

**St. Anthony of Padua
Faith Formation 2016-2017
First Communion Preparation**



Welcome to St. Anthony of Padua Faith Formation! We are excited to walk in faith with your child and family on this journey. The Sacraments are not individual awards. Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation are Sacraments of Initiation *into and celebration of the whole church* along with the family and the child. The Sacraments are primary means to build up the Catholic community and to experience true intentional discipleship. With this knowledge, we invite you to review the information provided. Then prayerfully decide if your child and family are ready to embark on this life long journey of faith formation.

WHAT SESSION DO WE NEED?

Resource Used	Age Group	Notes
Go Seek Find!	2 nd -5 th	Classes are offered on Sunday from 10:15-11:15 or Wednesday from 4:00pm-5:00pm.

EXPECTATIONS FOR SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Sacramental Preparation involves sacrifice. The catechists who prepare the lessons and teach the children give of their time, activities, and energy. Our families need to make commitments to ensure their children have a meaningful experience as they celebrate the sacraments. These sacrifices and offerings remind us how important the sacraments are, and how building the Kingdom of God requires a mature, sacrificial commitment for the sake of the Gospel. The following commitments are required for adequate sacrament preparation:

- **Family participation at Sunday (or Saturday Vigil) Mass.** Weekly Sunday Mass attendance is THE most essential component in a child’s religious formation in preparation for the sacraments. Sunday Mass attendance is the heart of who we are as Catholics. Children who do not attend Mass regularly may be delayed in receiving the sacraments. To encourage mass participation and stewardship, students will receive weekly envelopes for filling out and placing in the weekly mass collection. These envelopes are provided by the church and the cost included in the fee. We encourage all students to contribute whatever they can to help support their parish. This can be done in one of three ways:

Time	Talent	Treasure
<i>What have you given to God this week in SERVICE or devotion?</i>	<i>What ways have you shared the gifts God gave you to SERVE the community?</i>	<i>What financial treasure do you wish to GIVE this week?</i>

- **Attendance.** Children who miss more than three classes may be delayed in receiving sacraments. Promptness is appreciated by catechists and students.
- **Sacrament Retreats.** These parent/child retreats will be dynamic and enlightening and focus on the sacraments to help equip parents as the primary teachers of the faith in their homes. There will be an adult and child component.
- **Adult formation classes for parents/guardians of children to receive the sacraments of First Communion.** Parents/guardians attend four gatherings to be held simultaneously with the children.

FEES

Full payment is due at the time of registration. Payment includes the cost of all materials, supplies and retreat. Checks should be made payable to *St. Anthony of Padua Parish*. Payment arrangements can be made to accommodate those in need. **No student is denied instruction due to finances.**

One student	Two students	Three students	Four or more
\$125.00	\$150.00	\$175.00	\$20 each additional