Class Session Days & Times

Sundays 8:45-10:00am
- Pre-Kindergarten (3s & 4s) – 5th grade
Sundays 10:45am-12:00pm
- Pre-Kindergarten (3s & 4s) – 5th grade
Tuesdays 5:00-6:15pm
- Kindergarten – 5th grade
Wednesdays 5:30-6:45pm
- Kindergarten – 5th grade

Classes begin September and meet weekly until April or May, depending on the session. Please see the calendar on the SJN website for exact dates.

Questions? Contact us!

Megan Gibson 703-860-6156
Coordinator of Faith Formation PreK – 5th
gibson@saintjn.org

Mickie Abatemarco 703-390-2340
Director of Faith Formation
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Silvia Bustamante 703-860-6147
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Betsy Puzzanghero 703-860-6155
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Learning isn't one way – I learn so much from the children about my own faith, it really is a blessing.

Ed Walsh, 2nd Grade Catechist
What is a catechist?

A catechist for St. John Neumann’s PreK – 5th grade program is someone who teaches children the Catholic faith in a classroom setting.

What are the requirements?

- You DO NOT have to have any teaching experience to be a catechist.
- You DO NOT need to have a background in theology.
- You DO have to be a member of the parish.
- You DO have to be compliant with the Diocese of Arlington Protecting God’s Children program.
- You DO have to be a practicing Catholic and have a desire to share God’s love with the children of SJN!

What are the expectations?

- To bring the love and joy of God into your classroom!
- To be committed to your class session.
- To be able to create and teach a lesson each week for your grade level using materials provided and with guidance from the coordinator.
- To have a basic understanding of classroom management.

Once I sign up, what comes next?

- You will be assigned a class based on your preference of day, time, and grade. Each class has between 10 – 15 students. You will also be paired with another catechist.
- You will be given a catechist guide book and benchmarks to help plan your lessons. You will also have access to our Catechist Library and Catechist Supply Closet.
- If you have not completed the Protecting God’s Children paperwork or VIRTUS Training, you will need to complete those before beginning the year.
- All catechists will be asked to attend an introductory meeting in the beginning of the year, as well as two catechist training nights throughout the year.

I want to volunteer, but I cannot commit to every week. Can I still help?

Good news! You can still help – as a substitute catechist! We are in need of volunteers who will be on our official substitute list in case one of our regular catechists cannot make class. You will not be expected to write a lesson plan, but will be available to fill in if needed. The requirements to be a sub are the same as a catechist.

I’m interested! How can I sign up?

If you are interested in volunteering with our Faith Formation Program, there are two ways you can sign up!

1. Use this link to complete the form online:  
   https://forms.gle/qxm1DnrssPaQrl2x9

OR

2. Email Megan Gibson, Children’s Faith Formation Coordinator, to receive the form via email: mgibson@saintjn.org

We will then use your responses on the interest form to best fit your talents and schedule with our volunteer needs.

THANK YOU for your interest in sharing your time and talents with the children of our parish!

For more information about St. John Neumann’s Faith Formation Programs, please visit our website at:  
www.saintjn.org