

Discounted fee if  
received by  
June 1st

# GRADES 1-12 FAITH FORMATION

*I came that you might have life,  
and have it abundantly!*

*John 10:10*



**The schedule for the 2016-17 year  
is provided early so that you may properly prioritize  
your child's faith formation with other activities.**

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“There are two powerful influences on the planet-  
the church and the home.

They both exist because God initiated them.

They both exist because God desires to use them to demonstrate  
His plan of redemption and restoration.

If they work together they can potentially make a greater impact  
than if they work alone.

They need each other.

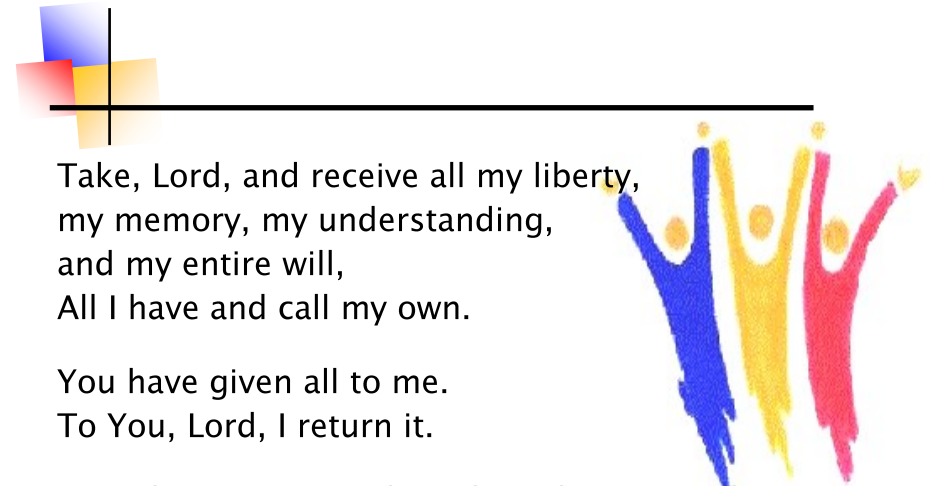
Too much is at stake for either one to fail.

Their primary task is to build God’s Kingdom in the hearts of men  
and women, sons and daughters.”

(from **THINK ORANGE**

*IMAGINE THE IMPACT WHEN CHURCH AND FAMILY COLLIDE*  
*by Reggie Joiner*)

And so our parish embraces more fully the family approach to Faith Formation... church and family partnering together to learn, grow, and serve together so as to make disciples to further establish God’s Kingdom. Families with youth in grades 1-8 come together monthly to engage in a faith formation experience designed for families: typically beginning with a focusing activity on the monthly topic, then breaking into age-level small groups and then coming back together in a large group to tie and all together and to receive a “sending-forth” activity to practice living the class lesson as a family. Each session either begins or end with a parish Mass. High School classes are offered at the same time as the Family Program. So no more bringing one child on one day and another child on another day... the whole family comes at the same time!



Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty,  
my memory, my understanding,  
and my entire will,  
All I have and call my own.

You have given all to me.  
To You, Lord, I return it.

Everything is Yours; do with it what You will.  
Give me only Your love and Your grace,  
that is enough for me.

*(St Ignatius of Loyola)*

## Prayer for Generosity

*(St. Ignatius of Loyola)*

Lord, teach me to be generous.  
Teach me to serve You as You deserve;  
to give and not to count the cost,  
to fight and not to heed the wounds,  
to toil and not to seek for rest,  
to labor and not to ask for reward,  
save that of knowing that I do Your will.

## Daily Examen

**General Examen:** At the end of each day consider how you have lived God’s Love and how you failed...

**Particular Examen:** At the start of each day, choose one area considered the night before to work on throughout the day, seeking God’s guidance and support.

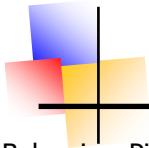
*Notice day after day God helping you to love more like Jesus!!*



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## Growing in Discipleship Together

Below is a Pie Chart which illustrates the areas in which disciples are called to engage and develop...

in doing so they will be empowered to be more like Jesus...

