

FAITH FORMATION NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2021



**5th Grade
Faith
Formation
Shenanigans**

**6th-8th
Edge
Night**



UPDATE ON “TRUNK OR TREAT”:

Unfortunately, there was a miscommunication between Faith Formation, the School, and those putting on the event. It was originally understood that the Faith Formation children could participate in the Trunk or Treat. But the organization sponsoring it has informed us that they have neither the space nor the funds to also offer the event to the Faith Formation families. I apologize for the confusion, and I hope that you can find other exciting opportunities for your families this Halloween!

TEXTBOOK CLARIFICATIONS:

At this point, everyone should have received their login information for the online textbooks. If you got the email, the rest of the information is correct. If you enter the username and password as it appears in your email, you should have access to the

textbook. For families with multiple children in the program, it may look like there is a different email, but it is just the new username, and you will have access to the book. If you have not received the email, please contact me and I will help you get set up. Again, the requirement for the textbook is one chapter/week, and there is no specific schedule. I will be checking in periodically if I see that little work is being done, as I can see the progress of each user.

MINISTERS OF ALL KINDS NEEDED!

As things start to pick up speed here at St. John Vianney, we are gearing up to have more ministers at the Masses. In particular, the church is calling for Altar Servers between 4th and 8th grade. (As an aside, did you know that over 90% of men who end up discerning the call to the priesthood had once been altar boys? This could be an extremely formative opportunity to serve our Lord at the center of our faith in the Mass!). For adults there is also a need for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Ushers, Greeters, and Readers (Lectors). If you or your child would like to see about being a part of these ministry opportunities, please contact Darren Riccio at darrenrcc@aol.com.

FAITH FORMATION VOLUNTEERS:

Our church is in need of extra hands to help in Faith Formation Programs. If you have helped in faith formation, or feel a calling to help pass on the faith, Brady would love to talk to you. We have about 200 children from 1st-10th grade and we need faithful Catholics who can be present to them across these ministries. The specific days are Tuesday and Thursday nights from 7-8:30 PM (Tuesday is bi-weekly for Confirmation, and Thursdays are weekly for Edge Middle School ministry.) We also want to start offering more for the adults and young adults of the parish. We are God's hands and feet, so if you have a love for the Lord and have been thinking about volunteering for these kinds of ministries, or you see a need and want to help fill it, please consider contacting Brady about the possibilities.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA):

If you know of anyone who is interested in learning about the Catholic faith, or someone who is an adult Catholic who has not received their Confirmation, we have our first introductory RCIA session this coming Wednesday (10/13 at 6:30 at the parish hall of St. Gabriel's in Elma). This year the RCIA is combined with St. Gabe's, 14 Holy

Helpers, and Queen of Heaven. We should have a nicely sized group, and we have presenters of all walks of life who are looking forward to accompanying those who want to know more about joining the Catholic Church, and those who still need Confirmation. Contact Brady for more information!

REGISTRATION REMAINS OPEN

If you know others who would be interested in being a part of the Faith Formation program, we will always welcome new children whenever parents want to start that process!

A NEW RESOURCE FOR YOU!:

FRANCISCAN UNIVERSITY'S CATECHETICAL INSTITUTE

"Forming those who form others."

Our parish has a subscription for the Catechetical Institute. It is a gift to all parishioners who are either active in ministries, would like to become active in ministries, or who are just curious and want to grow in their understanding of the faith. This parish resource has multiple study programs and tracks for various ministries.

Each Track has a focus on a different ministry. Within each Track are individual Workshops that consist of short videos from master catechists, theologians, and religious. Whether you are a parent who wishes to develop their ability to keep and hand on the faith, a catechist who is trying to reach the children entrusted to them, or a parishioner who simply wants to know how to better live a more intentionally live a life of evangelization, every adult of the parish can find something in these Tracks to inspire their faith and to hand on that faith to those around them. We will be using the "Ministry of Parenting" during the parent sessions, and parents who are not able to attend those are encouraged to participate by doing the workshops from home at their leisure. Those parents will be updated for which portions of workshops have been reviewed.

Ministry of Parenting Track

"The Catechetical Institute views parenting as the critical catechetical role in the Church. Our desire is to help families in our challenging modern culture see God's plan for the domestic church and the school of holiness it creates as the decisive element in bringing about a culture of life. The workshops in this track are not intended to result in any certification but instead aim at a far more fundamental end: forming

adults who know how to live a missionary life in marriage and judge nothing in life as great as the work of parenting toward sainthood and striving for spousal sanctity. To foster this, a great variety of pragmatic and imaginative workshops are offered by the Catechetical Institute as electives in every track and collected together in this track.”

Anyone in the parish may sign up and begin any track and/or workshop according to where they think God might be calling them to serve or grow as a Catholic. Ongoing formation for those who form others is a crucial component to the development of faith formation at our parish and the evangelization of those in our community.

If you would like to take advantage of these formation opportunities, here is a video walkthrough for signing up (You may have to type in the name “Buffalo” when selecting the diocese):

[Franciscan at Home Signup Walkthrough: https://player.vimeo.com/video/259410276](https://player.vimeo.com/video/259410276)



How individuals can register for free . . . (once their parish or school is onboarded)

Individuals have free entry once their parish or school has registered in our system. Once their institution has subscribed, they can then go to www.FranciscanAtHome.com Once there, scroll down to the following section with a blue button:



Does your institution (parish, school, etc.) already have a membership?

[Free Sign Up](#)

By clicking on that button, they can then fill in registration information to create a new account. After completing the registration, they are then taken to a page that asks for the name of their diocese. Once they choose the name of their diocese, the name of their parish or school will appear in the second drop-down box (provided that their parish or school has registered already). Once they have selected their parish or school, they have access to all the workshops for free!

If you have any questions,
please contact Brady Webb at bwebb@sjvop.org or 608-6562.

