

Welcome to the St. Mary by the Lake 2018-2019 Faith Formation Program

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"Let the little children come to me." In Christ's own words we are beckoned to draw closer to Him. It is in this spirit that the St. Mary by the Lake Faith Formation Program strives to find each "little one" where he/she is and encourage them to take steps closer to God.

This handbook contains information concerning details of the St. Mary by the Lake Faith Formation Program for children, teens and adults, as well as, our Sacramental Preparation Programs.



ST MARY BY THE LAKE FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

We promote knowledge of our faith

We catechize Church teachings

We catechize facts about Jesus, Scripture, and Liturgy

We promote Christian moral formation

We encourage discipleship

We stimulate Christian attitudes and behaviors

We promote prayer and worship

We emphasize the importance of the Mass and the Sacraments

We invite students to have a deeper relationship with Jesus

Role of the Parents

Parents are the primary educators in the faith. Together with them... all members of the family play an active part in the education of the younger members... The family is defined as the "domestic Church"... General Directory for Catechesis, #255

We believe that formation in Catholic Christianity employs a partnership between parents and the parish. While the parish can provide formal formation in faith, we encourage, and provide support for, parents to take an active role in their children's ongoing faith development. Our Catholic tradition sees weekly participation in the Mass to be an essential practice for this to take place.

Role of the Catechist

Catechists in our Faith Formation Program are Catholic persons of faith who volunteer their time and talent to share that gift of faith with the youth of the parish. Catechists strive to build up a community spirit among the youth which will strengthen and nourish them, and which will call them to discover, internalize, proclaim, and live the Gospel message, and to grow in faith.

GENERAL REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Information regarding the Faith Formation Programs is emailed and/or mailed in the Spring to all eligible parish members for the following catechetical year. Additionally, program announcements will appear in the Sunday bulletin. Registration for the 2018/19 catechetical year will commence on or about May 1st. To facilitate program planning and material ordering registration forms for the 2018/19 Catechetical year are due no later than September 15th.

REGISTRATION

Registration for Faith Formation Programs will be accepted by completing the 2018/19 Registration Form, signing the policy agreement and returning it by mail, in the Sunday offertory collection basket, or in person. Alternatively, an on-line registration option is available by visiting the St. Mary by the Lake Parish website at <http://www.stmarybythelake.org>.

REGISTRATION FEES

Registration tuition & fees cover only a fraction of the total cost of the Faith Formation Program. The remainder of the program fees are covered by the parish through our stewardship of treasure provided via parish envelopes. In September 2018, registered households will receive a statement of the Tuition & Fees due.

****No family is turned away because of an inability to pay.****

Faith Formation Class Fees:

Active, participating returning and new parish families registering by June 30, 2018.

- \$50.00 per child in grades K5 – 8th.
- \$60.00 per child in High School, grades 9th – 10th
- *Maximum class fee per family \$200*

Sacrament Process Fees

Covers the cost of texts, supplemental resources and retreat expenses

- First Reconciliation \$25.00 per child/youth
- First Communion. \$25.00 per child/youth
- Confirmation \$100.00 per child/youth

All fees will be billed by the Parish Office on September 30, 2018 and need to be paid in full by November 31, 2018 unless a payment plan has been arranged.



FINANCIAL HARDSHIP

Financial hardships should never prevent a family from registering their children in the Faith Formation Program. Financial assistance is available for those who demonstrate a need. All information shared will be kept in strict confidence.

To discuss financial assistance, please contact Heather Warner in the Parish office. A Financial Assistance Request form will be made available to you, or you can download one at www.stmarybythelake.org. Because fees are a direct cost to the parish, families are asked to cover as much of them as possible. Payment options are available.

CATECHIST MINISTRY COMMITMENT

Catechetical volunteer positions have different time and talent obligations as required by their specific catechetical process. One way we thank volunteers who share their time and talent for the entire catechetical year is to waive all registration fees.