**Speak as He would speak, act as He would act, do as He would do!**

As a parish, whether younger or older, we are invited to be challenged to grow in each area.

**Let us grow as disciples and watch the wonders of God's Love unfold in our midst!!!**



## Preparation for Confirmation

### Confirmation Specifics

**Date for Confirmation:**

Spring 2017,

when the Bishop's Office lets us know, we'll let you know!

**Baptismal Certificate:**

**By EASTER, ALL Candidates** need to turn in a copy of their baptismal certificate... unless you were baptized here.

Please inform us if you were baptized here.

### Sponsor

**A sponsor is someone who:**

- Celebrates the Eucharist regularly
- Is at least 16 years of age and is a confirmed practicing Catholic
- Is not a parent of the candidate being sponsored
- Models for you what an authentic faithful Catholic Christian is
- Is willing to support and encourage you on your faith journey
- If married, must be in a valid marriage
- Returns sponsor form signed by their pastor
- **Forms (given out at Jan mtg) due by EASTER**

### Confirmation Name

In Scripture we have examples of people's names being changed when they were given a new role or when they experienced a conversion. Abram and Sarai's names changed to Abraham and Sarah when they become believers in the One God. When Jesus appointed him the leader of the apostles, Simon's name changed to Peter. Saul, who persecuted the first Christians, changed his name to Paul when he became an apostle. Because Confirmation celebrates your being fully-initiated into the Church, and it could be a significant faith-life moment where you sincerely commit to growing and being a disciple of Jesus, choosing a Confirmation name reflects this intention. You may choose the name you were baptized with, therefore confirming what was celebrated when you were baptized. Or you may choose the name of a saint who represents for you what a Christian should be, therefore reminding you of your commitment to live as a disciple.

**If choosing a name, inform Sue by EASTER.**





# Preparation for Confirmation

## Catechetical Options for Preparation for Confirmation:

**With only 4 classes, attendance at each class is expected.**

If you know you can't make a particular class, you may attend that session of another option.

Class Topic	Option S1 dates	Option S2 dates	Option S3 dates
	Sundays	Tuesdays	Thursdays
	6-7:30 SJ	5:30-7 SJ	6-7:30 MQP
The Holy Spirit	March 5, 2017	March 7, 2017	March 9, 2017
The Church	March 12, 2017	March 14, 2017	March 16, 2017
Confirmation	March 19, 2017	March 21, 2017	March 23, 2017
Made for Mission	March 26, 2017	March 28, 2017	March 30, 2017

### Confirmation Retreat Options

Retreat 1: Sunday, April 30 9:30-5:30 MQP  
 Retreat 2: Sunday, May 7 10-6 SJ  
 Retreat 3: 5 Tuesday nights, Apr 4, 11, 18, May 2, 9 6-7:30 SJ

The Diocese of Manchester developed a Pastoral Plan for Catechesis entitled :

*Feed My Sheep: Nourishing Disciples.*

The document states that parish programs are to reflect lifelong faith formation inspired by the baptismal catechumenate (I.e. RCIA), and the **programming for youth ought to follow a comprehensive youth ministry model, active participation of the parish community, and incorporate a spirit of evangelization.** In regarding Confirmation specifically, the document states:

*Confirmation catechesis teaches that Confirmation increases and deepens the grace of Baptism. It is important that preparation emphasizes and strengthens the "baptismal conferral of the Holy Spirit" (NDC, p 123) and prepares candidates to witness to their faith in their words and deeds.*

*In addition to preparation in a comprehensive youth ministry program ... the Diocese recommends that iParents and sponsors should be actively Involved in the catechetical preparation as well as be provided resources to help them understand and fulfill their role.*

*Spiritual experiences and service opportunities are an integral part of vibrant parish communities... These experiences and opportunities include prior catechesis to prepare the candidates and other parishioners and a reflection afterward to understand what was experienced and to explore what effect it had on them personally and as a group.*

To read the whole document, go to the diocesan website [www.catholicnh.org](http://www.catholicnh.org)

Future schedule conflicts can't always be predicted, so the dates and places listed within may be subject to change.

