



ST. MARY Catholic Church

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Summer 2020

Dear St. Mary's Families,

Welcome back everyone! We are happy you are enrolling in our Christian Formation Program. Whether you are new or returning it is important that you read all communications in their entirety as there are many changes for the upcoming year. This letter highlights all the necessary information regarding Christian Formation this year, and how to register.

Registration:

Enclosed is the Registration Form. Please take your time to carefully check the form for accuracy and clearly make necessary changes on the form; be sure to complete both sides. It is important that you do not delay your registration. The sooner we know who is joining us the better we can be prepared accordingly for group size, space and materials. **Completed Registration Forms are due Sunday, September 27, 2020.**

Communication:

Most communication and education will be done via email this year. It is paramount this year more than ever before, that the phone numbers and email addresses we have for your family, are correct.

Christian Formation Options:

As we plan for another year of Christian Formation, in the climate of Covid 19, we will be offering a couple of different instructional scenarios. You have two Christian Formation Options this year. Please indicate on the registration form the one that works best for your family. Preschool and Kindergarten will not be offered this year.

Option One | Hybrid Formation

Hybrid Formation is a combination of mostly virtual learning (using Zoom or Google Classroom, etc.) with a handful of in-person instruction. Virtual class meeting time may be different from in-person meeting times.

- Grades 1 thru 8 classes will meet on Sunday mornings from 9:15am-10:15am.
- Grades 9 thru 11 will meet in-person on Sundays from 11:30am-12:45pm.

Option Two | Homeschool Formation

For those of you who are not comfortable with the hybrid option, we will have materials available for you to work alongside your student from home as their primary catechist. We will provide periodic check-ins to allow for questions and further instruction.

Class start date:

All classes will begin **Sunday, November 1st** this year. High School will begin in person and grades 1 thru 8 will begin virtually for the first week. Grades will then alternate in-person and virtual beyond the start date. Detailed grade schedules will follow. The later start date is to give families more time to adapt to their children/teens going back to school and for Christian Formation to adjust to necessary safety measures for everyone.

Family Packet Pick-Up Morning:

Sunday, October 25th will be our Family Packet Pick-Up Day. From **8:30am- 12:30pm**, parents can come to the **school cafeteria** to pick up their Christian Formation information, books and materials. More details about this to follow.

Payment Plan:

Please complete the enclosed payment plan with your registration. Anyone who is experiencing financial hardship will not be denied the opportunity for Christian Formation. Please contact us if your life circumstances prevent you from paying the full amount due. Tuition is FREE for all children and grandchildren of catechists.

Baptismal Certificate:

Please submit a Baptismal Certificate if you are new to the program this year or if the registration form does not list your student's baptismal information. If your child was baptized at St. Mary's and their baptismal information did not print on the form, please write Baptized at St. Mary's and we will update our system.

Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your family's faith journey. Keep in mind that regardless of how you sign up your family for Christian Formation classes this year, you as parents, have the "Domestic Church" right in your home. The "Domestic Church" provides a place where your child's/teen's faith takes root and is nurtured through your words and examples as parents.

The Christian home is the place where children receive the first proclamation of the faith. For this reason, the family home is rightly called 'the domestic church,' a community of grace and prayer, a school of human virtues and of Christian charity. (No. 1666, Catechism of the Catholic Church)

And finally, be assured that we will continue to monitor current events and adapt our program accordingly. Your flexibility and understanding in advance, is greatly appreciated.

If you should have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

God Bless,

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