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Dear Faith Formation Families,

Welcome to our Faith Formation program for 2021-2022. Registration is now in progress online. We have put together a <u>short YouTube video</u> to help explain the options and changes so you are better equipped to register accordingly for the new year. Please be sure to <u>view this video</u> before registering.

## Our program offerings this year are:

1. <u>*Pathways*</u> – A new innovative, interactive, and integrated family-centered faith formation model primarily facilitated at home with some gathered sessions at church including much coaching/support at the parish level.

2. <u>*Pflaum Gospel Weeklies*</u> – A weekly Gospel-focused faith formation model (used over the last few years in our parish). Weekly flyers to do at your own pace at home with online assessments along with support/guidance at the parish level.

3. *Middle School and Confirmation (Gr. 9) programs* will be combined with *Christ the King Parish, Corpus Christi Church's* Faith Formation classes.

Please note that this year we are beginning the merger and integration of our Parish's Faith Formation program with that of *Christ the King Parish, (Corpus Christi Church)*. For this year, only the **Middle School and Confirmation (Gr. 9)** programs will be merged with *Christ the King* while the **Elementary** programs will continue to be run separately with some opportunities for children to gather for special events and community service projects.

As we have made reference to over the past few years, we are moving toward a "family formation model" for our **Elementary** program at *Incarnation Church*. This new approach puts families at the forefront and helps faith grow in the space where it will most naturally flourish, the home! The program, entitled **Pathways**, is a new and innovative approach that will be fun and engaging for families. It will bring families closer together and allows for the flexibility to gather together when it best meets your family's schedule and lifestyle. The goal is to foster an even stronger faith relationship amongst your family members and most importantly with God.

**Pflaum Gospel Weeklies** is the same curriculum we used over the past several years. It consists of weekly "flyers" for different age groups that cover specific themes and focus on that week's Gospel message. This program would also be done at home at the convenience of the families with online assessments and resources.

You will have the support and assistance from your Faith Formation leaders here at Incarnation with opportunities for online access, gatherings at church, Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW), and in small groups, as well as for special events. It is a wonderful way to build and reinforce the presence of our faith community in our homes and in our lives.

*Sunday evenings* at Corpus Christi School will be dedicated to the **Middle School and Confirmation (9<sup>th</sup>)** programs. More information about the program and its components will be forthcoming within the next few weeks.

## Important registration information to remember:

1. Before you register, watch the *video* that describes the programs being offered this year. (Sent in an email).

2. Register for the Family Faith Formation program 2021-2022 *online* between Sept. 1-15, 2021.

3. Introductory Group Meetings for families explaining the programs will be held at the beginning of October in Father Crawford Hall.

4. The fees for the program are \$95\* for one child; \$135 for two children; \$200 for three or more (includes a 10% discount for multiple children.) Sacramental years will require a separate retreat fee payable at a later date. (Please email us privately if payment presents a financial hardship.)

\*Includes a \$20 fee for the purchase of a family **Bible**. Different from the one provided last year, these Bibles are user-friendly, interactive, and easy to understand for children and teens. Depending on the ages of your children, you will receive either The **Catholic Children's Bible (Grades K-5) or the Breakthrough Bible (Grades 6-Confirmation). You will have the option to purchase both if you desire at an additional cost of \$20.** 

We look forward to a new and exciting year as we grow in faith together. We understand that change is difficult yet inevitable. So many factors have affected our lives in the past few years; COVID stands out at the forefront and we have faced it with strength and resilience. We have also faced challenges in our church including the merging into a new parish community yet we trust in God's providence and the guidance of the Holy Spirit to lead us forward. **Saint Mother Teresa tells us**, *"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples."* Let us be that change! We thank you in advance for your participation and enthusiasm as we embrace our family faith formation models this year!

God's Blessings,

Filomena Marinelli, Elementary Faith Formation Coordinator

Gina Burby, Middle School and Confirmation Coordinator