

Pastorate of the South Washington County Catholic Parishes 2017-2018 Faith Formation Information

We are excited to begin a new year of Family Faith Development! In keeping with our mission to grow into the Pastorate model set forth by the Archdiocese of Baltimore in the document, *Be Missionary Disciples*, a few changes are taking place in our **Faith Formation programs for grades K-12**.

- Traditional Faith Formation classes (Parish School of Religion) for grades **K-6** will be offered at St Joseph's on **Sundays from 9-10 AM**. See the Religious Ed. calendar for dates.
- Family Catechesis is the Home Study Option where parents receive the materials to teach their children in their own home. Monthly gathering and support sessions will take place the **first Sunday of the month at St James from 9-10 AM**.
- EDGE is the Pastorate Middle School Religious Education program for **grades 7-8**. It is a non-traditional model of catechesis where youth are given opportunities to learn about their Catholic faith and to experience a sense of community with their peers and their leaders. Students engage in lessons at their own comfort level with the ultimate goal of experiencing Jesus in a profound and personal way. EDGE Nights are held **twice a month on Sunday nights at St Joseph's from 6-8 PM**. See the Edge/FaithLife Calendar. Attendance at EDGE is required for enrolling in the Confirmation program in grade 9.
- FaithLife is the High School program (**grades 9-12**) that works alongside the Confirmation Preparation Program (**grade 9**) for the Pastorate of the SWCCP. Each month, two FaithLife sessions are offered. (See EDGE /FaithLife calendar) One of the sessions focuses on exploration of the Catholic faith, the other focuses on material that is immediate preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. High School students who have been confirmed can come to one or both of the sessions; Confirmation candidates are required to attend both. FaithLife will also provide opportunities for the youth to join their peers in service projects as they live out their baptismal call to be missionary disciples in the world.

Catechists in each of these areas are needed. If you are hearing the call to share your faith with the young people of our Pastorate, please contact Dawn Dawn.Sirface@archbalt.org or Linda Linda.Becker@archbalt.org for information, training and encouragement!

If you *think* you may be hearing a call – you ARE hearing a call!

Information and fees for Sacramental Preparation for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist for children who will be going into Second grade or older will be available **September 1**. You must also be in enrolled in one of the above Faith Formation programs.

St Augustine, St James and St Joseph, Pray for Us.