



## CHURCH OF ST. JOSEPH

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August 24, 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new year of religious formation at the Church of St. Joseph! Passing on our Catholic faith in Jesus Christ to our children is one of the most important things we do. The coronavirus pandemic presents challenges to in-person instruction at the parish and compels us to change our approach to religious formation. Consequently, we are shifting from a classroom-based to a family-based religious formation model for the 2020-2021 school year.

A family-based approach allows for parents and children to have their faith fed together, in a way that supports the role you took on at your child's Baptism. A family-based model allows families to work through the materials at their own pace, without the schedule demands of regular in-class sessions. In our program, volunteer catechists and Fr. Andrew will check in with you and your children after each lesson, providing guidance, enrichment, and encouragement. Videos and work will be supplemented with occasional in-person family events at the parish, when health and safety guidelines allow.

I realize that the pandemic has turned education and family life upside down and that more is being asked of parents than ever before. Our goal is not to add to that burden. We see a real opportunity with a family-based model for all of us—children and adults alike—to grow in the living faith in Jesus who gives us peace and comfort in times of joy and challenge.

Some practical details:

Registration is now open. Forms are included in this mailing and available on the parish website [stjoesmendham.org](http://stjoesmendham.org). We have streamlined the registration process and fee structure to make things as simple as possible. Please contact our formation staff with any questions.

Materials will be distributed and coursework will begin the weekend of October 3-4.

I pray that God blesses and protects you and your family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Anginoli', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rev. Msgr. Joseph T. Anginoli, J.C.L.  
Pastor

PS: In-person celebration of Mass is back with reduced capacity and procedures to keep everyone safe. I invite you to join us in-person or via YouTube streaming: [youtube.com/c/StJoesMendham](https://www.youtube.com/c/StJoesMendham). More information is available on our website.