The parish bulletin is our major source of communication. We do what we can to get the word out and **hope families will do what they can to stay informed.**

**We also seek to give out dates early so families have plenty of time to prioritize.**



## Office Hours

The **parish offices** are all located at 200 Lawrence Road.

**The parish office is open**

Monday-Thursday 9:30-2:30 and  
on Fridays 9-Noon



## Class meeting places

**Classes are held between both campuses:**

- ⇒ Mary Queen of Peace meeting center
- ⇒ St Julie Hall (at the back of the St Joe's Parking lot to the right )
- ⇒ The Family Room... below St Joe's Church: entrance is on the side of the church facing the funeral home

## Class Cancellation



When a program needs to be canceled due to inclement weather, we will have it posted on WMUR, channel 9 and on the parish website.

A texting app is also used... directions for signing up will be available.



IMPORTANT DATES:

PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION

The summer before the year of Confirmation prep teens will meet with their sponsors. To discuss the summer sponsor component, we've a meeting on Sunday, May 15, 2016 10:30am Youth and their Sponsors will meet on their own to discuss provided reflections.

Faith Witness Project: In the Fall, Candidates will interview with a partner a parishioner as to the role faith has played in his/her life. They will then put this together and present their project at a Dec class. The Faith Witness Project meeting: Sunday, October 23rd at 6pm at St Joe's. Faith Project Interviews: Nov 13 at 6pm at SJ

Spiritual Discernment: A spiritual growth plan is discussed with a Mentor on Sunday, Sept 25 at 4. The monthly 15-minutes mentor meetings are held: Oct 30, Nov 20, Dec 18, Jan 22, and Feb 19 at 4

WORSHIP and PRAYER:

Attendance at Mass each week
Rite of Intention at parish liturgy December 4, 2016
Rite of Enrollment at parish liturgy May 7th at 5pm Mass SJ
Confirmation Retreat

3 options from which to choose to fulfill retreat

- Tuesdays, April 4, 11, 18, May 2 & 9 at SJ 6-7:30
- Sunday, April 30, 9:30-5:30 MQP
- Sunday, May 7 10-6, SJ



Confirmation: Spring 2017 (tba)



Faith Formation for Grades 1-8 takes a family approach. Family sessions (described more on the next page) are held monthly, either

- Beginning with the 9:30 Mass at MQP,
Concluding with the 11am Mass at St Joe's or
Beginning with the 5pm Mass at St Joe's.

First and second graders who don't have older siblings, may opt for the Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 9:30 Mass at MQP or the 11am Mass at St Joe's. Just before the readings begin, children are dismissed where they will hear and discuss the readings on a child's level. Children return to their parents at the time of the preparation of the gifts.



First Reconciliation and First Eucharist



To insure there is a foundation on which to build, families wanting their children prepared for these sacraments need to participate in one of the Faith Formation options one year prior to preparation. During the sacramental year, families will participate in the Faith Formation Option of their choosing, as well as monthly sacramental preparation.

First Reconciliation: Parent Meeting October 30th or 31st
Youth and Parent Meetings: Nov 20/21 and Dec 11/12
Celebrate in January

First Communion: Parent Meeting January 29th or 30th
Youth and Parent Meetings in Feb 19/20 and Mar 26/27
Celebrate in May

## FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

The Family Program serves families with children in Grades 1-8. The monthly sessions include Mass, the faith formation experience, and a home activity. **This is not a drop off program ...** Youth attend **with** their parents or guardians. A typical schedule has families meeting in a large group setting, then breaking off into age-level groups, then culminating as a large group.

So much learning of the Faith happens outside the 'classroom' setting and happens in the actual doing. Because Faith Formation is meant to effect and affect the way we live, 'homework' offers us the opportunity to practice what is learned in the monthly classes.

