

## **Faith Formation Program Overview**

### **2020-2021 Year Grades K to 5**

#### **What is the Format?**

Our program may look different for the 2020-2021 year but we are committed to providing a program that is of the same high quality of catechesis in a hybrid format.

#### **What is the Goal of our program?**

Our program exists to share Our Catholic Faith with the children and families of our parishes through Prayer, Worship, and Catechetical Instruction. This allows families to encounter Jesus Christ and celebrate the sacramental life of the church.

#### **What Is Faith Formation?**

There are different terms used throughout the last several decades for our program. Many are familiar with the term C.C.D stands for Confraternity of Christian Doctrine. This program was memorizing questions and answers from a catechism. The term Religious Education involves giving instruction through a standard textbook to children. Faith Formation is a newer term and it gets to the heart of the goal of C.C.D and Religious Education which is to instruct to encounter Jesus Christ.

#### **What is catechesis?**

The term catechesis means to echo. At Faith Formation catechists echo or proclaim the teachings of Catholicism to your family by different methods- Prayer, Worship, and Instruction.

### **What materials will be used?**

Materials is the same curriculum which is the Loyola Press *Christ Our Life* series which will be given in a textbook either electronically or in hard copy format. Additional approved materials will be used to enhance the program. All materials we use are approved by the USCCB.

### **Why make a hybrid program?**

Because of the pandemic and stress over the start of school we chose to move in this direction to best utilize our resources.

### **What is Remote?**

There will be a day when families can pick up their materials at the church. At home families will complete different chapters in their textbooks with the children. Our volunteers will be creating videos twice a month to review the content in the chapters. These will be sent to emails through email in a downloadable format.

### **Why make videos verses live classes on a format like ZOOM?**

Many families have multiple children in a variety of grade levels. And many families have one electronic device at home. By recording the classes and sending them families are able to review the information together at their own pace. These will be interactive classes.

### **What will be in person?**

Prayer and Worship will be in person such as Holy Rosary, Mass, Scapular Enrollment, Adoration, and Workshops on Prayer. These will not be required to attend given the pandemic but welcomed. They will always be made ready remotely.

**Where will in person components be?**

The in person components will be at Saint Pius V Church. We will use the Upper Church or the Lower Church.

**What guidelines will be followed for in person components?**

All social distancing and cleaning guidelines will be followed.

**How often will in person components be?**

They will be once or twice a month and they are not mandated.

**Will all the grades be there at one time?**

No only groups of children to fit capacity limits will be present and they will always be with at least one parent.

**What if our family is not comfortable coming?**

We understand that is why what is done in person is going to be also presented remotely.

**What is the best practice for the remote learning component?**

The best practice is to watch for the video in your email and find an hour a week to watch them. Then complete the chapters. It is best to read through the chapter together as a family and pay close attention to the We Remember Questions.

**What do we need to pass in?**

Some online check in questions are being created. Please fill them out and send them in. They will go to us electronically.

**What about First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion preparation?**

Everything will be made remote including the retreats. How the sacraments are received will be detailed in the fall of 2020.

**What other additions will be in the program?**

1. Family Newsletters created throughout the program.
2. Occasional online family retreats.
3. To celebrate the Eucharistic Year we will have parent only meetings on the Eucharist.

**What is I have additional questions?**

Please get in touch with Andrew Genovese, Coordinator of Faith Formation at [andrewgenovese3@gmail.com](mailto:andrewgenovese3@gmail.com) or by calling our office.