



St. Paul's Faith Formation Office

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Registration 2016 - 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to a new year of Faith Formation and Sacrament Preparation at St. Paul's! We are here to help and assist you, as parents and guardians, in your role as the primary educators of your children! Parents want the best for their kids, we do too! We feel confident that our liturgies, classes, workshops and meetings will build on what you teach by word and example. We are here for you, but we expect that you will do your part too!

The Diocese of Syracuse recommends that we provide at least 30 contact hours of Faith Formation each year. In addition to the scheduled classes, workshops and events noted on the Faith Formation Calendar, there are a number of opportunities available for families during the year: We start our year with a Family Picnic held jointly with St. Joseph's on September 11 at Delta Lake State Park. In the event of rain, the picnic will be held at St. Paul's. In October, join us for the Crop Walk, on November 12-16, we will hold our Parish Mission with Fr. Kevin McDonald. A children's choir and the Nativity Tableau are held on Christmas Eve. A Family Tubing Day is held at Wood's Valley jointly with St. Joseph's, Stations of the Cross are held during Lent, and a Easter-egg hunt are but a few of the offerings available to all of our families. Please come and join us or lend a hand in serving others. Be a part of something meaningful to enrich your own faith and the faith of your family!

Enclosed is your Faith Formation Calendar for 2016 - 2017. The color-coded calendar lists dates and times for the coming year. Classes for children in grades K-4 meet on Wednesday mornings from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. and are colored yellow. Children in grade 5 through Confirmation meet on Monday evenings from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. and are noted in blue. A Journey Group for children in grade 4 and above who have not yet celebrated First Eucharist or First Reconciliation will meet on Monday evenings from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., dates are also noted in blue. **Important Information regarding safety, cancellations, snacks, and Mass times at St. Paul's are located on the reverse side of the calendar.**

A **Confirmation Orientation Meeting** will be held for students (in grades 9 and 10) and parents on Sunday, September 25 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Paul's. The Confirmation process requires two years of study, at the high-school level. Students must be in 10th grade or above in order to be confirmed. Class outlines and requirements will be distributed at the meeting.

A **First Eucharist/Reconciliation Parent Meeting** will be held on Sunday, October 2 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Paul's for parents of children in 2nd grade and above who will celebrate First Reconciliation in December and First Eucharist in May, 2017; study guides will be distributed at the meeting.

As we begin this new school year, we will again offer "**Circles of Care**" the educational component of our Safe Environment Program for children and teens as required by Most Rev. Robert J. Cunningham, Bishop of Syracuse. The age-appropriate sessions will be held on Monday, Oct. 24 for grades 5 -10 and on Wednesday, Oct. 26 for grades K- 4. Parents may review the complete curriculum, or request an opt-out form from the diocesan website: www.syracusediocese.org

Enclosed is your Registration Form for the 2016 - 2017 Faith Formation year; the form is partially completed for those who attended last year. Please note any corrections or changes to ensure we have accurate information on file. The fee schedule is located at the bottom of the page. Please sign and return your registration form by **September 10**. You will save \$5 and we will have time to plan for

classes for your children. The Registration Fee remains at \$45 per child plus a \$25 Sacrament Preparation Fee for those with a child in the First Reconciliation/Eucharist or Confirmation. If you are unable to pay the requested fees, please send in whatever amount you can afford. **No one will be denied the opportunity to attend classes or receive a Sacrament due to financial hardship.** If you are in a position to send in a donation to help those who cannot afford to pay, it will be received with our sincere gratitude.

A green 2-part Release-Time Form is included for each child in grades K - 4, one part goes to your child's elementary school and one part is to be returned with your registration.

Please return in the envelope provided:

- Your completed, **signed** Family Registration Form
- Check or money-order payable to St. Paul's Parish
- 2-part Release-Time Form for each child who attends on Wednesday morning (grades K-4)
- If you will be picking up your child on Wednesday mornings include a signed note stating that your child will not be riding the bus to school after class.
- Sacramental Record Form (first-time registrants and new families only)

Please send an email or call if you need additional forms or have any questions. Giving a high priority to weekly attendance at Mass and fitting Faith Formation and Sacrament Preparation Classes into busy family schedules teaches our children that our Catholic Faith has meaning and value. May God bless you and give you...

Peace,

