

Mt. Hope Catholic Community

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish

Faith Formation Program

September 2023

Dear Families,

Welcome to a new year of Faith Formation! It is with great excitement that we announce the 2023-2024 Faith Formation program, **will be returning to pre-COVID19 schedule.** **Grades five and six will be returning to Tuesday afternoon from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.** and meeting ***every week*** in the Saint Francis of Assisi Faith formation center. ***Grade seven (Pre-Confirmation) remains on Sunday mornings and Sunday classes will begin at 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. every week.*** Knowing that a child's love of Jesus Christ begins in the home. This year's Faith Formation program will continue to focus on strengthening the faith of the whole family, not just the children. Through each change it is imperative to remember that one thing remains constant, the abounding **love** of Jesus Christ. For this, we have reason to be truly grateful. As we embark on this journey together let us be committed to ensuring that each child know His love.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- 2023-2024 program will run from September 24, 2023 – May 5, 2024
- Each grade will be meeting in class, **every week** (subject to holidays, vacation week, etc.)
Classes for grades 5 through 7 are held at Saint Francis of Assisi Church, 530 Gardner's Neck Road, Swansea, MA
- Each student will receive grade specific packets filled with materials and resources centered around the Mass, the meaning and application of the Liturgy of the Word, prayers, the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, Biblical stories, Church doctrine, and most importantly, how to put faith into action both inside and outside of the home.
- The goal of the program is to integrate faith in the ordinary rhythms of life, make the home a "Domestic Church", and teach through conversation and "teachable moments".
- ***Regular attendance at Mass and time for family prayer are essential to strengthening the child and family's relationship with Jesus Christ.*** While students are not required to

sign in at Mass, weekly Mass attendance is essential. Regular Mass attendance begins the process of more fully initiating your people into the Church community. Families can truly call themselves members of Christ's Body when they have made themselves a part of that Body every week at Mass.

- **Our new registration forms** can be found at each church door (both parishes) or on Saint Francis' website www.stfranciswalsea.com ***under Faith Formation folder***. All the children entering in grades 1 through 9 can use this form. *Checks are made payable to Religious Education. Please mail both the registration form and check to Mt. Hope Catholic Community, 270 Ocean Grove Avenue, Swansea, MA 02777*

We are excited to begin the year with you and your child, and we are sincerely looking forward to helping your child and family grow in deeper relationship with Jesus. Thank you for partnering with us to make your child's education in the Catholic faith a priority. If you have any questions, please call me at 508-673-2808 or my home number 508-676-7942.

Sincerely in Christ,

Debra Fontaine

Mrs. Debra Fontaine

Faith Formation Director, Grades 5 through 7

Mt. Hope Catholic Community

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish / Saint Dominic