

ST. ALBERT FAITH FORMATION COVID-19 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR PLAN

Will the faith formation offerings look different this year? Yes. Due to these challenging times adjustments and accommodations have been made to provide solid faith-based content, safe learning environments, and flexibility to meet the needs of each family. Please review.

TLC – TOTAL LIFELONG CATECHESIS ON-SITE SESSION CHANGES

What is TLC? TLC is a parish-wide family formation model of catechesis which enriches the faith of the entire family and is the primary means of handing on the Catholic Faith to the children of the parish. TLC helps support and assists parents based on the principle “Parents are the primary educators in the Faith” [General Directory for Catechesis 255], and revolves around weekly family gatherings and home lessons. The parish hosts one monthly On-site TLC Session to provide formation and instructions for the current topic of the month. At home, equipped with this introduction, parents teach and share with their children the scripted lessons and activities from the resources provided the remainder of the month.

Will TLC look different this year due to Covid-19? Yes, and No. With a family formation model of catechesis the bulk of the work and learning is completed by families at home, so parents are well equipped to continue as usual with the lessons and resources provided. However, we are adapting the monthly On-site TLC Sessions in two ways to accommodate the current needs.

First, each monthly On-site TLC Session will be **available both In-person and Virtually**. Due to the benefits of In-person gatherings, there will be some limitations for those participating virtually.

Second, On-site TLC Sessions have changed to a family-based learning and activities model where **families stay together the whole time** and engage in learning and formation through large group presentations, family activities and crafts, and prayer experiences. Here are changes you will see at each On-site TLC Session:

- Sessions are one (1) hour.
- Session times are Sunday from 10:15-11:15am and Wednesday from 6:30-7:30pm.
- Sessions are offered both In-person and Virtually.
- Families sit together the entire duration of the Session at their own pre-assigned table.
- Take-Out Kits will be provided for families each month and will be used during the Session.
 - In-person families will find their Take-Out Kit at their table each month
 - Virtual families will pick up their Take-Out Kit prior to the monthly Session
- All prayer, presentations and activities will be in the dining hall and will be for the whole family.
 - There are no adult or children breakout sessions
 - There are no adult small group discussions
- Sessions will include:
 - Prayer experiences and music
 - Creative activities to encourage community while social distancing from assigned tables
 - Topic of the month learning through short talks and videos
 - Engaging family faith-based activities and crafts
 - Saint of the month visits
- Adults watch the monthly Topic of the Month PowerPoint presentation prior to the On-site Session each month to ensure familiarity with the topic being discussed.
- There is no TLC Meal.
- There is no children’s nursery.

- All safety protocols will be followed.
- Wearing of face coverings are required for all In-Person Sessions. Those who are unable to wear a face covering may want to consider participating Virtually.
- At home during the remainder of the month parents teach and share with their children the scripted lessons and activities included from *A Family of Faith* materials provided in the TLC Take-Out Kits. These lessons vary by age level and length of time to complete.

How does this all work? First, register! Then, each family is asked to come to the ***TLC Kick-Off and Material Pick-up Parade on Wednesday, September 23 from 6:00-7:00pm***. A group of enthusiastic staff and volunteers will hand-deliver our newly created family TLC Take-Out Kits right to your vehicle. Once you get home each family is asked to watch a short TLC introductory video with guidance on how to unpack the Take-Out Kit and get started with TLC. Along with an explanation on how the year will look, we are excited to share new ideas and approaches to learning and living the faith - and a surprise or two!

FIRST COMMUNION AND FIRST RECONCILIATION PREPARATION

First Communion and First Reconciliation preparation is available for those in 2nd grade and older. With small class sizes, we are able to offer two In-Person classes a month with the addition of some Virtual classes. All classes will meet on Monday evenings from 6:00-7:00pm.

How do I find out more information? All parents are asked to attend the ***Parent Informational Meeting on Monday, September 14 from 6:00-7:00pm***. A schedule of classes, curriculum books and resources, and information regarding the school year will be provided at this meeting.

CONFIRMATION AND DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

The Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Albert is open to any teen in grades 8-12 who is actively living out their Catholic Faith on a personal level, is involved in a Discipleship Group, and whose family is active in the life of the parish, particularly through TLC. Discipleship Groups are going forward as planned and new Discipleship Groups are being formed for all 8th Graders.

How do I find out more information? All parents are asked to attend one of the two ***Parent Informational Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, September 15 at St. Albert or Wednesday, September 16 at St. Michael from 6:30-8:30pm***. Find out more at: stmacatholicyouth.org/breakaway or contact Ruth Gladitsch at rgladitsch@stmacatholicyouth.org

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD – SUSPENDED AT THIS TIME

SAFETY MEASURE HIGHLIGHTS 2020-2021

<u>PARISH CENTER</u>	<u>DINING HALL AND CLASSROOMS</u>	<u>HEALTH</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic Flow Signage • Social Distancing Signage • Staggered Dismissal • Hand Sanitizer Stations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Table Spacing • Sanitization before all Sessions • Participants asked to stay at their table for duration of gathering 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families complete self-health checks before attending • Staff and volunteers complete self-health checks before attending • Face coverings required for families, staff, and volunteers • Face coverings are provided, if needed

For more information go to: churchofstalbert.org (click on Faith Formation)
 Or contact Jean Wold at stalbertmnfaithformation@gmail.com or 763-497-3782
 Notice: Gatherings and procedures may change as circumstances require.