

# **St. Mary, Vermilion**



## **Family Faith Formation**

**Welcome to September!**

**I know that every household is busy adjusting to the start-up of school. I hope we can remember to offer grace to one another... and remember to offer grace to the person in the mirror!**

**Well, I think as you look at the above logo, you will see the exciting change that we have brought to our Sunday morning Religious Ed. Program. Roots and Wings from you to your children, through the hands of God.**

**At this time, I am asking families to complete the enclosed forms and return to me as soon as possible. You can mail, drop off at parish office – drop in the slot by the door if it's after hours or no one answers.**

**Please notify me if a certain week is required because of shared parenting or visitation schedules, so that we can avoid conflicts.**

**We will begin on Sunday October 4 at 9:00 am with Group 1  
Sunday October 11 at 9:00 am with Group 2  
Sunday October 18 at 9:00 am with Group 3**

*\*It is important to receive your registration forms for determination of groups.*

**Once again, here how our in-person, socially distanced, masks required gatherings will work:**

- 1. Family Faith Formation gatherings will take place in the gym. The area is large enough to accommodate the distance required between people of different households, yet still able to allow small groups of 6-8 + a catechist.**
- 2. Registered families will be divided into FOUR groups per Sunday.**

**Groups determined by # of children & # of adults; Families will stay together.**  
Groups will remain the same throughout the year.

3. **Each Group will meet on ONE DESIGNATED Sunday** per month when the **monthly theme will be presented and discussed in designated small groups.** Designated small groups will remain the same throughout the year. Families will stay together \*\* in small group, and Catechist will remain the same.  
*It will be important to contact Sandy Smith with shared parenting, or custodial parent information so that we can avoid conflicting schedules.*
4. **Family Packets will be distributed with lessons for your family to complete at home during the remaining weeks of the month.**
5. **\*\*Children preparing to receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist, will meet in small group with Mr. Rini twice a month.**
6. **We are able to offer live streamed 10:30 Mass in the gym with Holy Communion being brought from the main church. This gives an option for those not quite ready to join large gathering.**

*I am working on a Virtual Option also. (Family Packets would be picked up at the parish office). This could be offered by using ZOOM, Facebook live or some other format. That option is still in the early stages.*

**We are keeping the suggested registration fee to \$20 per family. We want all families to participate with no financial burden.**

**If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.**

**We are the Body of Christ, we need each other. The catechists and I truly pray that new approach will allow every family the opportunity to grow in our faith as we are enriched by each other's presence.**

*Shalom,  
Sandy Smith*

**If you have not already done so:**

**Please register for FORMED a free service provided to you by St. Mary parish. By registering you will give you and your family access to hundreds of movies for adults, children and families, video series to enrich your personal, family or child's faith, **Sacrament prep formation videos** and a wide range of other topics and presenters.**

**Go to [www.stmaryvermilion.formed.org](http://www.stmaryvermilion.formed.org) click REGISTER, enter your name, email address and desired password. You're ready to go!**