



August 2017

Dear Families,

Welcome to another year of Faith Formation at St. Mary's Parish.

As we continue to strive to meet the lifelong Faith Formation needs of the parish, we will offer Sunday School for ages 3-5 and age-appropriate Wednesday sessions for children and youth in grades 1-9 here at the parish. The following paragraphs give more information about Faith Formation opportunities and registration.

Sunday School (Ages 3-5)

Sunday School will be offered during 10:30am Mass beginning September 24 and ending April 29 and will meet each Sunday, except for holiday weekends. See the back of the Faith Formation calendar. Sunday School will be held in the St. Joseph Room (lower level of the school near the gym). Nursery for small children is also offered in this room during the 10:30am Mass.

Wednesday Evenings (Grades 1-9)

Faith Formation sessions will be held on Wednesday evenings from **5:30-6:45pm** beginning on September 27 and ending May 2. Please note that the time is earlier than previous years. Class sessions will be held each Wednesday except when there are special events or breaks from school. See the enclosed Faith Formation Calendar.

Registration Materials

Enclosed with this letter you will find the necessary registration forms for Faith Formation for Sunday School (Ages 3-5) and grades 1-9. **Please complete the forms and return them as soon as possible or by September 13.** Forms to complete and return are:

1. Blue Faith Formation Registration Form (front side)
Media Waiver Form (back side)
2. White Registration Fee Form

Faith Formation Calendar

Enclosed with this letter is the 2017-2018 Faith Formation Calendar. This calendar is for you to keep as reference. Please note that the Wednesday Faith Formation dates are listed in blue, grade 2 sacrament dates are listed in red, Confirmation preparation dates are listed in brown and so on. The calendar also includes some other parish events that may interest you such as the River City Festival on October 8, Holy Day Masses, the Luck of the Irish event and much more.

Stations of the Cross – March 28

On Wednesday during Holy Week, all of the children and youth will be participating in the Stations of the Cross. Families will be invited to come and pray the Stations with the children and youth during the Faith Formation session from 5:30-6:45pm.

Sacramental Preparation

If your family includes children preparing for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist or youth preparing for Confirmation, you should have already received an additional mailing regarding those sacraments. Please contact the Parish Office if you did not receive the mailing.

Grades 1-9: Opening Session for Wednesday nights

September 27 - All of the students in grades 1-9 and their parents are asked to attend the opening night and should meet in the church at **5:30pm for the Opening Mass**, which will be followed by a **pot luck supper** in Marian Hall. Eating utensils and beverages will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass.

Catechists and helpers are needed for grade 7-9 for Wednesday evenings and for Sunday School. Please contact me as soon as possible if you are interested in serving as a catechist or helper. If you have any questions, concerns, or would like more information, please call me at 452-5656 or email me at juwalch@wacs1.org.

In Christ's Peace,

Julie Walch
Director of Faith Formation

Fr. Jim Berning
Pastor