



**FIDE**

***Formation In Discipleship &  
Evangelization***



## **What to Expect**

### **PG. 2 A new approach**

This year we will be taking a New Approach to Faith Formation that is focused on the Home.

### **PG. 3 Sacramental Accountability Partner (SAP)/Director of Evangelization**

We will begin a family SAP system that will allow the catechetical formation process to go smoother.

### **PG. 4 How is this going to work?**

In this section, we will explain how we are going to help provide the means to make catechetical formation easier and more meaningful. The registration process can be found here as well.

### **PG. 5 What about Sacramental prep?**

Here we will explain the new process for Confirmation and First Communion.

*“The home is well  
suited  
for education in  
the  
virtues”  
(CCC 2223)*

## ***New Approach***

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This year we want to take a new approach to Faith Formation that is more in line with the Catholic Church's teachings on education. The core of this new approach is based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church's teaching that, "Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children" (CCC 2223). Parents, according to the Catholic Church, have the role of primary educators to their children especially when it comes to faith. We have come to realize that Faith Formation, as we have been doing it, has taken this responsibility away from the parents. The classroom curriculum for one hour a week has not given your children the proper formation needed to embrace and live out the Catholic faith. To embrace and live out the faith, one needs to experience it daily and see it as the center of their life and not just part of it.

Therefore, at Sacred Heart we have decided to give back to the parents what rightfully belongs to them. What does this mean? Simply put, the focus of our formation will no longer be toward children, but empowering parents to educate their children. Our hope is that by taking this approach we are not only helping your children grow in the Catholic faith, but your whole family. We are calling this new endeavor, *FIDE* (Formation in Discipleship & Evangelization). Fide is Latin for faith, which is what we are trying to help you and your family grow in, so that you may become greater disciples of Jesus Christ. *FIDE* is not limited to families with young children, but designed for families with children of all ages. Additionally, *FIDE* is not limited to just families with children, but is meant to assist the whole parish community at Sacred Heart in the endeavor to grow in the Catholic faith. That being said, in the following pages you will find how we, at Sacred Heart, intend to help our parishioners grow in faith and how to register for *FIDE*.





*“Through the grace of the sacrament of marriage, parents receive the responsibility and privilege of evangelizing their children” (CCC 2225).*

***Director of Evangelization/  
SAP (Sacramental  
Accountability Partner)***

We know that educating your children in the faith is no easy task and become daunting and overwhelming. However, we are here to accompany you on this journey. We have come up with two ways to help make this experience easier and more fruitful.

***Director of Evangelization:***

We have recently hired a Director of Evangelization, EJ Cerdeiras, who will take over the catechesis of the parish this year. His role is to provide resources to make the faith education of your children easier at home. Here are some things the Director of Evangelization will be providing:

- A monthly catechetical resource booklet titled “Heart & Soul”
- Resources to help you educate your children
- Educational events for parents, children and the entire parish
- Personal guidance and support

The contact information for the Director of Evangelization can be found on page 6.

***SAP (Sacramental Accountability Partner):***

The second way we intend to offer assistance to parents is by providing each family a SAP (Sacramental Accountability Partner). The SAP will be a resource to you and your family. The goal of a SAP is to help families stay on track, persevere through hard times, and provide advice and guidance when needed. All SAPs are required to be practicing Catholic, members of the Sacred Heart Parish, and *Virtus* Certified so that we can ensure you and your family are in good hands.

## ***How will this work?***

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**Description:** In trying to provide clarity as to how *FIDE* will work this year, you will find a step-by-step summary of the process below. Also, go to our FAQ page if you would like more information on the changes for this year (see page 6 on how to access the FAQ page).

### ***How to Register:***

**Step 1. Register in the Parish Office.** During registration, the Director of Evangelization will have a short meeting with you about the process, what the expectations/requirements are, and your Sacramental Accountability Partner (SAP).

