

Saint Anthony of Padua

Children's Faith Formation Program

2017-18 Formation Year

St. Anthony Education Center

CFF Office

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Faith Formation: Knowledge, Experience & Community

We are committed to 'forming' a community of young disciples through a curriculum that is engaging and experiential as it develops their religious literacy and helps them integrate their Catholic faith into real life applications. We are committed to helping our young disciples 'form' a life long relationship with God and their church community by providing calls to prayer and outreach opportunities that reflect catholic social teaching.



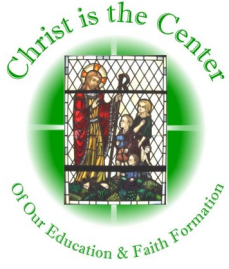
Heavenly Role Models: A Year With The Saints

Welcome to the Saint Anthony of Padua Children's Faith Formation Program! We are excited to begin this year of Faith Formation with your children and family. Please take note of a few reminders regarding this year and registration...

- Your child's experience in Faith Formation at Saint Anthony's is one that will guide them on their journey of faith in knowledge of Catholicism but also in building community with their classmates. **Your child's Faith Formation is our priority and their presence in the classroom is essential.**
- Re-registration forms were mailed in July. Current families with new students and new families enrolling their children can find all forms on the CFF webpage. Whether you are re-registering your child or are a new family joining CFF, we ask that you **complete and update your forms fully and clearly** so we can best serve your family and children throughout the year as we communicate with you and work with your children in the classroom.
- **Please provide a valid & current email address** that is most accessible to a parent/guardian in the 'Family Email' as CFF Updates and cancellations due to inclement weather will be sent via this email address.
- We will continue to use the **Alive in Christ** textbook series which invites our students into building a foundational knowledge of the Catholic faith and reflection on how actively live their faith in their parish, at home, with their peers, and in the local and global community. There are also many online resources to reinforce the concepts covered in their classes [<http://aliveinchrist.osv.com>]
- **Consider registering for our Kindergarten program!** Your child will love this introduction to the Catholic faith with a number of interactive activities designed for ages 5-6 with the Stories of God's Love series.
- Class assignments are on a **first come first served** basis with priority given to CFF volunteer families. Please register as soon as possible. All family members are assigned to the same session. If your first choice is unavailable, you will be contacted before being enrolled.
- **Interested in volunteering for CFF?** Take a look at the flip side of this form for more information!



"Everything that is illuminated becomes a light" [Ephesians 5:13]



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Quick Notes...

Session Options

Tuesday 4:30-6:00PM

Tuesday 6:30-8:00PM

Wednesday 4:30-6:00PM

CFF Year & Class Calendars will be available soon! Please check the CFF Webpage for updates!

Financial Assistance

Financial difficulties should not prevent you from registering your child for Faith Formation. Simply contact the CFF for further assistance.

Volunteer Opportunities

Please consider volunteering for one of these ministries in the CFF program!

*All volunteers must attend Faith Formation classes, Orientations and volunteer specific events throughout the year and must also attend Safe Environment Training and provide the necessary clearances in order to volunteer.

*Catechists and Assistants (age 18+) receive full tuition credit for their families.

*If you have a child grade 7 or older, encourage them to volunteer as a Teen Aide!

Catechists

The catechist is the 'classroom teacher'. He or she is responsible for developing weekly lesson plans which are based on Archdiocesan guidelines and supported by excellent teacher manuals and program resources. The program director handles all the groundwork by calendaring the session with a particular chapter and highlighting the key themes which are then presented to each catechist in an easy to follow binder. 'How to' meetings, workshops and courses are also available. Catechists are supported by the presence of an assistant and teen aide and can expect a class size of approximately 15-20 children.

Assistants

The assistant supports the catechist in the class room by completing administrative duties like attendance and homework as well as actively participating in group discussion, activities or projects. An active and involved assistant is invaluable to the catechist and the children.

Office Assistants

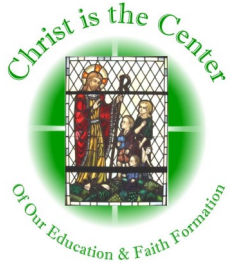
Office assistants handle attendance, office paperwork, closing announcements and dismissal. Office assistants free the program director to interact with the children during liturgical experiences and special activities.

Teen Aides (Grade 7 and older)

Teen aides are a wonderful addition to the CFF Program. Not only do they often assume assistant roles but they model faith in action for the younger children. They also provide invaluable one-on-one help.

We are currently in need of catechists, assistants, office assistants and teen aides especially for all CFF sessions!!

Contact the CFF Office to sign up as a volunteer!



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Registration Tips

1. **Complete all blanks** with information and **print clearly**.
2. A family **email address** is critical for CFF and Parish Flocknote updates and cancellations. If you wish to add an additional email attach the address with a note.
3. **Session times are assigned on a 'first come first serve' basis.** Afternoon sessions are popular. Please note that at Registration time there are often switches to a different day and time depending on family circumstances. Having always attended one time frame does not guarantee placement in that session again.
4. Because we are particularly considerate of our 4:30 session volunteers who work very hard to provide the best environment for children who are attending CFF after a long day at school, **we limit class sizes. Each grade levels maximum class size is based on the total number of children in that grade level.** Please consider registering for the 6:30 session this year. We have found that children at this time frame are often more attentive and participate more actively having had a respite from a long day at school along with dinner.
5. **Being in a carpool does not guarantee a desired session.** Please be sure all car pooling families register early.
6. **Please make CFF a priority when making a session choice.** Registering for a session and then continually being late, picking up early or missing several sessions can disrupt the very moments that would be of 'infinite' value to your child. **Session switches are often not possible once programs have begun.**
7. **Consider volunteering.** Many of our long time volunteers have 'graduated out of CFF'. We have an excellent program with an easy to follow curriculum, great support from the DRE and wonderful volunteers. Check out the chart on the flip side of the Program Overview and see where you can make a difference. **Children of volunteers attend CFF free of charge.**
8. Registration forms can be returned via mail, Rectory, CFF Office or they can be placed in the newly installed mailbox near the front door of the Education Center.
9. Thank you for your support.