



# CHURCH OF SAINT JOSEPH

12 W MINNESOTA ST  
www.churchstjoseph.org  
ffdirector@churchstjoseph.org

ST JOSEPH MN 56374  
320-363-7505 ext. 152

## WELCOME to the 2017-2018 year of Faith Formation!

*Our mission statement at Saint Joseph states “through our liturgy and faith formation, we build on a solid foundation as active witnesses of Christ, and we eagerly respond to the needs of the parish and global community.”*

### Dear Families,

Faith Formation for all ages continues to be of utmost importance at Saint Joseph’s. Our baptismal calling asks that we “nudge” each other to greatness, moving all of us into a deeper relationship with God and connection to our parish faith community. This requires a heartfelt, active, spirit-filled and enthusiastic commitment from each of us.

Showing up only for the “sacramental years” or “seasonally” or at times of suffering and loss or celebration is not enough. Faith formation is a lifelong process and is so very important within the context of a faith community.

Attendance and participation at Mass and in the sacraments is vital for our personal faith journeys and in the life of our parish. Plugging into the many opportunities within the parish is also very important. Attending Faith Formation classes, bible study, retreats, parish, social and intergenerational events, the parish festival, reading the parish bulletins and newsletters, volunteering to help in the various ministries, are some ways to be and feel connected to the life of the parish. As a community of believers, we have been entrusted with the wonderful gift of faith; a faith that continually needs to be nurtured and cared for; not in isolation but within community. Just as we strive for greatness in sports or physical health, so very important is the “work-out” for our faith lives.

Last year our focus was to “Keep Holy the Sabbath.” This focus will again be our strength as we move into 2017-2018. One or two people cannot carry the spirit and excitement of learning and growing in our faith. It takes each of us. It is my hope and prayer that the dedication and longing to be a part of the faith community will shine in and through all of us. We offer many opportunities for all ages, from the little ones all the way to those in the wisdom years of life. Be sure to stay informed regarding the offerings throughout the year via the many avenues of communication.

*Once again, we ask that you PLEASE return your registration forms by the due date noted on the form. The option to do home study is highly discouraged and not possible unless approved by the director, and as in the past, home study is not an option for grades 2, 9, 10, and 11.*

Many Blessings,

**Marian Bach**  
Director of Faith Formation

**Mary Lohaus**  
Administrative Assistant

