The Simple Truth!

Living the Good News

† **Extend an Invitation** to grow in community and discipleship by making Jesus the center of our lives

† **Provide Hospitality** to gather, relax and socialize over a shared meal

† **Share the Good News** to nurture a greater knowledge and love for God

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**It’s for every parishioner!**

**The Simple Truth!** is a multi-generational faith formation program for every parishioner. The monthly sessions invite us to build upon our Catholic foundation, to encourage us to live out our Christian mission, and to establish a more dynamic relationship with God and others.

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**It's all about relationships!**

**Faith** enables us to respond to this invitation. When we grow in our faith together, we better understand how to stay connected to God and each other. A true Living Faith is evident at work and play, at home and everywhere. A living faith blesses our relationships, forms our decisions, and guides our actions.

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**It’s a promise to grow!**

**Faith Formation** is a lifelong journey. We are best formed in a setting that is engaging, educational, and social. This program offers the knowledge and tools needed to journey in faith independently, as a family, and as a community.

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**It’ll make the connection!**

**The Simple Truth!** encourages individuals and families to become more aware of the reality of God in their lives. We recognize God in the midst of daily life; we sense and know His abiding presence in our joys and struggles, challenges and triumphs, and we hear God’s voice in our every moment.

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**It’s simple!**

**It begins with Mass and then a meal ...**

**No Need to Cook or Clean!** Each gathering begins with Mass followed by a shared meal where you can relax and socialize. The meal is then followed by a monthly faith teaching for adults, while children are grouped by age for a similar, but age appropriate, lesson, craft, game, or project. Adults gather with their peers to learn, listen, and share; thereby forming friendships in Christ.

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**The Simple Truth! Saturday or Sunday!**

**The Simple Truth!** is offered each month throughout the year on a back-to-back Saturday evening or Sunday morning.

**Investigating our Catholic Faith** is the theme for 2019 – 2020

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2019 St. Lawrence Parish Goffstown, NH
WHY WHOLE PARISH FAITH FORMATION?

The Pastoral Team at Saint Lawrence Parish is revealing a radical change in Faith Formation! We call it, *The Simple Truth!*

We ARE the Body of Christ, and we have all been called into relationship with God. How does this relationship grow? *The Simple Truth?* It is the exact way that all of our relationships grow… with attention and focus, quality time and conversation, celebrations and love.

*Whole Parish Formation* is radical. In the past we viewed religious education for those who needed to be catechized; children, teens, catechumen, and candidates. The problem with this model is the idea that our relationship is “graduated” after Confirmation. In other words, there is no longer a need to grow in our faith. Can you imagine if a parent considered their relationship with their son or daughter completed after they graduate from high school? This is absurd! No, a relationship is lifelong, and therefore worthy of effort. In the past faith formation has been offered during the academic year. Once again, do our relationships end in June? Not likely? Opportunities must occur year-round.

It is with this understanding that we offer whole parish faith formation. That means that every one of us can develop and deepen our relationships with God and our parish family through *The Simple Truth!* The program is down to earth. It is engaging, educational, and social.

- The Monthly sessions are for everyone.
- They are held the 1st Saturday of the month after 4:00 Mass, or the following Sunday morning after the 8:00 Mass
- Both options include a meal, teaching, and takeaway materials
- Those who are being formed to receive sacraments will register for *The Simple Truth!* and supplemental sessions (TBA)

**SATURDAY EVENING:**

(approximate times)

4:00 – 5:00  Mass  
5:05 – 5:45  Dinner  
5:50 – 6:50  Lesson, Q&A, Conversation – Adults  
          Lesson, craft, game, or project – Children  
6:50 – 7:00  Closing Prayer and Takeaway  

*(More time is allotted for Saturday evening in order to have a leisurely meal)*

**SUNDAY MORNING:**

(approximate times)

8:00 – 9:00  Mass *(ideally)*  
9:05 – 9:25  Continental Breakfast  

*(Less time is allotted for breakfast because of the time constraint between Masses)*

9:25 – 10:25  Lesson, Q&A, Conversation – Adults  
          Lesson, craft, game, or project – Children  
       Closing Prayer and Takeaway *(10:30 Mass)*

For more information on the Restore. Renew. Proclaim the Hope that is Christ Diocesan initiative and its implementation, please visit:  [https://www.catholicnh.org/parishes/formation/lifelong/](https://www.catholicnh.org/parishes/formation/lifelong/)