



**HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
505 17<sup>th</sup> Street Southeast, Auburn, Washington 98002

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Dear Families,

The time has arrived to register preschool through fifth grade children in our faith formation programs for the 2023-2024 school year. These classes provide teaching on the Catholic faith, community building through prayer and class discussions, while supporting you in your promise made at Baptism to raise them as active members of the Church. In addition, our Wednesday evening classes for grades first and up fulfill requirements for our sacrament preparation program as well. Our team of volunteer catechists and myself cannot wait to serve your children for another year of spiritual growth.

**WEDNESDAY CLASSES:** Classes for children ages three through grade five will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30PM-7:45PM beginning September 20<sup>th</sup>. A parent or guardian will need to walk students from the parking lot to the church breezeway glass doors on 17<sup>th</sup> Street where they will be checked in with the Program Director or Administrative Assistant. They will then be directed to their designated class seating area in the church to wait prayerfully with their catechist until group prayer begins. At the end of class at 7:45pm, parents will pick up the children from their designated classrooms and sign them out with their catechists.

**PARENT PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS (NEW this year!):** In order to better make the connection between our church program and your family we will be trying some new things this year. 1) On our opening night, September 20<sup>th</sup> parents will be asked to stay through our opening prayer and for a brief parent orientation meeting after the children have gone to class. 2) In addition, each family will need to pick one Wednesday night per child to sign up a parent/guardian to attend class as observers. On your night the parent will be asked to stay for the duration of the class with the child. Catechists will have sign up sheets available at drop off and pick up times each Wednesday for this opportunity.

**FIRST SACRAMENTS PREPARATION:** Our sacrament preparation program is a two-year commitment with children receiving their sacraments at the end of the second year. If you have or know a child entering first grade or higher that is in need of the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist/Communion, please register them in Wednesday classes. All classes during both years of preparation are required and will need to be made up if missed. There will be no separate Sunday preparation classes for children needing sacraments in 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade this school year, they just need to attend Wednesdays.

**REGISTRATION:** We have just started using a new software at Holy Family Parish for parishioner engagement. This year's Faith Formation class registration is a set of online forms found here: <https://archseattle.cbchurch.com/goto/forms/665/responses/new> or by scanning the QR code on the postcard you may receive. You will first fill out a parent information form and once submitted you will be given the link for the child form, both as a pop up screen and in an email. Please fill out a separate child form for each child you are registering on Wednesdays. Only one parent form is needed for all children you are registering. If you need assistance in filling out the online registration, please contact me via phone or email. Registration help will also be available at our registration event Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-7:00PM for Preschool-5<sup>th</sup> grade in the Parish Center or after masses the weekends of August 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> and September 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>.

**FEES:** The 2023-2024 fee for Wednesday classes is \$50 per child for all children in preschool through fifth grade. In January, there will be an additional fee of \$40 and an additional registration form for students receiving First Reconciliation and First Eucharist this school year. If there are any concerns regarding the fees, please contact me via phone or email to discuss. Payments can be made in person or via mail using cash or check, or using online payment through our parish online giving platform at <https://www.osvhub.com/holyfamilyauburn/funds>.

**VOLUNTEERS:** The success of our program relies on the help of many volunteers and we are still in need of help. Please consider volunteering your time with our program. We are currently searching for one more lead teacher/catechist to teach our older elementary students who have received their sacraments already-this is going to be a fun class to teach! We also need a few more assistants and substitutes.

All communications including registration, calendars, and the latest information about our programs is available at our parish website, [www.holyfamilyauburn.org](http://www.holyfamilyauburn.org). Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns, otherwise we will see you on September 20<sup>th</sup> before 6:30PM!

God Bless,

Lindsay Carter

Program Director-Children's Ministry

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