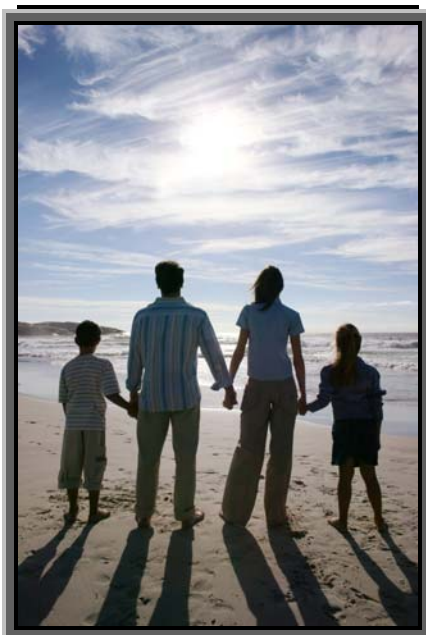


Youth Programs

Grades 7 and 8 meet on designated Wednesdays from 7:00pm to 8:30pm September to May.

Grade 9 Confirmation Class meets on designated Sunday evenings from 7:00pm to 8:30pm September to May. Students continue to meet during the fall of **Grade 10** at which time they will be confirmed.

Family and Church



Partners in Faith Formation

Family Formation **Survey Comments from Parents**

I want to let you know that when we started last Fall, I was very unsure what to expect and considered placing my children elsewhere for their Religious education. I am glad I was wrong. I am glad that I have taken on the role of their primary educator. We are closer to God and I am very pleased.

The adult teachings were presented in a relaxed atmosphere.

The Speakers offered us their personal experience when speaking on their topics.

I learned a lot about my faith.

We are all more excited about our faith. It has changed our lives.

We Loved the activities.

Family Formation helps us to make Jesus more central and not just on Sundays.

My children's response to the classes was pure excitement!

I would like to thank you for your time and effort that you have done this year. It has been an enjoyable experience for my family. We appreciate it. We look forward to next year.

Youth Faith Formation Programs

763-788-9062 Ext. 210
mnawrocki@immac-church.org



“Let the coming generation be told of the Lord that they may proclaim to a people yet to be born the justice God has shown.”

Psalm 22:31-32

Church of the Immaculate Conception
4030 Jackson Street N.E.
Columbia Heights, MN 55421
763-788-9062
www.immac-church.org

Family Formation

The mission of *Family Formation* is to help parents respond to the Church's call to be "the first and foremost educators of their children."* At Immaculate Conception Parish it is our purpose to aid families as they grow in their love and knowledge of the Catholic Faith. *Gravissimum Educationis, 3

The **Family Formation Program** is for Kindergarten through Grade 6. Parents and Children meet on the first Wednesday of the month from 6:30pm to 8:00pm September to June.

This program was developed by the Church of Saint Paul in Ham Lake, MN, "*Family Formation* is a unique family catechesis program which promotes parents as the primary educators of their children in the Catholic Faith. *Family Formation* is a tried-and-true curriculum developed by regular parents with normal family lives. The materials are engaging, down-to-earth, and easy to understand. Through games, quizzes, stories, and music, solid Catholic teaching is transmitted, and the Faith is brought to life within the family. Since its beginning, *Family Formation* has grown to serve thousands of families all over the United States and Canada."

Family Formation:

- teaches the three-year liturgical cycle
- incorporates Sacred Scripture
- faithful to the teaching of the Catholic Church.
- Approved by the imprimatur of Archbishop Harry Flynn of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

At Immaculate Conception we are dedicated to the formation of faith life by being partners with parents in the education of children within their families.

It is in the family that the truths of faith and living of love are experienced by the children. As stated in the document *Lumen Gentium*, "*The family is a domestic church.*"

In *Familiaris Consortio*, we read "*The right and duty of parents to give education is essential original and primary ... and it is irreplaceable and incapable of being entirely delegated to others.*"

Therefore, at Immaculate Conception we take seriously the mandates of the Church Documents to be partners with families in the religious education of their children.

Children learn, retain and practice their Catholic faith as modeled by their parents. We, as educators, provide the teachings to parents at the Parent Meetings while Catechists teach the children their Lessons in grade-level classrooms.

The Home Lessons are clear and engaging. At the Parent Meetings, parents are provided with a walk-through of the Lessons. Also, a Speaker does a presentation related to the Month's focus on a topic.

Home Lessons include:

- Hands-on activities
- Memory verses
- Audio CDs
- Stories
- Games
- Seasonal booklets

Sacramental Preparation

Students (Second Graders) preparing for **First Reconciliation** and **First Holy Communion** meet at the same classroom time as regular *Family Formation* students. They are on a separate track concentrating on their preparation for one of these sacraments. Each sacramental prep student receives a *Family Formation* workbook containing Home Lessons to do with their parents the other three weeks each month. They prepare for their First Reconciliation during the fall semester and after receiving that sacrament, they prepare to receive their First Holy Communion in the spring. After that the Second Graders re-enter the *Family Formation* program for the balance of the year.



Baptism

Preparation for parents requesting the Baptism of their child is held on the third Tuesday of each month September through July from 7:30pm to 9:00pm. Baptisms are celebrated after the 10:00am Mass on the first Sunday of the month (except during Lent).