We also seek to grow as a community so as to be better equipped to serve others in the Salem area.

### Families are also encouraged to participate in:

- **At least 1 other parish activity besides weekly Mass**
- **A retreat:** *Several options will be available*
- **Parish-wide DAY of SERVICE:** we come together as families to serve within the community ... Mass and lunch are provided. Choose at least one:  
**October 22nd, April 22nd and/or May 20th**



### The Emmaus Experience



### Catechetical Options for the Emmaus Experience :

Class Topic	Option 1 dates	Option 2 dates
	Monday-Friday	Sundays
	9-11am MQP	5-7:30 SJ
Choices	Aug 1, 2016	Oct 16, 2016
What's Holding You Back?	Aug 2, 2016	Oct 23, 2016
Jesus	Aug 3, 2016	Nov 6, 2016
The Bible	Aug 4, 2016	Nov 13, 2016
Relationships	Aug 5, 2016	Nov 20, 2016

Missed classes are made up through another option of current or following year.

### Option 3: Teen Encounter Retreat Weekend

Teen Encounter is a Catholic Christian experience based on what it means to be Christian, especially a teenage Catholic Christian living in a world that is often in darkness and ignorant of Jesus, the true light of the world. It is a dynamic living experience with a variety of Christian learning activities in sharings, teachings, discussion, songs, games, prayer, and Sacraments. Teen Encounter is YOUTH ministering to YOUTH. Many talks are given by teenagers themselves on everyday Christianity in the home, community, parish, and the world. **This weekend at St Basil's in Methuen replaces the 5 classes above and the Discipleship Workshop Day below.**

### In addition to above Classes:

- ◇ Discipleship Workshop on Dec 3, 1-6 at St Joe's
- ◇ 2 Parish Activities, 1 being of service
- ◇ 4 prayer sessions (options in table below)

### Option 4: Catholic High School Students

- 4 prayer sessions (options in table below)

Prayer Option A 9:30-10:15	Prayer Option B 4-4:45	Prayer Option C 6:30-7:15
Mon., Aug 8, 2016	Sun, Jan 8, 2017	Tues., Jan 10, 2017
Tues., Aug 9, 2016	Sun, Jan 22, 2017	Tues., Jan 17, 2017
Wed., Aug 10, 2016	Sun, Jan 29, 2017	Tues., Jan 24, 2017
Thurs., Aug 11, 2016	Sun, Feb 5, 2017	Tues., Jan 31, 2017



# RENEWING OUR HEARTS

## The Emmaus Experience

In an attempt to simplify the illustration of the overall process, we've come up with an acronym... no matter our age or where we go to school or what we do for work or who our

friends are, **each of us is invited to experience and grow to a deeper understanding of what true discipleship is...** let it first be understood that growing in this understanding takes a LIFE TIME! But by participating in each 'letter', a more complete foundation of what one's "YES" in Confirmation implies is started. The Emmaus Experience year begins a focused look on discipleship while the Preparation Year develops one's understanding of the Sacrament and all that the Rite celebrates.

## Preparation for Confirmation

- D** isipleship Workshop (*for parents and teens*)
- I** interview Project
- S** ummer conversations with sponsor
- C** onfirmation Retreat
- I** nvolvement with 2 parish activities outside of weekly Mass (1 being of service)
- P** articipate in EE classes or Teen Encounter and Confirmation classes
- L** etter of Intent and Mentor meetings
- E** xperience 4 prayer sessions of EE year & Triduum *once anytime before Confirmation*
- S** ervant heart

Items listed in black are scheduled during the first year, known as the Emmaus Experience. **Items in red happen from the summer at the end of the Emmaus Experience year through the Preparation year.**

The above is described in further detail on the following pages.



## FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

# GRADES 1-8 FAITH FORMATION OPTIONS

If you know your family cannot make ta particular session at the time you registered for, you may attend that session of another option.

