

SAINT GEORGE

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

GROWING AS DISCIPLES IN MISSION

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Dear CFF Families,

It is with great anticipation that we look forward to a new year of growing closer to God and to each other. I am the new Director of Life-Long Formation here at St George and I look forward to meeting all of you in the near future. **If you have not done so, now is the time to register your children at St George for the upcoming 2022-2023 academic and formation year.** While there are some changes coming down the pike, we are planning to continue holding our classes on Wednesdays from 6:00 to 7:30. In the past books have been picked up the weekend prior to class starting. This year with Catechetical Sunday, the picnic and other events happening we will give the students their books when they come to class on the 21st. The first day will begin in church with a prayer and introductions at 6:00.

Typically, we have parents join us while the children are in class on the first day so we can get to know each other and I can answer any questions you may have. What you need to know about me I am a hands on person who works best with visuals. I feel that I need to observe the classrooms and the process of coming and going in order to be better equipped to tell you about the evening. I would like each family represented to meet while the children are in class on the following week, September 28th in Meeting Rooms downstairs of the Parish Life Center. As in the past we will continue to have all doors locked as we need to know who is entering and exiting the building at all times while the children are in class.

This year, prior to our first day we will be celebrating Catechetical Sunday in a big way. On Sunday September 18th our catechists in all formation ministries will come together at the 11:30 mass for a special blessing and recognition for all they do for our Parish families. To show your support I encourage you and your family to join us at that mass. Following the mass the Parish Picnic will be at Jaycees Groves at 168th and 80th Ave., there you can meet up with some neighbors, meet your children's catechists, and hopefully meet me so I can get to know you and your family.

As the year progresses, we will have monthly Family Grade Level Masses where we strongly encourage all families to attend each mass. As well we will have some special prayer services which you are invited to attend with your children. Most of these events will be planned and presented by your children. We strive to emphasize parent involvement and family service. We remain open to your input and ideas, and I welcome additional parent volunteers as a CFF Board member, so we have an official platform in which to implement any change.

We also will continue to utilize resources primarily from Loyola Press. In addition, the parish is continuing its subscription to **Formed.org** with a wealth of faith enrichment opportunities.

(please see www.stgeorge60477.org for additional information.) Confirmation Prep will be using Encounter from Ascension Press, and Gospel Weeklies from Pflaum Publishers. We are fortunate this year to have a Special Needs classroom now. I still would like to have a Kindergarten classroom in the future. If you or someone you know would be interested in becoming a volunteer for any of these grade levels, or if you know of children who may benefit from these opportunities, please let me know so we can formally begin the implementation process and put aside rooms for them.

We are currently looking for a 5th Grade Catechist and a 7th Grade Catechist. Please send help Holy Spirit! The success of our program relies heavily on volunteers. Please prayerfully consider how you might be able to help us in the coming year. ALL VOLUNTEERS IN THE PROGRAM MUST BE VIRTUS CERTIFIED. We strongly advise parents to complete training in case we call on you to assist or join us as a chaperone to any of our service events. All our families are strongly encouraged to participate in service activities and formation opportunities as they arise.

I thank you for all that you bring to the table to make our St George Children's Faith Formation Program the success that it is as we continue to form our children into strong disciples who have a strong friendship and loving bond with Jesus. If you have any questions please contact me at 708/532-8211 or email jlassandrello@stgeorge60477.org. I look forward to meeting you and your families.

Blessing to you and those you love,

Jeanne Lassandrello
Director of Life-Long Faith Formation
St George Parish

“IF YOU REMAIN IN MY WORD, YOU WILL TRULY BE MY DISCIPLES.” – JOHN 8:31