



## **St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish Faith Formation Plan 2020-2021 Program Descriptions**

### **For families with students in (Pre)Kindergarten - 5th Grade**

This year, we are excited to offer a family-based small group Faith Formation model.

- This model will follow Year A of the Lectionary cycle and will include resources and discussion questions for catechesis and reflection designed by the Faith Formation staff.
- As families register for the program, we will organize small groups of 3-5 families according to their availability and the ages of their children, in efforts to create communities of similar aged children. These small groups will meet weekly with a catechist small group leader/facilitator who will guide the discussion.
- These groups would meet weekly over Zoom with the hope that in-person gatherings can take place when it is safe to do so.
- If families have children outside of grades PreK-5, these students/families are still most welcome to participate in the Family Faith Formation program together. Discussion questions for this program will be designed with grades (Pre)K-5 in mind. We hope that middle school students who participate in this family-based model also consider joining the Middle School Book Club (keep reading for more info on this program!).

We are really looking forward to empowering and including parents in their children's catechesis this year with the strong support of our wonderful catechists. We will continue to offer Family Liturgy of the Word on Sunday mornings as a way to gather in community with one another to worship until we can once again gather in person for Family Mass.

### **Middle School Book Club**

This option will be offered specifically for ALL 6th-8th grade students this year in addition to our family-based model.

- This program will expand upon our current initiative in which middle school students meet monthly to discuss books from a faith-based perspective. The Book Club reads one book per month, and students are expected to come to the discussion having read the book and prepared to participate. This year, each book will have a connection to a different tenet of Catholic Social Teaching.

- We will create as many book club groups as needed based on our registration numbers, and will offer monthly meetings via Zoom for each club to gather and discuss that month's book.
- Each group will be led by two catechists along with some wonderful high school leaders who will assist the catechists with their assigned book club throughout the year. They will prepare the book list and provide discussion questions for the students when they gather each month.
- Students will be responsible for purchasing their own books/audiobooks. When it is safe to do so, there is potential for groups to gather in person.

For even more information regarding our Middle School Book Club, please visit our webpage [HERE!](#)

## **First Communion**

First Communion preparation this year will take place on Sunday mornings from 10:00-10:30am.

- There is a fee required for First Communion of \$75.00 for each student participating in the class(es).
- Classes will take place weekly via Zoom with St. Ignatius catechists.
- We ask families who are planning to sign up for First Communion preparation to also be a part of our Pre-K-5 Family-Based model as part of our parish commitment to building and supporting strong community life. There is no cost associated with this program, and available times to sign up do not overlap with First Communion classes.
- Students will receive 2 physical textbooks for First Reconciliation and First Communion, as well as 2 parent magazines and keepsake booklets about Reconciliation and the Mass. These materials can all be picked up at the parish via a drive-thru method outside the Garden Level of the Parish Office on **Sunday, September 20, between 10:00am - 1:00pm**. Students will also receive a personal code to access a digital copy of each book.
- This year's First Communion preparation calendar can be viewed [HERE](#). Please note the following important dates:
  - **Sunday, October 25, 2020 from 10-10:30 a.m.** - Mandatory Parent Meeting via Zoom
  - **Saturday, February 6, 2021 from 1-4 p.m.** - First Communion Family Retreat on (more details to follow)
  - **Saturday, March 13, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. OR 1:00 p.m.** - First Reconciliation liturgies
  - **May 1 & May 9, 10:00 a.m.** - First Communion liturgies (with practices scheduled the previous Thursday for each liturgy)

## **Confirmation I & II**

As some of you know, beginning last year we implemented a new comprehensive two-year Confirmation program to ensure adequate sacramental preparation for our young people to become active members of our Catholic parish faith community. As part of this program, we have hired trained catechists and **require all students, including those attending a parochial school, to complete both years of Confirmation preparation.** All high school students are welcome to register for our program.

- In order to ensure high-quality catechists to facilitate the Confirmation preparation program, we are charging \$150 per student participant in Confirmation I and Confirmation II.
- Students will meet via Zoom each Sunday from 9:30-10:30am or from 4:30-5:30pm. Please indicate on your registration form your preferred class time.
- Each of these class times are coupled with a liturgy, and students are expected to prioritize weekly participation in the Mass with their families, whether in-person or online.
- For more detailed information about this year's program, please visit our webpage [HERE](#).