**plus 1 retreat, 1 day of service and 1 parish event**

Families will be informed as to whether they are in the A or B group.

Class Topic	Option 9:30A and 5:00 dates	Option 9:30B dates	Option 11:00 dates
	9:30-12 MQP	9:30-12 MQP	9:30-12 SJ
	5-7:30 at SJ		
<b>Catholic Social Teaching and Acts of Mercy</b>	Sept 11	Sept 18	Sept 25
<b>Life and Dignity of Human Person</b>	Oct 2	Oct 16	Oct 23
<b>Culture of Consumerism</b>	Nov 6	Nov 13	Nov 20
<b>Option for Poor and Vulnerable</b>	Dec 4	Dec 11	Dec 18
<b>Unity among Diversity</b>	Jan 8	Jan 22	Jan 29
<b>Visiting the sick and Imprisoned</b>	Feb 5	Feb 12	Feb 19
<b>Global Family and Solidarity</b>	March 5	March 12	March 19
<b>Care for God's Creation/ Global Restoration</b>	April 2	April 9	
	Snowdate	Snowdate	

### At Home Option

Oct. 16, 5-7:30 at SJ  
Attend one of the January sessions listed above  
April 9, 5-7:30 at SJ



## Curriculum

Family Faith Formation follows a 4 year rotating curriculum:

**God the Father:** the unfolding story of our relationship with God as experienced by our ancestors in Faith.

**God the Son:** coming to know Jesus through the Gospels & the Sacraments.

**God the Holy Spirit:** discovering the Third Person of the Trinity and recognizing the Spirit in the early Church and today.

**Morality and Catholic Social Teaching:** considering our call to be in a right relationship with God and each other first made known through the 10 Commandments, then discovering the deeper implications through Jesus' teachings, the Beatitudes, Acts of Mercy and Catholic Social Teaching.



The **High School Emmaus Experience** will focus on considering what it really means to be a disciple as they discern their readiness to embrace the sacrament of Confirmation at this time.

The **Preparation for Confirmation**, in keeping with diocesan guidelines, will cover the Holy Spirit, gifts and fruits of the Spirit, history and theology of the Sacrament, the meanings of the ritual actions, and one's personal readiness, call and response.

Our parish has grade-level **Youth Groups** to offer support, encouragement, prayer and guidance in living our Faith in the everydayness of our lives.. Weekly meetings involve discussing/experiencing our faith with peers, developing new friendships, offering acceptance, respect, love and laughter and being challenged to live out on how to be a disciple of Christ.

Your children are invited to drop in on any of our gatherings.

Their friends are welcome too!

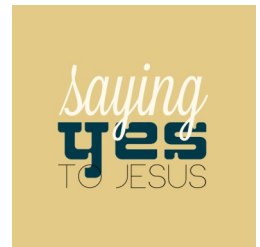
See the parish bulletin or website for meeting times.

## HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

Though it may be a common presumption, the goal of high school ministry is NOT Confirmation. We seek to offer a high school ministry, **focused on making disciples...** Confirmation is offered for those who are ready to say and mean their "YES".

Confirmation is not a graduation from Faith Formation, but rather one choosing to say 'YES' to **WANTING** God to be more in your life, **YOU WANT to live your life in keeping with the Way of Jesus, YOU WANT to continue growing and learning, and YOU WANT to join in the Church's mission to continue Jesus' ministry to establish the Kingdom of God.**

**Not everyone is ready to say "YES" during their high school years... every year there are countless adults who celebrate Confirmation. It's okay to wait until one is able to say what they mean and mean what they say.**



**This is not suggesting one should not send his/her teen to high school Faith Formation activities... these are all meant to provide experiences for them to get to God, to be Church, to discern where they are now in their faith journey and where they need to grow personally, and be better equipped to either say "YES!" or "Not yet"...** It's not a 'waste of time' if, after experiencing high school faith formation, to then choose to wait to confirm one's faith... it means he/she is a person of integrity and wants the sacrament to mean something... it means he/she isn't just going through the motions.

