



Saint Regis Parish

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
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Fr. E. George Saletrik, Pastor

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Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

I hope you are having a wonderful summer so far. It's hard to believe it's already time to register your child(ren) for Faith Formation classes.

With everything that has been happening with Covid-19, the Diocese of Greensburg is recommending that faith formation take place virtually at least until the end of December. Because of this, Faith Formation will look different this year. The two options available are "Virtual" and "Home School."

The "**Home School**" option (available for grades 1-8) will be very similar to last year. You and your child will work through a chapter in the *Alive In Christ* book and then your child will take an online assessment. You will need to complete 16 chapters and assessments (that would be two chapters a month from September to April - note the number of chapters has changed from last year).

We are still working out what the "**Virtual**" option (available for grades K-12) will look like. If all goes well, the catechists will create lessons (possibly videos of their teaching, worksheets, videos, crafts, etc.) and your child will have until the next class (usually two weeks) to view the teachings and complete the assignment(s). If the diocese gives us the ok to resume in-person classes sometime in 2021, that option will be available for those who choose to participate (the "virtual" option will still be available). Unfortunately, if social distancing is still required, we may need to change what days we meet to grades K-5 meet on Monday evenings and grades 6-8 meet on Tuesday evenings. Because we will not need to purchase as many supplies this school year, we are slightly reducing the cost of tuition for the "virtual" option.

Enclosed you will find a family faith formation registration form with the pricing schedule and a permission/photo release form. Please return the registration form and permission/photo release form by Monday, August 24th. **Classes will start the week of September 13th.**

Just a quick note on the Sacraments. All sacraments must take place in the parish in which the family is registered. The sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion usually take place in 2nd grade. The children must be enrolled in either faith formation classes or Catholic school in 1st and 2nd grades and attend all sacrament prep classes to be eligible to receive the sacraments. The sacrament of Confirmation usually takes place in 8th grade. Youth must be enrolled in either faith formation classes or Catholic school in 7th and 8th grades and complete all

sacrament prep work to be eligible to receive Confirmation. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

If your child attends Catholic School or another parish's faith formation program, please still fill out the registration form, mark the N/A option and just note which school/parish program your child is attending. This is to keep our records up-to-date and to ensure that your child will be included when it's time for sacrament preparation.

We always need parent volunteers (especially for MYM and SHYM projects). To ensure the safety of our children, all volunteers need to have proper clearances. If you do not have current clearances or are unsure of your clearances, I encourage you to contact the office to start the process (there is no cost for volunteer clearances and they are good for 5 years). It would be wonderful if all of our parents had current clearances.

We have a wonderful and dedicated group of Catechists and Aides who are committed to passing on our rich Catholic Faith. We are excited to start the upcoming school year!

Joyfully in Christ,

Karen McDade
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