

Volunteer Information

Faith Formation and Religious Education, St. Mary Catholic Church

“Those who with God’s help have welcomed Christ’s call and freely responded to it are urged on by the love of Christ to proclaim the Good News. ... All Christ’s faithful are called to hand it on from generation to generation by professing the faith, by living it in fraternal sharing, and by celebrating it in liturgy and prayer.”

Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraph #3

Dear Faith Formation Volunteer:

Thank you very much for your interest in beginning to or continuing to serve our parish and our young people. We are so grateful for the talents, gifts, and love shared by our volunteers. Ministry to youth requires a large army of willing and compassionate people—we, together, can work in Christ’s vineyard and bring our children closer to the Lord.

We take ministry, and God’s call to serve, very seriously. We hope and pray that together we can discern where God is inviting you to serve. This information form is designed to begin our conversation about volunteer ministry in our parish. In addition, every volunteer must complete a background check and be certified through the diocese’s safe environment program (VIRTUS). If you haven’t already done this (or your time period has run out), please feel free to reach out to either one of us and we will gladly help you (or go to the website for the Diocese of Spokane). To annually update your safe environment training, log on to your Virtus account and complete all required trainings.

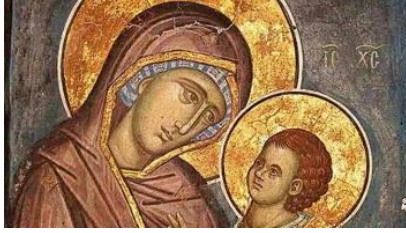
We look forward to meeting you and discerning how we can work together to serve our young people and their families. There has never been a greater need for loving, enthusiastic and courageous witnesses to the beauty, truth and goodness of our faith. We hope and pray that your volunteer ministry will glorify God, serve our young people, and help you grow in your own faith. May God richly bless you for your generosity and interest.

Your servants in Christ,

Marie Bricher
Director of Religious Education and Faith Formation
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St. Mary Catholic Church, 304 S. Adams Road, Spokane Valley, WA 99216; (509)928-3210



St. Mary Catholic Church

Volunteer Information Form

Ministry to Children

"We are ambassadors for Christ, as if God were appealing through us."

2 Corinthians 5:20

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Email: _____

Tell us a little bit about yourself:

Faith Background:

Family

Education:

Career/Profession/Work Experience:

Talents/Skills/Interests:

Please check each box if you agree:

	I am a practicing Catholic, registered at St. Mary Catholic Church
	I know that God is calling me to serve my parish and Church in ministry and I am ready to commit to formation and training as needed. I promise to pray daily for those I serve.
	I am willing and able to be a faithful witness to the doctrines, practices and moral teachings of the Catholic faith (not required to explain everything!)
	I am willing and able to commit to serve the youth and families of St. Mary Parish by preparing for and attending the meetings/events I agree to help with
	I am willing and able to complete a background check (if I haven't already), receive training and guidance, and check in with the Director of Faith Formation with any concerns
	I am willing and able to follow all rules and policies that protect our children, express our virtue and build up the Church, including rules about safety, confidentiality and protection.

Do you have any concerns/thoughts/questions about ministry at St. Mary Catholic Church?

Please indicate which area(s) you are considering:

	Religious Education, grades 1-5
	Religious Education, Middle School Youth Group
	Religious Education, High School Youth Group
	Sacramental Preparation for First Penance, Confirmation and First Eucharist
	Rite of Christian Initiation of Children
	Vacation Bible School
	Other:

In what capacity do you wish to volunteer (check any that appeal):

	Lead Catechist (preparing for, leading meetings for a particular grade/group)
	Support Catechist (supporting lead catechist, helping prepare and lead activities)
	Program Support (food, hospitality, runner)
	Prayer/Music/Activity Leader for Assembly before grade-level meetings
	Teach/Provide resources for a particular content area
	Prayer and Support person for youth (including sending birthday cards, etc.)
	Promotional/Office support: including phone calls, publicity, seeking donations
	Other:

Other comments, notes, ideas:

Assessment of Strengths and Training in Ministry to Children

This assessment is designed to enable you to identify your strengths and areas for growth in your ministry to young people. Not all these strengths and training will be relevant to your particular ministry, but even so, this assessment can help you identify areas for development and growth.

Please read each statement carefully and circle the number that most clearly indicates your present level of awareness/understanding/ability.

I like being around young people and am willing to reach out to them with respect and compassion.	N/A	0	1	2	3	4*
I understand that parents are the primary religious educators of their children and want to support our parish's families.	N/A	0	1	2	3	4*
I am comfortable sharing my faith with others in age appropriate ways and in ways that are faithful to Catholicism.	N/A	0	1	2	3	4*
I am a practicing Catholic, and I can encourage others in their search for the beauty, truth and goodness found in the Catholic Church.	N/A	0	1	2	3	4*
I understand the mission and purpose of Evangelization and Catechesis in the Catholic Church.	N/A	0	1	2	3	4*
I read the Bible and am comfortable teaching about stories or passages in the Bible.	N/A	0	1	2	3	4*
I know how to create lesson plans, manage a class, and lead activities that are age appropriate.	N/A	0	1	2	3	4*
I can help plan and lead worship experiences (Mass, Adoration, Rosary) that are age appropriate.	N/A	0	1	2	3	4*
I can help plan and lead retreat experiences that are age appropriate.	N/A	0	1	2	3	4*
I can help plan and lead service experiences that are age appropriate and conform to Catholic Social Teaching.	N/A	0	1	2	3	4*
I have an interest in and ability to reach out to un-churched or returning families.	N/A	0	1	2	3	4*
<i>Other training, talents, skills or interests you wish to mention:</i>						

*** 0=no awareness or minimal understanding**

1=minimal awareness or understanding

2=fair level or awareness or understanding

3=good grasp, able to assist or support programs in this area

4=excellent grasp, able to plan or lead programs in this area