 8:30-9:30 a.m.**

Children grow in self-awareness and experience God's love for them.

### **Wednesday Nights for Grades 1 to 8, 6:15-7:30 p.m.**

Children learn the basics of our Catholic faith and build community together. Youth in Grades 5 - 8 will continue to participate in JOLT (Jesus Offers Lots Today). JOLT includes mixer games, PowerPoint and video presentations, small groups, discussion, and other activities.

### **Family Ministry on the 2nd Sunday of each month, 9:40-10:50 a.m.**

Families seek to be church together through community building, service, worship, and learning. Some special events will be included on other dates.

### **Home Option for Grades 1-6**

The parish will provide resources to support parents in teaching our faith to their children at home.

### **Liturgy of the Word for Children - Grades 1-5 during 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass**

Children are invited during Mass to exit with adult leaders to learn about the readings and do activities at an age-appropriate level. Children will rejoin Mass when lesson is complete.

### **First Reconciliation and First Eucharist for Grades 2 and older**

Children experience sacramental preparation with prayer, discussion, activities and full participation in the reception of the sacraments guided by parents. Preparation starts with a parents-only orientation and then 3 parent/child sessions are offered followed by reception of the sacrament. Parents are the primary formers of the faith and take-home materials support the large group sessions.

### **Confirmation for Grade 9 and older meets monthly Sundays, 12:15-1:30 p.m.**

Candidates and sponsors learn together and share faith. Candidates preparing for Confirmation must complete four formation sessions, one retreat, one Safety Session, two hours of service to the poor or vulnerable, and involvement in our high school CONNECT program.

### **CONNECT Grades 9 to 12 meets monthly Sundays 12:15-1:30 p.m.**

CONNECT discusses matters of faith relevant to youth in a safe and supportive environment.

## When will GIFT programs begin?

Programs are scheduled to start in person in October of 2022 and run through the end of April. Registration opens in August at [www.guardian-angels.org](http://www.guardian-angels.org).

## How can I volunteer in GIFT?

We need a variety of adult and high school youth to help with our Faith Formation Programs. You do not need to be an expert in the Catholic Faith to help. We will support you, resource you, and help you grow in faith while serving our community! Please contact Paul Deziel for more information at [pdeziel@guardian-angels.org](mailto:pdeziel@guardian-angels.org) or **651-789-3178**.

## Questions?

If you have questions or would like to help us please contact Paul Deziel for teen and middle school programming at [pdeziel@guardian-angels.org](mailto:pdeziel@guardian-angels.org) or **651-789-3178** or Lukas Steffensmeier for First Reconciliation and First Communion at [lsteffensmeier@guardian-angels.org](mailto:lsteffensmeier@guardian-angels.org) or **651-789-3162** or Deb McMahon for Early Childhood at [dmcMahon@guardian-angels.org](mailto:dmcMahon@guardian-angels.org) or **651-789-3174**.

## PROGRAM COST

- Guardian Angels Parishioners: \$75 per family.
- Non-Parishioners: If Guardian Angels is not your parish, we ask for an additional \$125 to pay for staffing and resources.
- There is a late fee of \$35 per family after September 15.
- A 75% discount is offered to parents who volunteer in the programs.
- Free scholarships are available for families with limited means.

