

September 2021

Dear Faith Formation Families,

You've all been in our thoughts and prayers throughout this difficult year, and we want you to know we're here to support and assist you. We want to use what we've learned through these challenging times to benefit the Faith Formation Program and to grow as a Church community. Your input is important to us as well. If there are comments or suggestions you'd like to share to help us move forward, please contact us at (518)355-3115 or email ffo@smsparish.org. Thank you!

Whether or not your family participated in our 2020-21 SMS/SGA Faith Formation Program, we want to welcome you back for the 2021-2022 Faith Formation year. If your children missed a grade level, they don't need to make up those lessons since ***Faith Formation is not an academic subject but is a life-long journey.*** It's been a challenging time for us all, and we hope to return to some normalcy going forward.

If it's feasible, Faith Formation sessions will be offered ***in-person at St. Madeleine Sophie and St. Gabriel's Parish sites.*** We also offer Independent Study at home for most grades if attending scheduled sessions isn't possible. If conditions change due to COVID, children may also have the choice to attend classes virtually. We're trying to offer options that work best for your family, as our primary goal is to provide a safe environment for all our parish youth.

As always, Catechists are needed to teach **your children**. Being a Catechist will bring you joy while giving you the opportunity to bring Christ to others. You'll be a role model to other families while showing your own how much you value our Catholic faith. Resources will be provided to guide you, including Catechist Manuals that correspond to the grade level workbooks. We're always here to support you too! Please prayerfully consider serving our youth as a catechist or aide in the parish Faith Formation Program.

*****IMPORTANT: DUE TO REDUCED STAFFING, ALL REGISTRATION FORMS NEED TO BE RETURNED TO THE SMS FAITH FORMATION OFFICE ONLY, EITHER BY DROPPING IT OFF IN PERSON, BY MAIL OR EMAIL.**

Please complete the enclosed **updated 2021-22 Faith Formation Registration and new Parish Registration form; these are 2 separate documents.** You can also register and pay online.

If you already completed & returned the registration forms that you received by email in August, please do not resubmit another registration form for your family. You will be getting a ***Sign-Up Genius*** link to enroll your children in class sessions. ***If you want your name removed from our Faith Formation mailing list, email us at your convenience. Thanks!***

We look forward to seeing you all in the coming months. Stay healthy and best wishes for a great start to the school year!

May God Bless Your Families!

The St. Madeleine Sophie/St. Gabriel the Archangel Faith Formation Staff

518-355-3115/ffo@smsparish.org