

ST COLUMBAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

FAITH FORMATION & SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH



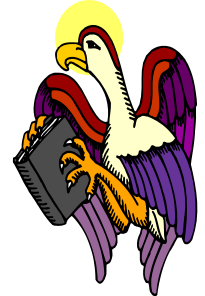
St. Mathew



St. Mark



St. Luke



St. John

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FAITH FORMATION

At St. Columban, we provide an opportunity for children and youth to learn about their Catholic faith and grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ through study, prayer, and community service.

We have Faith Formation classes available for every grade level!

Children ~ Grades K-5

Youth ~ Grades 6-12

Our curriculum, developed by the Archdiocese of Seattle, is built upon the four pillars of the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Recent revisions place an intentional focus on all dimensions of faith formation: knowledge of faith, liturgical life, moral formation, prayer, belonging to a community and the formation of a missionary spirit. The curriculum is very comprehensive.

Combined with the love and guidance of dedicated volunteer catechists, the children and youth learn to See as a Catholic, Celebrate as a Catholic and Live as a Catholic.

See our parent handbook for additional information about class times and policies.

Parents have the mission of teaching their children to pray and to discover their vocation as children of God. The parish is the Eucharistic community and the heart of the liturgical life of Christian families; it is a privileged place for the catechesis of children and parents.^[1]

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

The sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us.^[2]

- ✚ In **Confirmation** the baptized Christian is sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit and is strengthened for service to the Body of Christ
- ✚ **Reconciliation** is the sacrament by which sins committed after Baptism are forgiven.
- ✚ **Holy Communion** is the receiving of Jesus Christ body, blood, soul, and divinity in the Holy Eucharist.

Catechesis for these sacraments first begins in the family...

- ◆ Where love and forgiveness are modeled daily.
- ◆ And as participants in the Sunday Eucharist (Holy Mass) and in the life of the parish.



Christian Initiation (RCIA), adapted for Children & Youth (Ages 7+)

RCIA adapted for children ages 7+

The Christian Initiation of these children requires both a conversion that is both personal and adapted to their age, education or degree of social development. The process of initiation must also be adapted to both spiritual progress, that is to the children's growth in faith and the catechetical instruction they receive.

This program requires two years of formation here at St. Columban.

Read more about this program on our website saintcolumbanyelm.org/RCIA-for-Children.

First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion

Formal catechesis is a **two year** program.

- ◆ Formation begins in first grade.
- ◆ Must complete a full first year in first grade before advancing to year two.

Second Graders: Immediate preparation for First Communion normally occurs in the second grade after fulfilling year one in first grade.

Pre-teens and older teens are also invited to simultaneously prepare for Confirmation. Reception of the sacraments would be during the second full year of preparation.

Baptism, the Eucharist, and the sacrament of Confirmation together constitute the "sacraments of Christian initiation," whose unity must be safeguarded... the reception of the sacrament of Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace. For "by the sacrament of Confirmation, [the baptized] are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit."^[3]

Confirmation

Strengthening our youth with the gifts of The Holy Spirit!

In the Archdiocese of Seattle, Confirmation is given in the 7th grade. Preparation for Confirmation is a **two year program**. Our program is structured with preparation beginning in the 6th Grade. Older teens are welcome to enroll and prepare for Confirmation.

A main part of the journey towards the Sacrament of Confirmation is establishing a sense of community among the youth. They will be expected to attend and/or volunteer for various ministries and participate in Youth Ministry activities over the course of the **two years of Confirmation prep**.

YOUTH MINISTRY

For all students grades 6-12. Activities, retreats, bible Studies, and social event times vary throughout the year. Additional fees may be required for activities held outside the parish.

Our Youth Ministry Values at St. Columban

1. Our primary identity is as beloved sons and beloved daughters of God, no matter what. You are here because God wanted you here. Willing our existence, God create each of us out of love to love and for love.
2. We glorify God by striving to fully live our state in life. God gave us families and communities where we learn our faith, pray for each other's needs, and build virtue together as members of his Church, the Body of Christ.
3. As pilgrims on a journey together we are always on mission. We attend Holy Mass and receive the sacraments to better endure the trials of life, train us to be of service to one another, and to prepare us for eternal life in Heaven.

Student Registration Fees

\$50.00 for one (1) student.

\$75.00 for two (2) students

\$100.00 for three (3) or more children in the same family

Additional Sacramental Preparation Fees

(to be paid in year 1)

\$20.00 - 1st reconciliation/1st Eucharist

\$30.00 - Confirmation Prep

Fees are used to cover the costs of textbooks and other catechetical items.



For more information or to register for classes contact the Parish Office

parishoffice@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Citations are from the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) [1] cf. 2226, [2][3] 1285, [4] 774