

We invite you to join us for

# Opening night of Faith Formation!

## Wednesday August 31<sup>st</sup>

### St. Mary's Church in Melrose

**First Communion families: PLEASE ATTEND the 6:00 PM session\***

**Confirmation families: PLEASE ATTEND the 7:15 PM session\*\***

**Families with students in grades 1, 3-10: attend EITHER the 6:00 session OR the 7:15 session**

We will start each of the 2 sessions with a **blessing of students**. Then we will give you some essential information for the year, as well as **calendars and materials** for each grade level.

We will also be introducing our **new youth ministry coordinators!**

Come a few minutes early or stay a little late, to play some **bean bags** and **eat some goodies!**

**\*First Communion families:** at the 6:00 session, we will have a special orientation to the First Communion year for you. This is a very important meeting, so we ask that all the First Communion students attend, as well as 1 parent/guardian for each student.

**\*\*Confirmation families:** at the 7:15 session, we will have a special orientation to the Confirmation year for you. This is a very important meeting, so we ask that all the Confirmation students attend, as well as 1 parent/guardian for each Confirmation student (your sponsor/mentor does NOT need to attend this session).

**Questions?** Bring them to opening night, or contact:

Juliann Heller, Interim Faith Formation Coordinator, [faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com](mailto:faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com) or message via Remind

Rita Meyer, Faith Formation Administrative Assistant, [faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com](mailto:faithformation@stmarysofmelrose.com) (320) 290-5687

Blanca Barragan [stmarys@stmarysofmelrose.com](mailto:stmarys@stmarysofmelrose.com) (320) 256-4207, Parish Admin. Assistant & Hispanic Ministry

Elizabeth Godinez (702) 477-5609, Faith Formation Volunteer/Translator

## **Basic information about Faith Formation in 2022-2023:**

### **Grades 1, 3-6**

**Theme for the Year: Walking with the Saints    Textbook: Pflaum Gospel weeklies**

When: Once-a-month gatherings on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 – 7:00 (see calendar) (youth + parents at all classes)

Each evening will begin with a short opening prayer and then have age-appropriate projects on different saints each month. We will also do a few small service projects on some evenings!

### **Grades 7-8:**

**Theme: The Bible, the Lectionary, and the Mass                      Textbook: Catholic Youth Study Bible**

When: Select Wednesday evenings from 7:15 - 8:30 (see calendar) (youth + some parents at each gathering)

In Fall, classes 2-3 times per month: focus on Bible, the Mass, & service work

In Spring, students serve their parish communities by being in charge of 3 sets of weekend liturgies (we will train them to be lectors, ushers, greeters, technology folks, sacristan helpers, behind-the-scenes Mass planners, etc.; each student will serve at their own parish).

### **Grades 9-10:**

**Theme: Catholic/Christian Ethics & the Apostles Creed    Textbook: Decision Point workbook (first half) + Catholic Youth Study Bible**

When: Select Wednesday evenings from 7:15 – 8:30 (see calendar) (youth + some parents at each gathering)

In Fall, numerous service projects & prayer opportunities; time before & after projects, to reflect on how they relate to our faith

In Spring, classes 2-3 times per month: focus on the Apostles Creed and Catholic ethics

### **First Reconciliation/First Communion:**

**Textbook: Alive in Christ + Growing Up Catholic take-home materials**

Once-a-month classes on Saturday mornings 9:30-11:00 AM (see calendar) (youth only, for Saturday classes; parents at a few evening gatherings)

### **Confirmation:**

**Textbook: Decision Point workbook & videos + Catholic Youth Study Bible**

When: Select Wednesday evenings from 7:00 – 8:30 (see calendar) (youth + mentors/parents/other adults)