



St. Mary, Coventry - St. Thomas, Storrs
OLQOP Faith Formation Office

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Hello Parish Families!

Welcome to the Faith Formation of Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish. My name is Rebecca Holmes. I sincerely thank Fr. Greg Galvin and Fr. Jacob Ramos for this opportunity to serve you as your Director of Faith Formation for this wonderful parish!

Our Faith Formation Program is gearing up to create the best experience for families to fall in love with Christ and their faith! Our goal is to provide a program that encourages and cultivates the spiritual needs of our parishioners by implementing traditions that show the beauty and richness of our Catholic faith.

In the upcoming year, we will be ministering to all grades from Pre-K to Grade 10. This will include: Weekly Faith Formation Classes, Sacramental Preparations for First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation, as well as provide multiple opportunities for families and their children to learn the Church's teachings and live them out. All families are welcomed to experience the love of Christ through our program as we come together with one another to grow in union with God.

Please Note: Our Program Description has been revised from our previous years as we are still learning, growing, and moving forward in the Formation of Faith for our Parish (details and opportunities are subject to be added and/or changed):

Class Description for Grades Pre-K - 10th Grade:

At this time: Our Faith Formation Classes will take place on Sunday evenings, 5:00pm - 6:15pm for Grades 6th, 7th, 8th. 5:00pm - 6:30pm for Confirmation (Grades 9th and 10th), **AND** Monday evenings, 5:00pm - 6:15pm with Grades Pre- K, Kindergarten, 1st Grade, 2nd Grade (First Reconciliation and Communion Prep), 3rd Grade, 4th Grade, and 5th Grade. **Classes for student's begin: Sept 28th and 29th with a required Parent Information Session at 5pm.**

All Grades will begin by gathering in the Church for Opening Prayer with parents and families always welcomed to join. As a Parish within the Diocese of Norwich, there are guidelines and requirements that we must fulfill in our Curriculum to ensure that our Parish families receive adequate faith formation and set our families up for success to live out our Catholic Faith. There are Approximately 24 classes in the school year. This may Fluctuate depending on Weather in the winter months. **Each Grade will be required to fulfill:** Scheduled class times that covers the program material certified by our diocese, NO GO TELL Safe Environment Training, and a Retreat. Sacramental Grades will have extra requirements to ensure the readiness to receive the sacraments they are working towards. A letter to the Sacramental families will go out upon their families registration.

Family Mass:

Every 1st of the month will be dedicated to our children participating in the Mass. This means we will have children in the lead roles as Lectors, Greeters, and Gift Bearers, serving at the 10:30 Mass at St Mary. We will determine the participants by grades. Each month a grade will be assigned a Mass to participate in. We will prepare the classes prior to their assigned Sunday to ensure the students are

comfortable with their roles! This is a great way to engage our children to live out what we are teaching them in their Classes!

Save the Date: Sept 21st- Catechetical Sunday Mass and Parish BBQ:

This will be the first of our Family Masses lead by the Students of VBS to kick off the start of our Faith Formation year together! All are invited to the Mass where the catechist will be commissioned and blessed to minister to the children. Following the Mass, we will hold our annual Parish BBQ where you will have the opportunity to meet the Catechists of your children as well as see the curriculum which we will be following! Our Parish Picnic for all families to enjoy and celebrate being apart of our Faith Community!

For any questions, please do not hesitate to call the Office of Faith Formation.

God Bless Always,

Rebecca Holmes
Our Lady Queen of Peace- Director of Faith Formation