



# CHURCH OF SAINT JOSEPH

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## FAITH FORMATION

July 24, 2020

Dear Faith Formation Families,

Our longing to know our faith, grow our faith so that we can go in faith is present as individuals and as a community of faith. Even though the **structure of faith formation for 2020-2021** needs to be adapted this year, its importance remains the same. We realize there are various options on how best to move forward because of the challenges due to the Co-vid-19 pandemic. After a lot of thought, we have decided on the following format.

In past years, we introduced and implemented the importance and practice of “at home” sessions along with “onsite sessions.” This finds us at an advantage and ahead of the plan for this year. We will begin this year with **all “at home” sessions and sending in the interactive reviews** for each session (chapter) for **grades 1-8**. Please walk through each lesson with your children and then do the interactive reviews. Once the interactive reviews are completed send them to [ffdirector@churchstjoseph.org](mailto:ffdirector@churchstjoseph.org)

Grades 9-10 will be receiving their sessions and special assignments to be turned in as well.

In addition to the regular **grade 2** sessions, I will be sending preparation information for the **Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion** in January. Preparation information for the **Sacrament of Confirmation (grade 11)** will be sent as soon as possible.

**Once a month** there will be an online communication, offering guidance, inspiration, teaching moments as well as summarizing and posing questions based on the textbook resources. These sessions will take place via a Zoom meeting **for the children in grades 1-8 (combined) and their parents and for the students in grades 9-10 as noted on the enclosed calendars. Before each of the online Zoom meetings you will be sent a link to connect to the meeting from home.**

These plans are not optimal. Yet it seems to be the safest and most effective avenue at this point. Our faith formation enrollment is usually around 250 students and therefore onsite social distancing would be quite challenging. I trust that each family will make their child’s faith formation plan a priority and do your part to remain faithful to the promise made at the time of baptism.

Because of more “at home sessions,” we have reduced the faith formation tuition to \$50.00 from \$80.00 per child for this year even though we will still be ordering the textbooks and packet resources.

*(over please)*

**Included with this letter are the following:**

- Registration Form for 2020-2021
- Session calendar for grades 1-8, 9, 10
- Confirmation calendar-grade 11

Please send in your completed **registration forms with payment Monday, August 17.** You can mail them or drop them off in the parish drop box located inside the first door of the parish office building.

I ask that you pick up your child's textbook and supply packet (grades 1-10) on **Monday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, between 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm in Heritage Hall.** There will be an envelope with your family name on the outside.

Please remember to read the parish bulletin, visit our parish website, parish Facebook page and our faith formation Facebook page for additional and/or up to date information.

**The main source of information will be the parish website: [www.churchstjoseph.org](http://www.churchstjoseph.org).**

It is my prayer that our faith and our parish faith community become even stronger as we continue to face the challenges given us. I will do whatever I can to help, assist and guide you.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many, many blessings!

Marian Bach  
Director of Faith Formation  
Church of Saint Joseph  
St. Joseph, Minnesota

*Be Still*  
AND KNOW  
THAT I AM GOD  
-PSALM 46:10