GENERAL GUIDELINES AND POLICIES

DROP OFF AND PICK UP SAFETY INFORMATION:

In order to ensure the safety of our children, we ask all parents to follow our established drop off and pick up procedure as follows:

- Students should enter the building immediately upon arrival for their safety.
- Park your car and come into the building to pick up your child.
- Children will be instructed to wait in the entranceway or in the building under supervision.



ABSENCE FROM CLASS

We are responsible for students during the time they are registered for our program. Therefore, we must keep accurate attendance and tardiness records on file in the Faith Formation Office. When a child is absent, please call and leave a message in the Faith Formation Office that your child(ren) will not be attending.

CLASS CANCELLATION POLICY

In the event that school is called off for Racine Unified Schools due to weather conditions, there will be no Faith Formation classes for that evening. If SMBL determines that conditions are unsafe, cancellation information will be broadcast by 3:00p.m. on WTMJ Channel 4, which can be accessed at www.tmj4.com or www.jsonline.com.



EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Parent contact information and alternate contact information must be provided on the registration form. In the event a child becomes ill or is injured during class, every effort will be made to contact the parents or guardians first. If parents cannot be reached in a timely manner, the alternate emergency contact(s) will be notified. If any of this information changes throughout the year, please inform the Faith Formation Office.

MEDICAL NEEDS/ ALLERGIES AND HEALTH CONCERNS

Parents must indicate on the registration form student's allergies and any other health problems which may help us better meet his/her safety needs during class time. Allergy information will be shared with catechists/volunteers. If a student is required to keep on his/her person, personal inhalers or other medicines or medical equipment, the parent must indicate this information on the registration form and complete a medication release form.



CELL PHONE & RIGHT TO INSPECT POLICY

Students who text messages during class will be given a verbal reminder to turn off their cell phone. At the next offense, the cell phone will be taken away and returned to the student after class. If a student is suspected of having weapons or drugs in his/her possession, the DRE is required to investigate. SMBL reserves the right to search and seize drugs, weapons and other contraband when there is reasonable belief that such contraband is in the possession of a student or volunteer.

INCLUSIVE AND SPECIAL NEEDS FAITH FORMATION

By right of baptism, all Catholics should receive the benefit of the appropriate sacraments. In the St. Mary by the Lake Faith Formation program, no child will be denied sacramental preparation and the opportunity for spiritual enrichment. We are committed to serve children with special needs and their families with programming and formational opportunities deemed appropriate for the individual. We believe that each child should have the opportunity to build a relationship with God at his/her level.

The opportunity is provided on the registration form to specify any special needs a student might have. These include special learning needs or disabilities. These needs will be shared with catechists and other volunteers when deemed necessary and appropriate. Every effort will be made to accommodate all children and youth in our programs.

FAITH FORMATION HOMESCHOOLING

Generally, the catechesis of children takes place in parish religious education/faith formation programs. The Faith is to be shared in a community context. However, there may be unique circumstances that prevent that full participation, and families may choose to provide formal systematic catechesis for their children in the home.

The Church, catechetical leaders, catechists, and parents all realize that much (if not most,) education in faith takes place outside a classroom setting - in the family, in the neighborhood, in the parish community. It is in these settings that children see and experience the lived faith.



The Archdiocese of Milwaukee does not allow homeschooling for sacramental preparation. Children preparing for sacraments of initiation must be prepared for the sacraments in the parish.

The St. Mary by the Lake Faith Formation program will work to support and assist any family in their decision. If you home school your child(ren) and would like more information or when/how one would go about coordinating the reception of sacraments for your child(ren) in our parish, please contact Heather Warner in the Faith Formation Office at 262-639-3616.

