

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

July, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We hope you are enjoying your summer! **Registration for 2021-2022 Faith Formation will open Monday, August 16 at 8 am and will close Monday, August 30 at noon.** Registration will take place online at www.saintvdp.org/ffregistration. Each program will have openings for volunteer ministers, so please consider signing up to help.

Below is a brief overview of this year's program options:

- **Grades 1-5:** Wednesday nights from 6:00 to 7:15 pm.
 - Includes 7 Family Faith Nights (first Wednesday of each month) starting October 6. For safety reasons students must be accompanied by a parent/guardian, though the entire family is invited to join these sessions.
- **Grades 6-10:** First night of Faith Formation for 6th-10th grade will be October 10 for opening Mass at 6:00 pm
 - 6th and 7th grade will meet in small groups at the parish on Sunday evenings from 6:00 pm-7:30 pm.
 - 8th, 9th & 10th grade will meet in D-groups in host homes for the majority of our small group dates. They will meet at the Church for large group events such as our opening Mass, speakers, Adoration, Reconciliation, and retreats.

NOTE: If your child is enrolled at St. Vincent's School or another Catholic school in Grades 1-8, you **do not** need to register them for Faith Formation (Exception – if they are in **Grade 2** in a Catholic school other than SVDP, you must sign them up for **Sacraments Only** to receive First Reconciliation and First Communion Prep).

The registration deadline is August 30. Anyone after this date will be put on a waiting list and will be placed wherever there is an opening. Late registrations make it very difficult to start classes on time due to time constraints and the need to add catechists/materials to accommodate them. **Please note – Everyone (Gr 1-10) must sign up each year for Faith Formation.**

Don't forget to sign up to volunteer! You will receive free tuition for one child if you volunteer to be a regular Catechist, Team Catechist, Classroom Assistant, Hall Monitor (Grades 1-5), or Office Aide. Those volunteering will receive a refund check after registration is complete and classes start. **We cannot send out letters or start classes until we have the catechists needed.**

Please read the information pages provided online prior to registering. If you are experiencing financial difficulties and need to request a waiver or payment plan, you will need to register in person at the Parish Office by August 30.

Questions? Contact the appropriate coordinator:

- **Grades 1-5, First Reconciliation & First Eucharist:** Grant O'Neil 763-762-7406; grantoneil@saintvdp.org
- **Grades 6-10, Confirmation:** Nichole Chang 763-762-7370; nicholechang@saintvdp.org

We look forward to helping you and your children grow in faith this coming year!

Sincerely,

The Faith Formation Department at St. Vincent de Paul

Know and celebrate our Catholic Faith, Love God and our neighbor, Serve as disciples of Jesus Christ.

9100 93rd AVENUE NORTH, BROOKLYN PARK, MN 55445
PHONE: 763-425-2210 FAX: 763-425-7898 EMAIL: CHURCHINFO@SAINTVDP.ORG



Dear **6th-10th Grade Faith Formation Families**,

Greetings! I pray your summer has been wonderful thus far and filled with lots of in person family time as COVID restrictions are lifting. (YAY!) What a joy to be at in person events! For this upcoming Faith Formation year we will continue the same structure and format for registration for 7th-10th grade that we began a few years ago and are introducing the incoming 6th graders to our Sunday evening Faith Formation. As a reminder and for those who are new to the program, how we form our small groups is explained below.

We are excited that we will be getting back to in person small groups at St. Vincent's and in host homes. Dates for our Sunday evenings are already on our website and a mailing with a calendar will go out in September for grade specific information. **We will continue to meet on Sundays from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm.** Your grade level will determine if you will meet at the Church or in host homes. This year 6th and 7th grade will be meeting at the Church. I hope to have 8th grade begin to meet in host homes (more information will be sent to 8th grade as we move in this direction). If you are in 9th and 10th grade, you will continue to meet in host homes with your Ydisciple Confirmation small groups. Please be aware that all grades will come to the Church for large group events. Please reference the calendar for these dates.

Small Group Formation:

Having a friend in Faith Formation class makes teens more likely to enjoy their small group time. I strongly believe that a friendship where one's faith can be genuinely shared and fostered will be a friendship that will grow and deepen, a friendship they will have for life. Unfortunately, trials and tribulations are a part of life and to have a friend in Christ will be an amazing support for the youth as they live out their life in times of need as well as joy. **I encourage you to foster these friendships outside of Faith Formation class by:** setting up other service projects together, attending youth ministry opportunities together such as youth group at St. Vincent's or Extreme Faith Camp as a camper or volunteer, attending Christian music concerts, and just finding time to hang out outside of class.

All grades will need to register online but the following information is about small groups:

- **6th and 7th grade students will be picking their small groups.** When you register online you will be prompted to select a link that will allow you to sign up for a small group. Names of students already registered for that small group will be available to view. Ideally, they will stay in these groups through Confirmation. Small groups will be split by grade and gender. **Register early to ensure your preferred small group slot.**
- 8th grade will keep small groups from last year.
- All incoming 9th graders should already be in a small group.
- 10th grade Ydisciple groups will stay the same as last year.
- **If you are new to the program and in 8th, 9th or 10th grade, please contact Theresa at the parish office to be placed in a small group: theresakrohn@saintvdp.org**

Please mark your calendars for our opening Mass on Oct. 10th at 6:00 pm. I will be sending out more specific information for each grade in a few weeks. I look forward to an exciting year of Faith Formation!

Sincerely in Christ,

Nichole Chang
Coordinator 6-10 Grade Faith Formation
nicholechang@saintvdp.org
763-762-7370