

Dear Parents of Faith Formation students,

The main mission of the Church is to proclaim the Gospel of the Lord and to evangelize people, bringing them closer to God and teaching them the precepts of our Catholic faith. This is particularly true in regard to our children and young people.

The parents are always the principal teachers of the faith for their children and the faith community is here to help in the lifelong process of forming true disciples of Christ.

We will continue to offer the program in the new format, which we have started last year that includes collaboration of the six parishes of the East side of Duluth and St. Joseph in Gnesen.

We all agree that last year's program, because of the COVID impact and the open position of the coordinator for the middle and high school, was a challenging time and restricted to what we could do. This year we are starting the Faith Formation program in better circumstances with the intention to continue to improve and build up the program as we go forward. Few weeks ago, we had offered an informational meeting for parents regarding the new format but unfortunately very few people attended. We will try to answer any questions you may have as we go along. We know from similar experiences in other parishes that it takes few years and patience to find the right balance since each place is different and has its own challenges and strengths.

The program will start in October and the K-5 grades will meet in their own parishes and the middle and high school students will meet at the Cathedral, utilizing the church and the school buildings. More details will be coming soon.

I'd like to encourage all our families to pray for the success of the new endeavor as we try to help our children to learn about God, the Church, and our faith and to build a strong relationship with the Lord and each other and at the same time to use in the best way our resources both financial and personnel.

With God's blessing,

Fr. Andy, omi