

Saint Regis Parish



A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
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Fr. Daniel E. Carr, Pastor

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Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

I hope you are enjoying the Summer! I know it seems like a long way away, but it's time to start thinking about Faith Formation this Fall.

Enclosed you will find a family registration form (pink sheet), Diocesan Permission, Release, and Assumption of Risk Form (yellow sheet), class schedules with important dates (white sheet), and a summary for sacrament preparation (blue sheet).

We are so excited to announce that there are now four Faith Formation options available: Traditional In-Class (grades 1-8), Home Study (grades 1-8), Senior High Youth Ministry (grades 9-12), and Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (ages 3-12).

Traditional In-Class option (grades 1-8): the children will attend catechist-led, in-person classes two or three times a month, and two special family catechesis events (see class schedules for details).

Home Study option (grades 1-8): students will work through two or three specific chapters each month and pass an online assessment. There are also two in-person special family catechesis events to attend (Monday, March 3 and Monday, May 5) and a parent meeting on Monday, September 9.

Senior High Youth Ministry (SHYM) (grades 9-12): students will meet monthly to learn more about our faith and do service projects (see class schedule for details).

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) (ages 3-12): classes meet weekly in the atrium (specially prepared environment). The atrium is a place of prayer, in which work and study spontaneously become meditation, contemplation, and prayer. The atrium is a place in which the only Teacher is Christ; both children and adult catechists place themselves in a listening stance before his Word and contemplate the mystery of the liturgical celebration. All children ages 3 to 5 are strongly encouraged to participate in CGS. Please note that space is limited (maximum 8 children in level 1 per session, we will run multiple sessions a week) so please register early. We will have a CGS Open House before classes start, watch the bulletin for more information.

To encourage early registration so the catechists can better prepare for the first day of class (with enough desks, books, and other supplies), we are implementing two pricing schedules depending on whether you register before or after the deadline. The full pricing schedule is included on the back of the registration form. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

I communicate mostly by email. Please make sure you put my email in your address book so hopefully, my emails won't go into your spam folder. **Please check your email regularly for any special instructions or information** (including Sacrament Prep info). I will email more information before the first class. If you do not get an email from me before the first day of class, please let me know. If we need to cancel Faith Formation classes for any reason, I will send out an email and put the closing on the local news closings (WTAE, WPXI, KDKA).

If your child attends a Catholic School or another parish's faith formation program, please still fill out the registration form and just note which school/parish program your child is attending (there is no fee). This is for our records and to ensure that your child will be included in all of the sacrament preparation communications.

We always need parent volunteers (as catechists, aides, and security, and also for SHYM projects). Please note that there is no cost for the children of catechists and aides to attend faith formation. If you can help as a classroom aide or security, please contact me as soon as possible. To ensure the safety of our children, all volunteers need to have proper clearances before working in the classroom. 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 to obtain volunteer clearances). 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 so excited to start the upcoming school year! Please reach out if you have any questions or problems.

Joyfully in Christ,

Karen

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