



Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church  
1914 Ridgeview Dr.  
Allen, Texas 75013

April 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Middle School Youth Ministry! Registration for 2017-2018 faith formation is here. In this packet, you will find:

- Information on **youth ministry** opportunities for youth.
- Information on the middle school curriculum for **faith formation**.
- **Confirmation** information – please read.

The registration process is as follows:

- **Pre-Registration: Begins April 23** – Open to children of adults who sign-up to volunteer as catechists.
- **Registration: Begins May 7** – Open to all parishioners and children who were registered in OLA faith formation in 2015-2016 as well as children of adults who sign-up as catechists.
- **Open Registration: Begins June 1** – Open to all parishioners as well as non-parishioners.
- **Please register by August 1** in order to give staff and volunteers adequate time to prepare. By honoring this date, your considerateness of our time and efficiency is greatly appreciated.
- For every 12 youth in each grade, 2 adult catechists are needed. ALL middle school youth will be put on a waiting list in the order in which their registration forms are received. For every 2 cleared adults who commit to be a catechist on a given day in a given grade, the next 12 youth registered for that day, in that grade, will come off the waiting list.
- Day changes can be made, but there's no guarantee of space. Example: You register your child in May for Monday. In late August, you need to switch to Sunday at 3. Your child's name will be placed at the bottom of the waiting list for Sunday at 3.

Registration for ALL faith formation is online. To register, go to [www.knowgrowgo.com](http://www.knowgrowgo.com). Look for the icon that says "Click Here."

Our mission is to "Form disciples who KNOW Jesus, GROW in their faith and GO share the love of God with others." We aim to provide quality faith formation and youth ministry opportunities. For the annual registration, a fee of \$95 per child/teen with a maximum of \$285 per family is requested. However, we will always provide full and partial scholarships to families with financial hardships.

If you have any questions regarding Middle School Youth Ministry, please contact me.

Peace,

Sheila Tullier  
Director of Youth Ministry  
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# Our Lady of Angels Youth Confirmation



## Confirmation Preparation

Confirmation is the third sacrament of initiation where we, as Catholics, are given a “special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never to be ashamed of the Cross” (CCC#1303).

Preparation strives to “awaken a sense of belonging to the Church of Jesus” and aims to “lead the Christian toward a more intimate union with Christ and a more lively familiarity with the Holy Spirit” (CCC#1309).

Our Confirmation Preparation process is more than a ‘program,’ it is about forming young people to grow as active disciples of Jesus and develop a sense of belonging to the Church.

## A Two Year Preparation Process

*Our bishop is tasked with the responsibility to help his flock grow in their faith, so he asks all Diocese of Dallas parishes to provide two years of preparation for those seeking to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.*

## Preparation looks like this:

- 6<sup>th</sup> grade – Foundational formation & catechesis
- 7<sup>th</sup> grade – Year 1 Confirmation Preparation
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade – Year 2 Confirmation Preparation & Continuing Discipleship
- 9<sup>th</sup> grade & Beyond – Continuing Discipleship

However, we recognize that for a variety of reasons there will be unconfirmed high school teens seeking to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and 8<sup>th</sup> graders who did not participate in the Year 1 preparation the previous year.

So, if a teen doesn't fit into the norm stated above, how do you know what “year” of preparation he or she should be in?

## What year to register for?

### Year 1 Confirmation Preparation:

- Any 7th grader.
- Any 8<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> grader who did not participate in Confirmation Year 1 last school year.
- Special: Contact us if you are a high school senior or older and were not in Year 1 last school year.

### Year 2 Confirmation Preparation:

- For all 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders who participated in Year 1 preparation last year, you are ready for Year 2.
- Special: Contact us if a youth participated in a formation program at another parish last year, to determine equivalence.

The **Catechism** states: *A candidate for Confirmation who has attained the age of reason must profess the faith, be in a state of grace, have the intention of receiving the sacrament, and be prepared to assume the role of a disciple and witness to Christ, both within the ecclesial community (parish) and in temporal affairs (life outside of the parish – school, home, civic community). CCC#1319*

Please put the dates listed below on your calendar as applicable:

## Year 1 Confirmation Preparation Events

Some events have more than one option. Attendance is expected.

