

Gather & Grow: A Family Catechesis Program

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

To register for this program, the family must be registered active members of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, attend weekly Mass and share their time and talents within our parish community.

Mission Statement & Goal:

Gather & Grow is a faith formation program that meets monthly from September through May in which the primary family faith formation educators of the children are the parents. The Gather & Grow approach involves the whole family. The entire family joins other families for monthly sessions at the parish to learn and grow further in their faith. This program gives parents the opportunity to learn together with their children by providing activities and resources to help families celebrate our rich Catholic traditions and rituals, learn to pray together, serve others, work for justice, and enrich their relationships as a family.

Session Outline:

Each session starts with a shared light snack, opening prayer and simple activity. The children are dismissed to their grade level catechists while parents have the opportunity to learn together. Parents are expected to fully participate by giving their undivided attention to the speakers, DVD presentations, discussions, etc. Parents and children continue faith sharing at home with lessons to work on together during the other three weeks of the month when Gather & Grow doesn't meet. Completed packets are then returned to the next month's session.

Participation is also expected at the monthly service projects, prayer services (including reconciliations), liturgies and other events in the life of the church.

This program may not be for you if.....

- You know your family will be out of town on one or more of the dates classes are scheduled.
- You can not commit as a family to completing the monthly at home session packets on a weekly schedule.
- Your entire family cannot commit to once a month Friday evening sessions.
- Friday night sports or other activities take first priority over a 90 minute once a month faith formation class.
- You do not feel equipped to prepare your child for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Communion (*all materials will be provided for you*).

Attendance Policy: *(Please see separate link for detailed attendance policy)*

Attendance by parents and their children in grades PK-6th at monthly sessions is mandatory.