Homeschooling Faith Formation Policy

The religious education/faith formation of children and youth is the responsibility of parents, pastors and the local parish community. The *Code of Canon Law* supports this direction:

- *Can. 773: Pastors of souls especially have the proper and serious duty of seeing to the catechesis of the Christian people, so that, through doctrinal formation and experience of the Christian life, the faith of the people may be living manifest and active*
- *Can. 774 § 1: The care for catechesis under the direction of lawful ecclesiastical authority, extends to all members of the Church, to each according to his or her role.*
- *Can. 774 § 2: Before all others, parents are bound to form their children, by words and example, in faith and in Christian living. The same obligation binds sponsors and those who take the place of parents.*

Further the *National Directory for Catechesis* states:

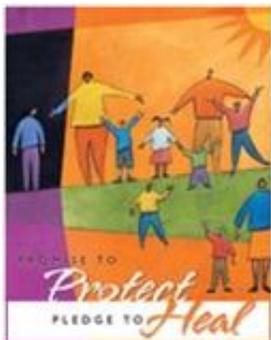
203-4 School-age children should receive formal and systematic catechesis in a parish-based catechetical program, a Catholic school, or a program of home-based catechesis in which the content of the faith and the experience of Christian life is presented authentically and completely.

Therefore, it is the obligation of the parish leadership to provide religious education programming for children/young people. There are situations where some families choose to “home school” their children/young people. **It must be understood that these efforts cannot be done independently of the parish setting.** The following guidelines give direction to such efforts.

1. The primary responsibility of parents for the education and formation of their children in the faith cannot be interpreted in an isolated way, since the family is an integral part of the larger ecclesial community. All religious education must be carried out in a way that builds unity within the Church. All home schooling should promote the understanding that being a Christian is not a private matter of individual choice, but rather of a personal vocation within the context of the Church lived out in the experience of the parish community.
2. Since the Pastor and Director of Faith Formation have the obligation to know of the parents' intention to home school their children/young people, parents must notify the Pastor and Director of Faith Formation early in the process. Parents are required to follow the guidelines set by the Pastor and must register their child/young person with the parish Director of Faith Formation.
3. Home schooling parents are responsible for the participation of their child/young person in the immediate sacramental preparation through interviews for sacramental readiness, practice for sacramental celebration, and appropriate initiation rites and retreats.
4. Home schooling parents must participate in parish parent meetings and parent preparation programs for the sacraments.
5. Parents have the responsibility to participate in adult catechetical formation, so that they will be able to prepare their child/young person for the sacraments, in collaboration with the parish community. For more information about adult formation opportunities at St. Mary by the Lake, contact the Parish Office at 262-639-3616. The necessity of parental catechetical formation is supported by:
 - Can. 780: Local Ordinaries are to ensure that catechists are duly trained to carry out their office properly, namely, that continuing formation is available to them, that they have an appropriate knowledge of the teaching of the Church, and that they learn both the theory and the practice of the principles of pedagogy.
6. With regard to the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation parents must ensure that their children/young people are correctly prepared and connected to the local parish.
7. Periodic progress reports are to be made by the home schooling parents to the Pastor and Director of Faith Formation, a record of these progress reports shall be kept. Children/young people must be interviewed by the Director of Faith Formation or designated representative to determine their understanding of, and readiness for, the reception of the sacraments.
8. The Director of Faith Formation should serve as a resource to the parents. **Approved textbooks and other appropriate materials must be used in all sessions.** Scripture, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and the *General Directory of Catechesis* are excellent resources for parents and catechists. However, age-appropriate materials may be provided/required by the parish.



SAFEGUARDING ALL GOD'S FAMILY



For Students:

As mandated, the diocese requires that all students be given the opportunity to attend a presentation on ways to keep themselves safe. This will be offered during class time during the catechetical year. Parents will be given the opportunity to preview the information presented. These presentations will reinforce our belief in the respect and dignity of each human person and help children be more aware of what constitutes a safe boundary among family, friends, and strangers.

Pursuant to state law and the diocesan Safe Environment Policy, we are required to report suspected child abuse and we will follow the state laws and diocesan policy on such matters.

