

# CATECHUMENATE FOR CHILDREN / TEENS



Our Logo, the sunflower, tells who we are. Just as the sunflower turns each day toward Our Source of Life, The Son, we are learning to follow God each day in our journey toward the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist (First communion) and beyond into on-going participation in the life of the Catholic Church.

We are a group of children and their parents who meet together every Sunday morning (except during July) to learn what it means to be a Catholic Christian, so that we are freely and intelligently able to make the decision of how we want to live our lives for God. High-schoolers meet on Sunday afternoons from 3:00 pm until 4:45 pm and then attend 5:00 pm Mass and all the Life Teen activities which follow as part of their preparation.

We take up to two years preparing to celebrate the Sacraments of initiation—Baptism, confirmation, and Holy Eucharist, either at the Easter Vigil or at a Rite of Full communion (if we are already baptized).

The Catechumenate for Children/Teens, which is an Adaptation of the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A.) is the process by which unbaptized young people of the age of reason come into The Church. (Infant Baptism is only for those children under the age of reason, i.e., those who cannot read, according to Father Ron Krisman, an expert on R.C.I.A. who wrote much of the Rite of Christian Initiation.)

Older children who are already baptized, but who are uncatechized, also can prepare to celebrate the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist together with their peers during the Easter Vigil or at a Rite of Full Communion.

PARENTS: if you have a child between six and eighteen years old who is:

1. Unbaptized; or
2. Baptized in another Christian tradition and now wants to be a Catholic; or
3. Baptized in the Catholic Church, but has had little or no Religious Education, training, catechism classes, etc. And wants to celebrate First Communion;

Then the Catechumenate for Children/Teens is the place for your young person. (And for you, if you want to help your child grow into a relationship with Jesus.)

Please call **Anne Kemper** in the **Faith formation Office** for an interview appointment or just for a phone visit. The phone number is 494-7434 ext. 329.

High-schoolers may contact **Cindy Hamilton** in the **Youth Ministry Office** at 494-1959 ext. 331.