



St. Luke the Evangelist Parish
13 North Street
Geneseo, NY 14454
585-243-1100

Dear Parish Family,

Welcome to a new year of faith formation. Here we are – the end of August – and I am just putting together the Faith Formation packet for St. Luke the Evangelist Parish 2020-2021 school year. This year things are different. For the first time in the 33 years I have been doing this, I am sure a new direction is what's best for our children and parents. This feeling did not begin as a result of coronavirus. This has been a long time coming.

Our Diocese is calling this the year to return to the Domestic Church. The term, "Domestic Church" dates back to the first century and refers to the home – the place where Catholics first learn about the faith and how to be a witness to God's love. It is through the family where we learn and practice coming to intimately love God and one another – all supporting the fact that parents are the primary teachers of faith to their children. What children learn from their parents remains with them forever.

So, what am I proposing? I am looking to empower you - our parents. You can learn right along with your children. Many of you expressed in the recent survey that you are uncomfortable sending your children to gather in Mass or classes. So, I'm asking that parents and other family members (including grandparents or siblings) take an active part in your child's religious formation. As parents, you are to be practicing, teaching and modeling the faith for your children. Mass participation remains a most important part of our Catholic Tradition. The programs of St. Luke's only enhance that formation.

Our Diocese has created the Family Zone Newsletter. I hope you have taken the time to look at it this summer. Beginning in September, the Family Zone will focus on the week's Gospel theme. It is a playlist of activities related to the Sunday readings for families each week. Every family will get the link to this site each week. You can participate at your own pace, not just on Sunday morning. I'm asking you to set aside a special time for faith formation during the week. Each activity takes only about 5-15 minutes to complete – so choose one or a few each session, whatever works best for your schedule. The importance is not how many activities you do, but the quality of time together sharing faith with your family. There will also be a Family Treasure Chest of activities (handed out at the once per month meeting) that families can work on together and discussion questions that will apply faith topics or conversations to activities that families are already doing – like dinner time, car time, etc.

Children will meet once per month (unless things change) to cover specific curriculum topics. Facemasks will be required, social distancing observed, and all CDC and Diocese guidelines will be followed.

Families with children preparing for First Communion and First Reconciliation (grade 2) will receive further information regarding sacramental preparation.

Preparation for Confirmation in the Diocese of Rochester is a 2-year process that begins no sooner than eighth grade. Youth 8th grade (and older) can begin the Confirmation Program this year. Confirmation will be scheduled for the spring of 2022. Suggested donation for Confirmation materials is \$10 per student.

The suggested donation to help defray the cost of Treasure Chest materials, monthly class materials and supplies, is \$5.00 per student. Donations can be made at a later date if necessary. All children are welcome and no one will be turned away. **Please complete the enclosed registration form (both sides) and return it by September 8, to St. Luke's Faith Formation Registration, 13 North St., Geneseo, NY 14454.** Or just drop it in the Sunday collection.

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13). I know families are dealing with a lot right now: income, childcare, coronavirus, violence, food on the table, school, work, family issues – quite an emotional roller coaster. I understand that you just don't need one more thing on your plates. But, now is the time to highlight our families. I'm excited about this opportunity to work with you and your family and it is my hope this year will be a new and exciting adventure – exploring our Catholic faith together. The Church exists and continues to exist because of the strength of the Domestic Church.

Sincerely yours:

Cathy Meyer - Religious Education Coordinator

Faith Formation Grade K-7 2020-2020 Schedule

The monthly meeting times and dates are listed below. We welcome your full participation; whether you are newcomers or “old hands” at this; you and your children are most welcome! Please post this information and schedule in a convenient place in your home for easy reference.

Grades K - 7 at St. Mary will meet Sunday mornings from 9:00 – 10:00 A.M.

Grades K - 7 at St. Patrick will meet Sunday mornings from 8:45 – 9:45 A.M.

Grades K - 7 at Holy Angels will meet Sunday mornings from 9:15 – 10:15 A.M.

Meeting Dates: A reminder that facemasks will be required, and social-distancing guidelines will be followed.

Sunday, October 4

Sunday, February 7

Sunday, November 1

Sunday, March 7

Sunday, December 6

Sunday, March 28

Sunday, January 10

Sunday, April 25

Confirmation Grade 8 & 9 Schedule

All who plan to begin the 2-year Confirmation program **must** send in registration by September 8 (be sure to include email). We are expecting that it will be a large class. Our teacher, Rebecca Christie, will email you with information about the first session to take place on Sunday, September 13, which will be held at the Dueppengiesser home in Perry. There will be three 45-minute sessions of the meeting (all on the 13th, but at separate times) to keep numbers small. Facemasks will be required.

Meeting Dates for Confirmation (time will be announced at Parent Meeting):

Parent Zoom Meeting – date TBA

Sunday, September 27

Sunday, October 18

Sunday, November 8