



# ST. MARY'S OF THE LAKE FAITH FORMATION OFFICE



10 W AUSTIN ST, SKANEATELES, NY 13152

Dear St. Mary's of the Lake Families,

What a joy this past year has been! As I wrap up my first year serving as your Director of Formation, I want to thank you all for the warm welcome, heartfelt conversations, and the opportunity to get to know so many of you. Your faith, your families, and your commitment to growing in Christ have made my first year unforgettable—and I am beyond excited to begin this next chapter together.

As we prepare for the 2025–2026 Formation Year, I'm thrilled to share a few new updates that are the direct result of your thoughtful feedback. Your voices have helped shape this program into one that better serves our families, supports your schedules, and encourages spiritual growth at every age.

Here is what's new this year:

- **We are launching a Pre-K Program:** We're excited to welcome our littlest disciples to join us in faith formation. This new Pre-K program will run alongside our K–7th grade program, meeting twice a month on Sunday mornings from 9:00–10:00 AM.
- **A streamlined schedule is here:** We've restructured our calendar to be clearer and easier to follow, helping eliminate confusion and keep your family's Formation journey on track. (Be sure to check the enclosed schedule in your packet.)
- **Introducing our new Family-Based Program:** For families looking for more flexibility, this option allows you to grow in faith together on a schedule that better fits your lives. It's a beautiful way to nurture faith as a family unit.

We hope these updates will make this year even more meaningful and accessible for everyone. Registration materials and the full program schedule are included in this mailing. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions—I am always here to support you on this journey.

Let's keep building a Formation community that is vibrant, welcoming, and rooted in Christ's love. I can't wait to see what this year will bring!

With joy and gratitude,  
Victoria Wejko  
Director of Formation

# 2025-2026 OFFERINGS

## **Pre-K through 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**In Person Option:** In Person Sessions are offered 2x a month on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday morning of each month from 9:00-10:00am at St. Mary's Of The Lake. (Note: No School on Monday = No Formation the Sunday before).

**Family Based Option:** This focuses on building up the family as the primary teacher of the faith. The program includes weekly at-home activities, along with monthly larger church occasions to pray, talk, and share faith experiences. Families gather once a month, on the last Sunday of the Month from 5:30-7:00pm (including a potluck meal).

## **First Reconciliation and First Communion**

Preparation usually begins in the Second Grade; however, we are happy to individualize a plan to meet the needs of an older child. First Reconciliation is scheduled in the winter and First Communion is typically celebrated in May. Preparation for each Sacrament is woven into the Second Grade program either In Person or Family Based. Please note there will be a few additional workshops required.

## **Confirmation**

Confirmation preparation is a two-year program specified by our Diocese. Candidates entering 8th grade or higher in the Fall of 2025 should plan on attending. **Confirmation 1 (8<sup>th</sup> grade)** takes place on Sunday mornings along side our Pre-K through 7<sup>th</sup> Grade program from 9 to 10 am.. **Confirmation 2 (9<sup>th</sup> grade)** is immediate preparation and will take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday evening of the month from 6:00-7:30 pm (including a potluck meal). Please note that each year includes a Yearly Retreat that will take place on November 22, 2025.

## **Volunteers**

In order to provide Faith Formation for the children of our parish, we need teens, parents or young adults to volunteer each year who are willing to serve as catechists, substitute catechists, and hall monitors. The curriculum we use is easy to follow and provides lesson plans for every class. We will train and provide support to volunteers. For additional info or to volunteer, email us at [stmarysff@syrddio.org](mailto:stmarysff@syrddio.org).

# FAMILY & TEEN FORMATION REGISTRATION

## Two Options

Enclosed in this packet, you will find a paper registration form for our 2025-2026 Faith Formation programs. You are welcome to complete this form and return it to the parish office. If you prefer a more convenient option, you can also fill out the registration form online by visiting our parish website or by scanning the QR code included in this packet.

### **Program Materials:**

- Pre-K through Grade 9: \$80 per student (maximum of \$160 per family)
- Additional Sacramental Year Fee:
  - First Communion (Grade 2) and Confirmation Year 2 (Grade 9): +\$50 per student for class supplies
- Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference (DCYC):
  - Confirmation 1 & 2 students will attend this event on Saturday, November 22, 2025. The cost is \$75 per student.

### **Payment Options:**

- Check: Make checks payable to St. Mary's of the Lake. Please include "Faith Formation" in the memo line.
  - Mail to: 10 West Austin Street, Skaneateles, NY 13152
- Online: Visit our website, click on the Faith Formation tab, and select "Pay by Card Here" to complete your payment securely online.

If you have any questions about the registration process, program details, or need assistance in any way, please don't hesitate to reach out. You can contact me, Victoria Wejko, at [stmarysff@syrdio.org](mailto:stmarysff@syrdio.org) or call the parish office at (315) 685-5083.



Scan to be taken to the  
Online Registration  
Form

# 2025-2026 Faith Formation Schedule

## Pre K to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Classes

9:00 -10:00 AM

September 21

October 5, 19

November 2, 16

December 7 (No Class 12/21)

January 4 (No Class 1/18)

February 1 (No Class 2/15)

March 1, 15

April 19 (No Class 4/5)

May 3, 17

June 7 (Last Class)

## Parent Meetings

September 14 & June 7

@ 9 am In Parish Center

## Confirmation 2 (9<sup>th</sup> Grade)

6:00-7:30 pm (including a potluck meal)

September 14 (With Parent)

October 5

November 2

December 7

January 4

February 1

March 1

April & May TBA-based

On Confirmation Day

## Confirmation 1 & 2 Retreat

November 22

## Special Events

September 21- Chicken BBQ

October 5-Blessing of the Pets  
following 10:15 am Mass

October 26-Trunk or Treat

November 30- Advent Wreath Making

December 6 & 7- St. Nicholas visits all  
Masses (Bring a Shoe to fill)

December 17- Christmas Pageant

April 4- Easter Egg Hunt

May 3 @ 8 pm Mass- May Crowning

May 16 & 17- First Communion @  
Weekend Masses

June 6 & 7- Baccalaureate Masses  
@ Weekend Masses

## Family Based

5:30-7:00pm (including a potluck meal)

September 28-

Parent Kick Off Meeting

October 26-Trunk or Treat

November 30- Advent Wreath Making

December-No Session

January 25

February- No Session

March-Join us for Holy Week

April 26

May 31- Final Session