For Parents:

At the Opening Parent Meeting and throughout the year, parents will be provided with Safeguarding All God's Family information and newsletters. The information presented is useful in keeping family members safe from child predators, as well as pertinent information regarding bullying, internet safety and other topics.

For Catechists and all Volunteers:

All volunteers must have an interview with Director of Faith Formation. Criminal and personal background checks are done and safe environment training is completed before a volunteer is allowed to minister in the Christian Formation Program.

EMERGENCY PLANS

LOCKDOWN PLAN



In the unlikely event of an intruder, the catechists will lock their doors and all students and catechists will remain in the classroom until they are informed by the Director of Faith Formation and/or other official authority that it is safe to unlock the classroom doors. When the authorities deem it safe to do so, the classroom catechists will ensure the safe dismissal of each student to their parents on the sign out sheet.

FIRE EVACUATION PLAN

In the unlikely event of a fire, catechists will pick up the communication folder and walk the children out to the assigned area for their classroom as indicated on the map by the classroom door. The catechists will take roll upon arriving at their designated location and will indicate the safe dismissal of each student to their parents on the sign out sheet.





BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

Following Jesus' command, "Love one another as I have loved you", our Faith Formation staff and students treat each other with mutual respect. To create an environment that promotes Christian values and behaviors, and which creates a positive learning space, all students, catechists and guests must abide by the Faith Formation behavior guidelines.

General rules for all program participants:

- Respect all people and the property of others.
- Behave in a courteous manner.
- Take good care of church property.
- Settle disagreements in a peaceful manner

Specific Behavior Guidelines:

1. Respect and courtesy toward directors, catechists, and other students is expected at all times.
2. Students are not to enter their classrooms until an adult is present.
3. Students are not to remove any items from the desks they are using, or tamper with property of Waukesha Catholic.
4. Classes will start promptly at the designated time.
5. Young people not involved in the program are not allowed in or around the building when programs are meeting.
6. Students are expected to bring their religion textbook and/or materials/folders to class each week.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

In order to maintain an atmosphere of learning and growth in faith, the following process for disciplinary action will be observed:

FIRST OCCASION

The catechist will speak to the student privately concerning his/her behavior. Students may be sent to see the program director for disruptive behavior.

SECOND OCCASION

The catechist will call the parents and notify the director that the parents have been contacted.

THIRD OCCASION

The catechist and director may determine that the student shall not be allowed to return to class until the catechist, program director and parents have met with the student. Any student who has been sent to meet with the director two times for disruptive behavior may not return to the class until such a meeting has taken place.

A student who continues negative behavior following steps 1-3 will be dismissed from the program for the current year at the discretion of the program director. Options for home study will be offered to parents/guardians. Students dismissed the previous year may not re-enter the program without first having a meeting with the director



GENERAL SACRAMENT PREPARATION GUIDELINES



Sacraments are expressions of faith and essential to what it means to live as a Catholic Christian. Our sacrament preparation processes are created to be opportunities for children and parents to grow in faith and learn or deepen their understanding of the sacrament and the graces received in the sacramental ritual and how they can help one to live as disciples of Jesus.

Families must be registered members of St. Mary by the Lake Parish. Participation in Sacrament Preparations by members of other parishes must be accompanied by a letter of permission from the Pastor of their home parish.

Sacrament preparation is separate from the regular faith formation process for children and youth.

PARENTAL ROLE

At their child's Baptism, parents agreed to be the primary educators of their child in the faith by word and example. Therefore, parents are expected to work in partnership with the Church to help their children prepare to celebrate the sacraments.

- ✓ To participate in a sacrament preparation process complete involvement of the child and his/her parent(s) is mandated as required in each preparation process.
- ✓ **All parent meetings incorporated into a sacrament preparation processes are mandatory.** If a parent cannot attend, a delegate such as a grandparent, uncle, aunt, etc. may be sent to receive the necessary information.
- ✓ The Faith Formation Program will advertise the sacrament schedule in their calendars and updated process information in the bulletin, newsletters and web site. It is the parent's responsibility to read these communications and keep informed as to when a process begins and all the requirements within the process.

