

Saint Mary's Church
P.O. Box 547
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

January 3, 2020

Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe, but summer will be here before we know it! This means that it's time to register for St. Mary's School of Religion 2020 summer session.

Two faith formation sessions are offered for grades 1 through 7. Each session is one full week in length. This year, classes will begin on Monday and end on Sunday, with the children and families attending the 9:30am Mass and then attending the last class immediately following Mass. Two additional classes that are part of the Faith Formation program are scheduled during the liturgical year rather than during the summer months. The first is during the season of Advent, scheduled for December 6, 2020 and the second during the season of Lent with a date to be determined in 2021. The seasonal curriculum is more meaningful as the children receive instruction on these topics during their true season.

Please choose the session for your child(ren) in grades 1 through 7 to attend carefully. With the religion curriculum concentrated into so few days and so much to do, attendance is very important. Perfect attendance is required to earn credit for the year of faith formation.

Instruction for preparation to receive the sacraments of Penance and Eucharist is offered to children in the second grade and above. The children receive instruction in the fall and Penance is celebrated in October. They will have a recess, resume classes in March, and receive First Holy Communion in April.

The first year of Confirmation instruction begins for students who will be entering grade 8 in September of 2020 during the summer sessions. Due to the very low enrollment, only session 2 will be available for the Confirmation 1 class.

Those students who will be entering grade 9 and have completed their first year of Confirmation preparation are eligible for Confirmation 2 classes during the summer sessions and additional events in the fall of 2020. The Rite of Confirmation will be celebrated in mid-late October at a date still to be announced by the Bishop.

Please fill out the registration form(s) and return them to the Parish Office before the deadline, March 20, with your registration fee.

Enclosed you will find a pamphlet for you to keep with all important events and dates for each of the St. Mary's Faith Formation programs. As always, please contact me (846-6057 or stmarydec@aol.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Deborah Circosta
Director of Religious Education

***The mission of St. Mary's Parish is to continue the work of Jesus
Christ through worship, education, stewardship and service.***