



July 28, 2021

Dear families,

We are pleased to present our plan for Family Faith Formation for 2021/22! It has been a challenge to move forward continuing the best of what we have done in the past, incorporating what we learned last year, addressing the changing nature of the family, and being true to our call as a community of missionary disciples.

Our primary goal is to help our community understand that Faith Formation doesn't begin in 1<sup>st</sup> grade and end with Confirmation! This is why we have been intentional in changing the name of our program from "Religious Education" to "Faith Formation." "Faith Formation" implies a lifelong process of ongoing conversion which requires lifelong growth. It is our goal to provide opportunities for *everyone* to deepen their faith, regardless of their age.

For our families with children, we will provide a way for parents, as the primary teachers of the faith, to easily share their faith in the family setting with at-home materials. We will host monthly gatherings for children and parents to help support their ongoing faith development. And for those families with children who are preparing to receive First Reconciliation, First Holy Eucharist and Confirmation, we will provide Sacramental Preparation which we hope will lead to a deeper understanding of those sacraments, renewed appreciation of our faith, and an ongoing commitment to continued growth and Christian service.

God bless,

Carolyn Mello Pryor  
Coordinator of Faith Formation

This year's Faith Formation plan is detailed on the enclosed Registration Form. Please take some time to familiarize yourself with it. The Registration Form is also available online at [stmaryofthebay.org](http://stmaryofthebay.org). We ask that you register by August 20.

As always, please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. [SMBFaithFormation@gmail.com](mailto:SMBFaithFormation@gmail.com), 401-245-7000 x21.