MASS ATTENDANCE

The Eucharistic celebration is the 'source and summit' of our faith. At Mass "we participate in the Paschal Mystery of Christ, that is, in his dying and rising which is made present for us in the Eucharistic sacrifice." (USCCA Ch 17) Through our participation in this paschal process, we are transformed with the bread and wine into the Body of Christ to bring Christ's message of peace and love into the world. **To be adequately prepared to celebrate the sacraments, children and youth should attend Mass weekly.**



PROOF OF BAPTISM

Proof of Baptism is required and must be turned in at registration for a sacrament preparation process. Proof of Baptism of the candidate is required and consists of original Baptismal Certificate or photo copy. All original documents will be returned. Copies from other parishes may be sent directly to the Christian Formation Office at 7605 Lakeshore Drive, Racine, WI 53402.

Individuals baptized in an accepted non-Catholic Christian ecclesial community, will make a profession of faith prior to preparing for the sacraments.

Sacramental Preparation First Reconciliation



Children are first introduced to reconciling experiences in the home. When siblings fight, parents are disobeyed, or other common family dynamics happen where a wrong has been done, the stage is set for a child to learn the meaning of forgiveness. Once sorrow is shown and forgiveness is asked for and given, a child experiences what the sacrament of reconciliation is all about. God our loving and merciful Father forgives our sins and graces us to more fully follow his commandments and to live as his followers in Christ.

The sacrament of Reconciliation is first celebrated with children in 2nd grade. It is preferred that one full year of Catholic faith formation has been completed prior to enrolling. Preparation is held in the fall. Parents and children attend preparation sessions together. The children and families become more aware of the forgiveness which is ours through Jesus Christ. The Reconciliation sacrament preparation process will utilize *God's Gift Reconciliation* which compliments the *Finding God* faith formation curriculum.

PROGRAM CALENDAR

December 12	5:30-6:45 pm (Initial Parent Meeting)
January 9	5:30-6:45 pm (parents & children)
January 30	6:00pm First Reconciliation

Sacramental Preparation First Communion

The Catholic Church celebrates the sacrament of Eucharist as the chief act of worship. It was instituted by Jesus "in order to perpetuate the sacrifice of the Cross throughout the ages until He should come again, and so to entrust to His beloved Spouse, the Church, a sacrament of love, a sign of unity, a bond of charity, a paschal banquet in which Christ is consumed, the mind is filled with grace, and a pledge of future glory is given to us"
(*Sacrosanctum Concilium, n. 47, the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*).



Through the preparation process, children in 2nd grade or higher and their families deepen their understanding of this sacred mystery. It is preferred that one full year of Catholic faith formation has been completed prior to enrolling. Preparation is held in the spring. Parents and children attend preparation sessions together. The true presence of Christ in the Eucharist is highlighted and children are taught the proper way to receive Jesus in Holy Communion.

PROGRAM CALENDAR:

February 20	5:30-6:45 p.m. (Initial Parent Meeting)
March 27	5:30-6:45 p.m. (parents & children)
April 10	5:30-6:45 p.m. (parents & children)
April 24th	First Communion Practice 6-6:30pm
April 28	8:30 a.m. First Communion Mass



Sacramental Preparation Confirmation

Along with Baptism and Eucharist, Confirmation is a sacrament of Christian Initiation. It represents a sealing of Baptism and the celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit. The Confirmation program is designed to help our young people to explore, deepen and strengthen the seeds of faith they were given at baptism. The candidates, themselves, are choosing the Catholic faith as a way of life.

