

Dear Parishioners,

As Pastors/Parish Administrator of the 6 parishes in East Duluth we recognize the need to combine our Faith Formation programs. Three of the four parishes are looking for a Faith Formation director, the current level of financial support of the individual programs is challenging or for some impossible to maintain and the number of all register students in all our parishes is low.

We are looking to collaborate among the parishes and use our resources, personnel, buildings and money, to offer meaningful program and at the same time lower the cost for individual parishes.

The general idea is to have the High School program at the Cathedral, the Middle school program at St. John's and the Elementary program will be run in each individual parish. The sacramental preparation programs for First Communion and Confirmation will be done collaboratively in one of the sites and the sacraments will be celebrated at the individual parishes with the possibility, as it was in the past, to combine the celebration of Confirmation in one of the parishes.

This year, the COVID pandemic will have an impact on how we run the program with all the regulations and protocol. **Please read the general Diocesan Guidelines posted on the parish website** under "Faith Formation Program 2020/21"

All families registered last year will receive email from the Faith Formation director for the Elementary or the Middle and High School program. It will include registration form and information about the locations and the program. The forms will be also available online or in the parish office.

At this time, we are still looking for a director of Faith Formation for the Middle and High School.

Because of the COVID reality, we will be able to finalize some of the planning of the program after we receive the registration forms, which would indicate the number of students.

Timely updates will be posted regularly on our parish website under "Faith Formation Program 2020/21"

We are planning to begin the program, for K-5 on Wednesday, October 7 and 6-11 on October 14.

Fr. Andy, omi