

Religious Education at St. John XXIII 2021-22

Despite challenges and restrictions over the winter we were able to keep up in-person Catechism classes this year. Sacramental classes met twice a month at the parish. Other students met once a month at the church and were encouraged to complete additional activities at home with their parents. Parents received a monthly email with a parent's teaching and ideas of activities to do at home.

We switched curriculums this year from Finding God by Loyola Press to A Family of Faith from the Sophia Institute. This is a more family friendly curriculum with a parent's book to support learning at home. Even though we are returning to weekly classes at the parish next year we will continue to use A Family of Faith as Catechists reported it being more user friendly and accessible for the students.

Confirmation

Confirmation preparation this year consisted of monthly small group meetings using YDisciple on FORMED and monthly Youth nights where students attended the Saturday vigil Mass together before or after class. A big thank you to all our small group leaders who accompanied the teens so well this year.

39 students from C21 and C22 attended the three day Kairos Retreat in October. A huge thank you to Mary Bernasconi and the Kairos team for persevering and providing this opportunity for the students despite the challenges and restrictions.

22 students from C22 received their Confirmation on May 14th in a beautiful ceremony celebrated by Abbé Thierry Schelling.

First Holy Communion

36 children received their First Holy Communion over the past few weeks at the parish. Classes took place twice a month and we finished the year with a formative and fun First Communion Retreat day on April 30th. Thank you to all the First Communion team for their hard work this year.

First Reconciliation

48 students celebrated their First Reconciliation on two Saturday mornings in May. Thank you to our First Reconciliation coordinator Fedora Leon and all the Catechists who prepared the children so well.

Looking forward...

Next year we hope to return to weekly Sunday morning classes for all Catechism students. Registration is now open on the parish website.

For further information contact Anna Berkeley, Director of Religious Education - dre@johnxxiii.ch