

Greetings from the Office of Faith Formation at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Community!

I am writing to you today because you have a child who will be in the first grade this fall. ***Typically, we prepare our children for the Sacrament of Eucharist in the second grade.***

**The Archdiocese of Milwaukee requires
that all children who wish to prepare for a sacrament
must have actively participated in a Faith Formation program
the year of, and the year prior to receiving the sacrament.**

What does that mean at Our Lady of Lourdes?

If your child and you have faithfully attended our GIFT program* when your child was in K4-5, then you are already familiar with this approach to Faith Formation.

If you have not yet experienced this program, now is the time to get started!

In either case, we invite you to join us this year, so that your child is on track for Sacrament Preparation. I am enclosing a schedule on the back of this letter and a description of GIFT. You may register for GIFT on-line by clicking on the *Ministries* tab on our website, (<http://www.ololmke.org>) and clicking on GIFT (*Faith Formation*) or by typing this address in your web browser: <http://www.ololmke.org/gift/>

After you look this over, please feel free to contact me with any questions.

I look forward to seeing you on September 12, 2021, at *GIFT!*

Peace & God Bless You,

Steve Szymanski
Director of Child Ministries/Social Justice
414-545-4316 x 127
szymanskis@ololmke.org

Nancie Chmielewski
Parish Director/Our Lady of Lourdes
414-545-4316
chmielewskin@ololmke.org

*GIFT—Generations in Faith Together is our Formation Program. It is an intergenerational program that meets 12 times between September and April/May. Each session includes an all-ages activity, and age appropriate learning for the children and adults. This program includes children through senior citizens and has proved to be a rich way of passing on the faith.