The preparation process is designed for eleventh grade students. The purpose of the program is as follows:

- To empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ
- To encourage them to participate in the life, mission, and work of the Church
- To promote their spiritual growth

The candidate must:

- Participate in two years of formal religious education in either parochial school or a parish Religious Education Program in 9th and 10th grade.
- Be knowledgeable about the basic teachings of our Faith.
- Participate FULLY in the Parish Confirmation Program
- Attend and participate in class and attend Mass on Sundays
- Participate in the service projects requirements
- Participate in the confirmation retreat

CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION (Parents and Candidates): October 3, 2018 6:30 p.m.

CONFIRMATION CALENDAR & RETREAT: TBA

- **District Presentation:** Sunday, October 14, 2018 6:00-7:30pm at St. Romans
- **Presentation and Commissioning of Candidates:** October 28, 2018 8:30 a.m. Mass
- **District Presentation #2:** Sunday, February 17, 2019 6:00-7:30pm at St. Martin of Tours

CONFIRMATION CEREMONY: September 2019

Candidates and families will receive a Confirmation Handbook detailing program expectations.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Children

Rite of Christian Initiation for Children (RCIC) is for children between the Ages of 8 and 16, and who have reached 2nd grade age, whether baptized or unbaptized. Children preparing to receive the Sacraments they have missed since Baptism, or to join the Catholic Church through Baptism, will attend sacramental preparation sessions in addition to Christian Formation classes on a regular basis beginning in September and continuing through the Easter Season. The process enables children to enter into a relationship with God and share in the life of their identity as Children of God. The importance of weekly Mass will be stressed as will understanding the parts of the Mass.

Each family comes to the process with different needs. The children will be of various ages and have had different levels of previous instruction. Families will meet with the Director of Faith Formation to determine the preparatory needs of the family.

Every child will need a Sponsor/Godparent. The Sponsor/Godparent will be someone other than a parent, who will support the child in his or her Catholic Journey. The sponsor must be a Baptized and Confirmed Catholic, who is over the age of 16, and is in good standing with the Catholic Church. The sponsor will fill out a sponsor registration form.

Elementary Faith Formation Grades K5-6
Wednesdays 5:30 – 6:45 pm

Elementary Religious Education for St. Mary by the Lake Parish is designed for all children attending a public school in grades K5 – 5. Classes are held in the Education Center and taught by volunteer catechists who receive training to enable them to share our Catholic faith in an effective way.

Through all course offerings our main goal is to help children know and love God, to know about God and the teachings of the Church so they may grow in their relationship with God and in their Catholic faith, and be motivated to serve God and the Church.

In grades Kindergarten through 6th grade, the catechists will utilize the *Finding God* curriculum. Finding God uses a ‘spiral’ design curriculum that integrates the fundamental themes of the Catechism of the Catholic Church with Scripture and Catholic Social Teaching.

Kindergarten	“God Loves Us” - A developmentally appropriate curriculum is carefully planned so that, at completion, the children are ready to continue their faith journey into first grade and beyond.
First Grade	“God Found Everything Good” – Topics will focus on the theme of the Holy Trinity, that God the Creator make all things good, that His son Jesus is the personification of that good, and through the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we can have a loving relationship with God.
Second Grade	“I am the True Vine” – Children will learn the meaning of the sacraments as they prepare for their own sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist.
Third Grade	“Fishers of Men” – Through the study of the Apostles Creed, children will learn about the marks and beliefs of the Church. Children will also be exposed to various missions of the Church.
Fourth Grade	“Blessed Are the Poor” – Children will explore the significance of the Beatitudes and 10 Commandments and how these principles can be reflected in their lives.
Fifth Grade	“The Bread of Life” – Children will revisit the Seven Sacraments and begin to relate the Trinity to the Sacraments by acknowledging Jesus as the ultimate sacrament.
Sixth Grade	“Foundations of Faith” – Children will travel through the Old Testament world learning why Jesus had to come to be our Savior.

OPENING FAMILY LITURGY:

Wednesday, September 19, 2018 @ 6:30 pm. in Church

A brief, information session will be held immediately following the Opening Liturgy. Parent packs and all pertinent information will be distributed at this meeting. Families will be given the opportunity to meet their catechist(s).

