

Raising Our Faith

Junior Disciples (4K/5K): During Sunday Mass

Youth Formation (Grades 1-5): Wednesdays 3:30-4:30

Teen Formation (Grades 6-High School): Wednesdays 6:30-7:30

Family Formation, Confirmation Prep, and Reconciliation/First Communion Prep: See Emailed Calendar

Snack & Recess

Youth Formation enjoys a short recess and snack time between their arrival and the time we start at 3:30. We are looking for easily portioned or pre-portioned snacks, sports balls, and other indoor and outdoor fun items that require minimal set-up. Myself and our children thank you in advance.

Absent?

Please call or email prior to class 608-884-3038, Option 2 or CRE@StJoeEdgerton.org

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offered called Theology of the Body. The instruction will be age appropriate themes. I have all of the materials and parents can view them before they are presented. You must preview the materials and meet with me to opt your child out of Theology of the Body. Session 1 will be presented this month. Our Diocese's Circle of Grace program is presented in November. I will have more information on that Safe Environment for Children program in the October Edition of the Newsletter.

~Kim Jensen, CRE

GOD IS IN THE DETAILS

Welcome to a new year of Faith Formation here at St Joseph!
For those that don't know me, my name is Kim Jensen. I moved to Edgerton in 2010 and took this role in Summer 2021, so I am still learning all of St Joseph's traditions. This year you will see more of the fun traditions that I grew up with merging in. This role is only part-time, so you and the children will see me substituting in Edgerton, Milton, and McFarland as well as at the EYSA Soccer Shed on Saturday mornings. I do check my work voicemail and email regularly, so I am reachable outside of my Wednesday afternoon office hours.
As usual, we have a great group of Catechists that will be leading our children in forming their faith this year. There are many times that our own faith grows while leading the growth to the children, so if you have any interest in joining our team as a classroom helper, assistant catechist, or substitute catechist please email me.
We have some fun changes in store for our children this year. The parent letter sent via Flocknote in August gave more information about most of the changes. One that I wanted to point out again is that grades 1-8 will have instruction offered called Theology of the Body. The instruction will be age appropriate themes. I have all of the materials and parents can view them before they are presented. You must preview the materials and meet with me to opt your child out of Theology of the Body. Session 1 will be presented this month. Our Diocese's Circle of Grace program is presented in November. I will have more information on that Safe Environment for Children program in the October Edition of the Newsletter.

St. Joseph's Calendar of Events

- Sunday, September 11:** Junior Disciples Meet - FIRST DAY!
- Wednesday, September 14:** Youth and Teen Formation Meet
- Sunday, September 18:** Junior Disciples Meet
- Wednesday, September 21:** Youth and Teen Formation Meet
- Saturday, September 24:** Teen Youth Group Event - Cupcake Decorating
- Sunday, September 25:** Junior Disciples Meet
Parish Festival - After Mass - Volunteers Needed!
- Wednesday, September 28:** Youth and Teen Formation Meet
- Sunday, October 2:** Junior Disciples Meet
Donut Sunday - After Mass
- Wednesday, October 5:** Youth and Teen Formation Meet

MASS TIMES:

Saturday: 4:00PM @ St Joseph, Edgerton

Sunday: 10:30AM @ St Joseph, Edgerton

CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION TIMES:

Saturday: Before Mass Every Week - 3:00-3:45PM

Sunday: After Mass - 2nd and 3rd Sunday, ONLY

September 11 & 18, October 9 & 16

The Church and the Dignity of the Human Person

This month, Pope Francis calls for the world to pray for the abolition of the death penalty. "We pray that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person. May be legally abolished in every country."

WHAT IS THE DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON?

According to the US Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), the Church teaches that "As a gift from God, every human life is sacred from conception to natural death. The life and dignity of every person must be respected and protected at every stage and in every condition. The right to life is the first and most fundamental principle of human rights that leads Catholics to actively work for a world of greater respect for human life and greater commitment to justice and peace."

"Human persons are willed by God; they are imprinted with God's image. Their dignity does not come from the work they do, but from the persons they are."
~ Pope John Paul II

This teaching has far-reaching implications beyond the abortion and birth control issues we hear so much about. The Catholic Church believes that "human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. This belief is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching. We believe that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person."

Basically, this teaching reflects our understanding from Scripture that human beings are created "in the image and likeness of God" and seeks to preserve the dignity of every human person regardless of their age or circumstances in life. Catholic social teaching concerning the dignity of the human person leads to involvement in a broad range of issues including:

- preventing abortion and euthanasia
- ending the death penalty
- fair treatment for those with disabilities
- promoting civil rights and equality for those of different races, genders, ages, quality of health and income level
- ending the cycle of poverty
- working to avoid war by preventing conflicts or resolving them by peaceful means
- preventing cloning and embryonic stem cell research

Some saints who have worked tirelessly to fight for the life and dignity of the human person include:

- St. Peter Claver ministered to and affirmed the inherent worth and dignity of African slaves in Columbia.
- St. Teresa of Calcutta worked tirelessly affirming the dignity of life in the poorest and most destitute people living in the slums of India.

"Things have a price and can be for sale, but people have a dignity that is priceless and worth far more than things." ~ Pope Francis

This month's family task: Talk to your children about the Dignity of the Human Person. Talk about their own worth being in who they are as a child of God, regardless of what they do, how they look, or how much money they make? Encourage them to affirm that same dignity in others, as a way of practicing their faith.

Communion of Saints - This Month's Celebrations

September 8: Feast of the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary

September 23: Saint Pio of Pietrelcina

September 9: Saint Peter Claver

September 26: Saints Cosmas and Damian

September 12: Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary

September 27: Saint Vincent de Paul

September 13: St John Chrysostom

September 28: Saints Wenceslaus & Lawrence Ruiz, et al

September 14: Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

September 29: Feast of Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael

September 15: Our Lady of Sorrows

September 30: Saint Jerome

September 16: Saints Cornelius & Cyprian

October 1: Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus

September 17: Saints Robert Bellarmine & Hildegard of Bingen

October 2: Guardian Angels

September 19: Saint Januarius

October 4: Saint Francis of Assisi

September 20: Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gõn, Paul Chõng Ha-sang, et al

October 5: Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos &

September 21: Feast of Saint Matthew the Evangelist

Saint Faustina Kowalska