August 26, 2025

Dear Faith Formation Families,

The summer breezes are warm right now, but as we know the new school year is right around the corner. We hope that you have had a very blessed summer! **Please join us on Wednesday, September 17th from 6:30-7:30 PM in Saint Francis Hall** to learn about this year’s Faith Formation and ask for God’s blessing of the year. We are very excited to share this year’s program.

Our faith formation this year will take place on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 – 7:45 PM for all grades. We will be using the *Word of Life*curriculum from Augustine Institute for grades 1-8 and the *Chosen* series from Ascension Press for grades 9-12. We will also have a family night each month when parents are asked to attend with their children.

First Reconciliation and First Communion preparation is a one-year course for students in 2nd grade and Confirmation preparation is a two-year program for 9th and 10th grade students. If your child is seeking sacraments at an age above our program requirements, we will offer supplemental instruction and preparation in addition to our Wednesday classes.

We will also base our program on the vision of this third year of the Archdiocesan renewal process (Synod Implementation) that will emphasize reclaiming Sunday as part of how, as parents, we can truly be the primary educators of our children. In keeping with this vision, we will have fellowship and light catechesis for parents of children and youth in grades 1-8 for approximately 30 minutes after Mass once per month, October - April. We plan to hold this session in Saint Francis Hall. We look forward to this time with you as families!

We also invite all parents to come to our Order of Christian Initiation classes held each Wednesday at the 6:30 – 7:45 PM in room 102 of the school to discuss and learn about our faith together in a small group supportive setting. The content presented will be a basic presentation of our Catholic faith that will be appropriate for those becoming Catholic or receiving Baptism, Eucharist or Confirmation as an adult, but also very appropriate for parents seeking to deepen their knowledge and ability to live out their Catholic faith.

We look forward to seeing you on September 17th as the year begins! You will have the opportunity to register your family if you have not pre-registered, ask questions, meet the catechists and spend time in fellowship with other families. Due to the importance of the information that we will share at this meeting, we ask that at least one parent from every family attend. Please contact us at 952-227-4000 with questions that you may have.

Father Tony VanderLoop Danielle Campos Viviana Sotro

Pastor Coordinator of Faith Formation Latino Ministry Coordinator