Event	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
<b>Yr. 1 Parent/Youth Meeting</b> (parents & Year 1 teens)	Wed., Aug. 30, 2017 7-8:30 pm		
<b>Day of Reflection 1</b> (parents & Year 1 teens)	Sat., Apr. 21, 2018, 9:15am – 12:15pm		
<b>Rite of Welcome</b> (parents & Year 1 teens)	Apr. 21, 2018, 5:00pm Mass	Apr. 22, 2018, 11:00am Mass	Apr. 22, 2018, 5:00pm Mass

## Year 2 Confirmation Preparation Events

Some events have more than one option. Attendance is expected.

Event	Option 1	Option 2
<b>Yr. 2 Parent/Youth Meeting</b> (parents & Year 2 teens )	Tues., Sept. 19, 2017 7-8:30 pm	
<b>Day of Reflection 2</b> (parents & Year 2 teens)	Sat., Jan. 20, 2018, 9:15 am-12:15 pm	
<b>Rehearsal &amp; Final Reflection</b> (parents, sponsors, & Year 2 teens)	Sat., Feb. 17, 2018, 10:30am- noon (for 1:30 mass)	Sat., Feb. 17, 2018, 1:30-3 pm (for 5:00 mass)
<b>Confirmation Mass</b> (parents, sponsor, & Year 2 teens)	Sun., Feb. 18, 2018, 1:30 pm (Arrive at 1:00 pm)	Sun., Feb. 18, 2018, 5:00 pm (Arrive at 4:30 pm)

Also plan to...

**Participate in 2 Retreats**, by grade, one in Year 1, and one in Year 2:

- 7<sup>th</sup> graders – Awakening Retreat at The Pines Catholic Camp, October 13-15, 2017 (\$185)
- 8<sup>th</sup> graders – Spirit Retreat at Camp Copass, November 3-5, 2017 (\$150)
- 9<sup>th</sup> graders – Action Retreat at Our Lady of Angels, Sept. 2-4, 2017 (\$100)
- 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders – Antioch Retreat at Camp Copass, March 23-25, 2018 (\$150)

\*\*Full and partial financial aid is available to anyone who needs it and asks.

**Experience the Foot S.T.E.P.S of a Disciple**, throughout the two-year process:

- Serve in Ministry and Missions
- Tithe through sacrificial giving
- Engage in faith formation and small group relationships (80%+ attendance expected):
  - 7th & 8th graders – MS Faith Formation (Sun or Mon)
  - 9th - 12th graders – Youth Night &/or Bible Study (Sun or Wed)
- Practice Prayer and the Sacraments
- Share the Gospel



**Mission:**

*Form disciples*

**Vision:**

*OLA YM is forming disciples who KNOW Jesus, GROW in their faith, and GO share the love of God with others.*

**Foot S.T.E.P.S. of a Disciple**

1. **Serve in ministry and missions:** Form ACTIVE Disciples - *"Love one another" John 13:34*

Goals:

- i. Identify and appreciate the gifts, passions and personality God has given you
- ii. Identify what types of service you are passionate about (working with children or the elderly, the poor, the lonely, the environment, etc.)
- iii. Share your gifts, time and talents inside (ministry) and outside (mission) the parish walls

2. **Tithe through sacrificial giving:** Form TRUSTWORTHY Disciples - *"Blessing without measure"*

*Malachi 3:10*

Goals:

- i. Understand that tithing means giving 10% of your earnings
- ii. Understand that tithing is an important sign of your trust in God
- iii. Practice offering money to God and noticing how God blesses you

3. **Engage in formation & small-group relationships:** Form RELATIONAL Disciples - *"Unity of the spirit" Ephesians 4:3*

Goals:

- i. Have friends at church with whom you feel comfortable sharing fun and faith
- ii. Have adults at church with whom you feel comfortable talking to, asking questions about faith and discussing the faith
- iii. Grow in your understanding of the faith and how to keep growing

4. **Practice prayer and the sacraments:** Form DEEPER Disciples - *"Pray without ceasing." 1*

*Thessalonians 5:17*

Goals:

- i. Weekly participation in mass
- ii. Explore different ways of praying and pray daily
- iii. Have a deep, personal relationship with Jesus

5. **Share the Gospel:** Form BOLD Disciples - *"Be an instrument of salvation" Acts 13:47*

Goals:

- i. Get to know the people around you by listening to them and putting their needs first; building trusting relationships
- ii. Pray for a specific person who does not have a relationship with Christ
- iii. Explain your faith to someone with whom you have a trusting relationship

