

St. Mary Parish Religious Education



“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” Mt. 19:14

FAMILY FORMATION HIGHLIGHTS

- * Learning and teaching the faith allows you to encounter Christ and grow in your faith.*
- * All catechetical material is prepared for you for home use and no research is required for parents to educate children on the specific faith content each week. Parents do not have to be experts to use Family Formation.*
- * Catechetical material has been given the imprimatur and is faithful to the Magisterium.*
- * Parents provide a religious atmosphere in the home by praying together and working as a family to learn a faith topic each week.*
- * Since many of the activities are fun for all ages, Family Formation often includes younger children and teens working along with the family at home*

WHAT IS A COMMITMENT TO FAMILY FORMATION?

Monthly Church Gatherings

Family Formation combines a **monthly church gathering** (where children meet in class settings while parents gather for adult catechesis and formation) and **weekly family Home Lessons** where parents, equipped with materials and an understanding of the lessons, teach their children the Faith.

- Families gather at church **one time per month: Sunday 1:00 to 3:00 PM OR Monday 5:00 to 7:00 PM OR Tuesday as the *make-up* session 5:00 to 7:00 PM.** (times may shorten as we get accustomed to the program!)
- Students in **Grades 1-8 meet in classes.**
- **Parents have a separate gathering** where they are catechized, encouraged, and equipped for teaching the Faith in the home.
- Parents and students are learning about the same topic of Faith.
- **Classroom catechists** are trained and provided a complete curriculum for teaching the monthly lesson.
- Families receive a packet of **weekly Home Lessons** to use for the rest of the month at home.

Weekly Family Home Lessons

- **Brings the family together and enable parents** to be the primary educators of their children in the Catholic Faith.
- Takes about **one hour per week** to complete.
- Includes **games, activities, booklets, and CDs** to keep learning fun.
- **Reinforces Sunday Mass**— *Family Formation* lessons reflect the liturgical year and immerse families into the life and seasons of the Church.