***You must bring the following for the children in your family in order to register: birth certificate, Baptism certificate, and First Communion certificate (if applicable).***

**Requirement:** While the implementation of *FIDE* will be up to you and your family, we are requiring that by signing up for *FIDE*, you and your family commit to following the Precepts of the Catholic Church.

### ***The 5 Precepts of the Church:***

- 1. Attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation***
- 2. Confession of serious sin at least once a year***
- 3. Reception of Holy Communion at least once a year during the Easter season***
- 4. Observance of the days of fast and abstinence***
- 5. Providing for the needs of the Church***

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that the Precepts are, “meant to guarantee to the faithful the very necessary minimum in the spirit of prayer and moral effort, in the growth in love of God and neighbor” (2041). By requiring all who sign up for *FIDE* to follow the Precepts of the Church, we are embracing the Church’s mission to lead the faithful into a deeper relationship with God through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

**Step 2. You will then select a SAP.** You will be able to choose your own SAP as long as they meet the requirements found on page 3. In the case that you cannot find a SAP we will assist in providing one for you. After choosing your SAP please inform the Director of Evangelization who your SAP is. You will not be signed up for *FIDE* until your SAP’s name is sent to the Director of Evangelization.

**Step 3. Optional:** Set goals with Director of Evangelization and SAP

**After Registration:** You will then be provided a “Heart and Soul: Monthly Catechetical Resource” booklet. These booklets can also be accessed on our website. Each month will focus on a different topic and provide resources that will help you and your family come to further know and live out the Catholic Faith at home.

## ***What about Sacramental Prep for 2023?***

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***Who is eligible to receive the Sacrament of First Communion?:***

- ***Those who are Baptized and are of the age of 6 by January 1<sup>st</sup>***

***Who is eligible to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?:***

- ***Those who are Baptized, have received First Communion, and are of the age of 12 by January 1<sup>st</sup>***

Sacramental preparation will be included in signing up for FIDE. In the “Heart and Soul: Monthly Catechetical Resource” included in FIDE there will be months dedicated to the Sacraments which can be helpful in preparing your child for the reception of the Sacrament. That being said, the Church is responsible to ensure that your child has been properly prepared to receive the Sacraments. Therefore, you will find below the requirements and steps that need to take place before your child can receive the Sacrament.

***Below you will find the formal process for First Communion and Confirmation sign-up:***

***Step 1.*** Register for *FIDE* and fulfill all requirements for FIDE as stated in the steps on page 4. In meeting with the Director of Evangelization you will discuss the following:

***Step 2.*** Fill out an application to receive the Sacrament. Applications will be available online from October 3<sup>rd</sup> and end December 9<sup>th</sup> on our website.

***Step 3.*** After the application is complete, you will be contacted to set up an interview with a Sacred Heart staff member to discuss whether your child is prepared/desires to receive the Sacrament.

\*The child receiving the Sacrament, at least one parent, and the Family’s SAP must be present at the interview.

***Step 4 (a):*** If it is determined that your child is prepared and desires to receive the Sacrament, your child will officially become a candidate for the Sacrament. You will receive a calendar of events and additional information.

***Step 4 (b):*** If it is determined that your child is not prepared for and/or does not desire to receive the Sacrament, you will be asked to participate in *FIDE* for another year and apply to receive the Sacrament in 2024.



# Resource Page

To access our [FAQ](#) page, a list of what you need for FIDE registration, description of SAP, and more, please go to our website. Follow the instruction below, or access these sources by scanning the QR Code Below.

Step 1: Open Website: [SalisburyCatholic.org](http://SalisburyCatholic.org)

Step 2: Go to the “Sacraments” drop down tap

Step 3: Select “*FIDE*”

Step 4: Links for *FIDE* Information will be available here for your use.



***For more information contact the  
Director of Evangelization***

Name– EJ Cerdeiras

Phone- (704)633-0591 ex. 114

Email– [ecerdeiras@shcatholic.org](mailto:ecerdeiras@shcatholic.org)

Office Hours– M-F 8am-4pm



*“Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.”*

*Prov. 22:6*