

HFkids Small Groups

Welcome!

We are so happy to be partnering with you and your child on this new faith journey!

What are Kids Small Groups?

Small Groups are groups of 6-10 kids and a group leader who meet together each week and grow in discipleship and friendship. HFkids Small Groups will help kids learn who God is, how He wants us to live and help them to view everything in their lives through their relationship with Jesus. The format of each session is simple; each week we will pray, listen to a short Bible story with a relevant message and then break into Small Groups for guided discussions. All of our small group leaders & catechists have been fully screened through a program in place by the Archdiocese of Toronto. Our Small Group curriculum for the year will be broken down into "Message Series". We will provide you with an outline at the start of each Message Series which includes a 'Challenge' for you to help your child live the message each week. (You will find our first Message Series outline on the other side of this page.)

When is it?

Children who are registered can come downstairs to the Knights of Columbus room right after the 9:30 Mass for approximately 30 minutes. HFkids Small Groups will pause for Christmas break, Family day weekend, March break and Easter weekend. On occasion, if you prefer to attend the 11:00 Mass, we suggest you arrive at church by 10:35 and bring your child for the start of HFkids Small Group and then attend the 11:00 Mass. We can arrange for your child to join Time Travellers in the hall after their small group and then meet you at your pew upstairs when Time Travellers is done.

What are the expectations?

To foster the healthy growth of these Small Groups, please understand that we wish to help your child learn the appropriate behaviours and attitudes that will respect the other members of the group. This means that children need to be attentive to the discussion, responsive to instruction from their group leader and mindful of how they speak in the group. There is an expectation of regular attendance out of regard for the relationships within the Small Group, therefore, we ask that you please let us know if your child will miss a week.

What should I do while my child is in Small Group?

We do ask that you please stay in the church while your child is in Small Group and invite you to join fellow parishioners in our new Gather Café for coffee & refreshments. There will also be a casual Adult Small Group drop-in in the Café happening at that time if you are interested as well as colouring sheet for younger siblings.

Please do not hesitate to contact Sue Kanemy holyfamily.sue@gmail.com or Mary Kay Boase mk.boase@rogers.com if you have any questions or concerns.

holyfamilywhitby.ca

But Wait...There's More!

**There must be more to faith than Sunday Mass and the sacraments...
But what is it? And how do I participate in it? I'm just a kid!**

In this Small Group Message Series, kids will learn how to make their faith more personal and live it out each day. *Find out how you can challenge your child to live the message each week...*

Week 1 (Oct 6)

Week 1: From Rules to Relationship

Bible Story: The First Commandment (Matthew 22:34-40)

➤ **Challenge this week:** Read the 10 Commandments with your parents each day. Pray with your parents, asking God to help you follow the commandments each day.

Week 2 (Oct 13)

Week 2: Think of Yourself less and Others More

Bible Story: Jesus feed Five Thousand (John 6:1-15)

➤ **Challenge this week:** Pray for someone and/or serve someone each day this week, putting others before yourself.

Week 3 (Oct 20)

Week 3: From the Classroom to a Way of Life

Bible Story: The Armor of God (Ephesians 6:13-18)

➤ **Challenge this week:** When getting dressed, imagine putting on the Armor of God over your clothes. Refer to the take home sheet for each piece of armor. Pray to God by asking Him for wisdom and protection with each piece of armor.

Week 4 (Oct 27)

Week 4: From Memorized Prayer to a Conversation with God

Bible Story: Teaching About Prayer (Matthew 6: 5-13)

➤ **Challenge this week:** Say the "Our Father" each day, focusing on each word and talking to God through prayer.

Week 5 (Nov 3)

Week 5: Grow in Your Personal Relationship with God

Bible Story this week: The Call of Abram (Genesis; 12,13,15)

➤ **Challenge:** Use one of your "free time activities" each day to spend time with God

Week 6 (Nov 10)

Week 6: Give Your Best to God

Bible Story: The Rich Man (Matthew 19:16-26)

➤ **Challenge this week:** Find 3 ways to put God first every day this week. For example, read your Bible, pray before school or a sporting event, clean up your toys/closet to find things you don't need to give away, etc.