

St. Joseph Catholic Church Office of Faith Formation

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April 13, 2025

Dear Faith Formation Families.

This Sunday is our last day of formal Faith Formation classes for the 2024-2025 school year. Next Sunday, April 20, is Easter Sunday and there are no classes. The following Sunday, April 27, we will gather for our closing Mass at 11:00 in the church. The children will meet their teachers in the Gathering Space prior to Mass and sit by grades in reserved pews. They will receive a special blessing at the end of Mass. All families are invited to the church basement for light refreshments following Mass.

While classes are just ending, we are already in our planning stages for the 2025-2026 school year! Early registration will help us to coordinate classes and catechists and order our materials and textbooks ahead of the fall rush. Attached to this letter is a registration form, and I ask that you return it to the Faith Formation office as soon as possible. All returning and new students must submit a registration form with payment. If there is a financial hardship, please contact me so we can make arrangements, as this will never preclude a child/family from participating. All such matters will be held in strictest confidence.

Also attached to this letter is a volunteer inquiry form. Our Faith Formation program is sustained by the generous time and effort of volunteers. We are always in need of assistance and I invite you to consider joining our team. Possible positions include: catechist (teacher), classroom aide, event planning/coordination, and substitute teacher. All adult volunteers must follow the Diocesan guidelines for child protection and submit the necessary clearances. Summer is a great time to get these done so they can be on file when classes resume in the fall. Please complete the attached volunteer form or contact me for more information.

As always, just because classes are not in session does not mean the learning stops. Please continue to work with your child(ren) and provide opportunities to grow in their faith. Practice their prayers daily, read from the Bible together, attend Mass weekly, and let them see how your faith is an important part of your life.

In closing, I would like to thank you for your warm reception to me in my first year as Director of Faith Formation. This year has offered me so many opportunities for personal growth and affirmation in my faith in part because of my interactions with your children and families. I look forward to many years of nurturing these relationships and watching our parish community thrive with your help. Please be assured of my continued prayers for your families.

Let Christ's peace be with you,

Melissa Joseph

Director of Faith Formation