

Faith Formation 2020-2021

8/28/2020

Dear St. Philip's Faith Formation Families,

Welcome Back!

We are planning to return to "in person" classes this fall, and are looking forward to seeing all of you once again!

Our gatherings will look a little different due to the coronavirus and the safety protocols it mandates. We want you to grow in your faith, and remain healthy in body and spirit! The following protocols and precautions are in place to keep everyone safe.

All adults and students will wear a face mask in the building. Hand sanitizer will be readily available and students are encouraged to use it, or wash their hands, when they arrive and depart. We removed tables from classrooms to allow for social distancing. We will be sanitizing classrooms and common areas at the end of each class. Our young children will have designated supplies, and will not be sharing pencils, crayons, glue, scissors, etc. Our older children will have designated supplies as well and will not share books or other materials. We will not serve supper on Wednesday evenings for the time being. We will continue to celebrate Family Mass on the first Wednesday of each month. All of our Sunday Mass protocols will be in place for our monthly Family Mass.

Parents, please note: **COVID-19 positive persons or those who have had close contact with them, as well as those who have COVID-19 related symptoms, must stay home. If a student arrives and is showing *obvious* symptoms, that student will be isolated and their parents will be notified. The student will be sent home if the student is sick.**

If a person tests positive for COVID-19 after attending Faith Formation class, they should notify the Director of Faith Formation so that all who may have been exposed can be contacted.

Even though we will begin our year "in-person", we will monitor cases of COVID-19 in our area. Our programs will change if the local school district transitions to a hybrid or distance-learning model. (If Litchfield schools move to distance learning, we will too).

If you do not feel comfortable sending your children for "in-person" classes, we will provide materials for you to teach your children at home. Please contact your Director of Faith Formation if you want to homeschool your children this year.

Thanks for your help in keeping everyone safe and healthy!

Fr. Jeff Horejsi, Pastor

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Youth gatherings will look a little different this year to allow for safety and social distancing in our classroom spaces.

St. Philip's Faith Formation:

Preschool children will not be meeting for "in person" class this year. We will have monthly packets with activities for our preschool children to work on at home. Packets will be available on a table in the hallway between the church and parish offices. New packets will be available on the first of each month.

Grades K-3 will meet every other Sunday from 9:15-10:15 a.m. Sunday School begins on Sunday, September 27th. Please bring your children right to their classrooms for Sunday School, we will not be gathering together in a large group for music.

Grades 4-7 will meet on Wednesdays from 5:00-6:00 p.m. Youth are asked to be mindful of social distancing when they enter and exit the building. Youth will not gather in large group at the beginning of class, but will go right to their classrooms for prayer and announcements.

Grades 8-11 will meet on Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Youth are asked to be mindful of social distancing when they enter and exit the building. Youth will not gather in large group at the beginning of class, but will go right to their classrooms for prayer and announcements.

First Wednesday Family Mass & Parent Gatherings:

We will celebrate family mass on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. All families are encouraged to attend. We will wear masks and social distance at Mass. On Mass nights Grades 4-7 will meet at their usual time 5:00-6:00 p.m., Parents and youth in Grades 8-11 will meet after Mass from 7:00-8:00 p.m., Parents will gather in the social hall following Mass for Family of Faith: Parent Enrichment.

Sunday Confirmation Gatherings:

In addition to the Wednesday evening classes we are asking our 11th grade students to attend Confirmation preparation sessions on the first Sunday of the month from 6:30-8:00 p.m. beginning Oct. 4th. Please note: we will not be hosting meals this year.

Registration for faith formation classes is available online at our parish website [shepherdofsouls.org](https://www.shepherdofsouls.org) under the Faith Formation tab. <https://www.shepherdofsouls.org/register-your-child>

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