CLASS CALENDAR:

September: 26 th	January: 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd , 30 th
October: 3 rd , 10 th , 17 th , 24 th , 31 st	February: 6 th , 13 th , 20 th , 27 th
November: 7 th , 14 th , 28 th	March: 6 th , 13 th , 20 th , 27 th
December 5 th , 12 th , 19 th	April: 3 rd , 10 th , 17 th
	May: 1 st (Closing Liturgy)

FAMILY SUPPER FUNDRAISERS

November 10, 2018
 January 19, 2019
 March 16, 2019

*Elementary Faith Formation families are asked to provide canned chili beans and tomatoes..
 All donations from the Chili Suppers are used for youth activities.*

Middle School Faith Formation Grades 7-8th

Sundays 9:30a.m. – 11:00 a.m.



The St. Mary by the Lake Faith Formation program provides an opportunity for Middle and High School students in grades 7th through 10th to grow in faith by developing a meaningful relationship with Jesus, a better understanding of our Catholic tradition and help to plant roots for the adult years. This program includes instruction, fellowship, prayer, service, and fun. The Youth Ministry program also provides opportunities for youth to engage in service, social and retreat opportunities throughout the year.

7th & 8th Grade Curriculum:

- *The Teen Timeline* is the teen version of the revolutionary Great Adventure Bible Timeline learning system that hundreds of thousands of Catholic adults have used to learn the Bible. This is the youth Bible study that is making scripture come alive for Catholic teens. It shows the “big picture” of salvation history and relates it practically and directly to the lives of our Catholic youth. Teens will begin to wrap their minds and hearts around the Scriptures and see the Bible as a relevant part of their lives.

OPENING FAMILY LITURGY:

Wednesday, September 19, 2018 @ 6:30 pm. in Church

A brief information session will be held immediately following the Opening Liturgy. Parent packs and all pertinent information will be distributed at this meeting and families will be given the opportunity to meet their catechist(s).

CLASS CALENDAR:

September 23 rd	December 2 nd , 16 th	March 3 rd , 17 th
October 7 th , 21 st	January 6 th , 20 th	April 7 th , 14 th
November 4 th , 18 th	February 3 rd , 17 th	

Grade 7/8 Required Events

- Middle School Retreat: October 13, 2018 at St. Mary by the Lake 9:30am-6:30pm

Middle School Faith Formation Grade 7/8 Service Requirements

In addition to service project planned and implemented by the teens as a collective in April, each student will be required to complete 5 hours of Christian Service at the parish or via parish organizations. Hours with organization outside the Catholic community will need the approval of the Director of Faith Formation.

Middle School Service Opportunities

- Parish Picnic – September 9, 2018
- Trunk or Treat – October 27, 2018
- Breakfast with Santa – December 1, 2018
- Easter Egg Hunt - April 13, 2019
- Vacation Bible School **see parish calendar

FAMILY SUPPER FUNDRAISERS

November 10, 2018 (High School)

January 19, 2019 (Middle School)

March 16, 2019 (Confirmation)

Faith Formation Middle School families are asked to provide desserts; cookies, bar desserts, etc. (2-3 dozen). All donations from the Chili Suppers are used for youth activities.

High School Faith Formation Grades 9-10th

Sundays 9:30a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Two years of High School Christian Formation classes are required of any young person, not enrolled in a Catholic High School before they begin to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The St. Mary by the Lake Faith Formation program provides an opportunity for youth in grades 9th through 10th to grow in faith by developing a meaningful relationship with Jesus, a better understanding of our Catholic tradition and help to plant roots for the adult years. This program includes instruction, fellowship, prayer, service, and fun. The Director of Youth Ministry and Catechists use a variety of activities and media to help connect their faith to their everyday life experiences. The Youth Ministry program also provides opportunities for youth to engage in service, social and retreat opportunities throughout the year.

9th & 10th Grade Curriculum:

- *Chosen: This Is Your Catholic Faith* takes young people on a journey through the entire Catholic faith in all its richness and vitality. Teens will be captivated by the story, from Creation all the way through salvation history, and they will come to see how the sacraments, prayer, and discipleship are the keys to a happy life. The goal of this program is nothing short of winning over the hearts of teens and making them lifelong disciples of Christ. *Chosen's* methodology features highly effective and engaging material conveyed through videos, student workbooks, and classroom experience and is unlike any program available in the Church today.

OPENING FAMILY LITURGY:

Wednesday, September 19, 2018 @ 6:30 pm. in Church

A brief information session will be held immediately following the Opening Liturgy. Parent packs and all pertinent information will be distributed at this meeting and families will be given the opportunity to meet their catechist(s).

CLASS CALENDAR:

September 23 rd	December 2 nd , 16 th	March 3 rd , 17 th
October 7 th , 21 st	January 6 th , 20 th	April 7 th , 14 th
November 4 th , 18 th	February 3 rd , 17 th	

Grade 9/10 Required Events

- High School Retreat (required – cost is included in tuition): February 23, 2019 at SMBTL

High School Faith Formation Grade 9/10 Service Requirements

In addition to service project planned and implemented by the teens as a collective in April, each student will be required to complete 10 hours of Christian Service at the parish or via parish organizations. Hours with organization outside the Catholic community will need the approval of the Director of Faith Formation.

High School Service Opportunities

- Parish Picnic – September 9, 2018
- Trunk or Treat – October 27, 2018
- Breakfast with Santa – December 1, 2018
- Easter Egg Hunt – April 13, 2019
- Vacation Bible School **see parish calendar

FAMILY SUPPER FUNDRAISERS

November 10, 2018 (High School)
January 19, 2019 (Middle School)
March 16, 2019 (Confirmation)

Faith Formation families are asked to elbow macaroni and oyster crackers.
All donations from the Chili Suppers are used for youth activities.

Faith Formation Children's Special Programming



"And he took the children
in his arms, put his hands
on them and blessed them."
Mark 10:16

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

1st and 3rd Sundays during 8:30 a.m. Mass ~ October-May

Children's Liturgy of the Word takes place during the 8:30 a.m. Sunday Masses for parents attending Mass with children 3 to 6 years old. There is no registration or fee required for children to attend. CLOW is not a catechetical experience nor is it a substitute for regular catechetical formation.

BINGO PARTY SERVICE OUTREACH TO ST. MONICA SENIOR CARE

Sundays @ 1:00pm July 8th ~ September 16th, November 11th, 2019 dates TBA
The Faith Formation program at St. Mary's sponsors BINGO parties year round at St. Monica's Senior Home, located at 3920 N. Green Bay Road. Families are encouraged to share Christ's mercy and participate in one or more of these outreach events.



FAMILY SUPPER

November 10, 2018 (High School)
January 19, 2019 (Middle School)
March 16, 2019 (Confirmation)



Family Supper is a parish-wide social event sponsored by the Faith Formation program. The meal is prepared and served by Middle and High School Students. Elementary age children are encouraged to participate in the ministry of hospitality by enjoying the meal with the parish family.

TRUNK OR TREAT SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2018 1:00-3:00pm

This safe trick or treat option allows children to dress up in their Halloween costume and collect candy from dozens of decorated vehicle trunks.



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA CLAUS

Saturday, December 1, 2018 ~ 9:00-11:00am

Kick off the holiday season with a Pancake Breakfast with Santa & Mrs. Claus, create a craft and enjoy the festive ambiance! No registration. Free will donations appreciated.

EASTER EGG HUNT Saturday, April 13, 2018

Children 11 and under are invited to hop down the Bunny trail with the one and only Easter Bunny for candy and prizes. No registration. Free will donations appreciated.

