

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 Calendars

Snack & Recess

Youth Formation enjoys a short recess and snack time between their arrival and the time we start at 3:30. Thank you to all of the families donating pre-portioned snacks. The children love your contributions!

Absent?

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

GOD IS IN THE DETAILS

We are entering one of the richest parts of our year in Formation. Christmas has a rich background and many traditions that we love to share with your children. As part of our program, each child in Junior, Youth, and Teen Formation will make an ornament for your tree. I will apologize in advance, the ornaments will not be on your tree this Christmas. However, they will be on display in the elevator bay for the Christmas Season. The board will be ready for viewing on December 24, so stop by and see them when you come to mass. Your children do love pointing out their creations when we display them. They will be sent home in late January. On the back of this letter, I have a note about Into the Deep as it relates to Faith Formation. I ask that you submit feedback **by midnight on Sunday, December 11**. You can access the plan and the feedback button at intothedeepmadison.org. Choose "strengths and challenges..." from the drop down. We are Pastorate 14. The category that I am asking for your feedback is "Faith Formation". I am asking each of you to recommend that Faith Formation remain within each individual church of the Pastorate. While each Pastorate will be allowed to make their own decision on Formation, I would like to ensure that those involved in the decision for our Pastorate know where our parish members stand on offering local Faith Formation (Family and Weekly) at individual churches. If you would like more of my thoughts on how local Formation would work, feel free to email me or catch me at mass this weekend. If you have thoughts on any of the other categories, feel free to submit those, as well. The Bishop will be using this feedback to verify Pastorate matches and to guide the Pastoral Teams on their mission to merge their Pastorate into a single parish with multiple churches.

As always, thank you for continuing to raise your children in the Catholic Faith. ~Kim Jensen, CFF

St. Joseph's General Calendar of Events

- Thursday, December 8:** Immaculate Conception Mass
8AM: St Joseph, Edgerton; 6:30PM St Mary, Milton
- Sunday, December 11:** Junior Disciples Meet
Breakfast with Santa - 11:30-1:30
- Wednesday, December 14:** Youth and Teen Formation Meet
Community Confession Event: 6:30PM - 7:30PM
- Sunday, December 18:** Junior Disciples Meet
- Wednesday, December 21:** Youth and Teen Formation Meet
- Saturday, December 24:** 4PM Christmas Eve Mass
Christmas Youth Choir Singing - Come and support our Youth
- Sunday, December 25:** NO JUNIOR DISCIPLES
- Wednesday, December 28:** NO FORMATION
- Sunday, January 1:** NO JUNIOR DISCIPLES
- Wednesday, January 4:** Youth and Teen Formation Meet

MASS TIMES @ ST JOSEPH:

- Thursday: 8:00AM
- Friday: 8:00AM
- Saturday: 4:00PM
- Sunday: 10:30AM

RECONCILIATION OFFERED:

- Saturday:* Before Mass Every Week - 3:00-3:45PM
- Sunday:* After Mass - 2nd and 3rd Sunday, ONLY
December 11 & 18; January 8 & 15
- Wednesday, December 14:* 6:30PM - 7:30PM

UPCOMING EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:

- Tuesday, January 3: 5:30PM-8:30PM
- Friday, January 6: 8:30AM

Life in Christ - December 2022 Emphasis

Volunteer Not-For-Profit Organizations

This month, Pope Francis calls for the world to pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

I wrote on helping Edgerton Community Outreach last month. I do want to emphasize the great work they complete within our community for those in need. In all that they do, they are also finding a need for helpers to continue and expand their work. I ask that you pray about helping them out with their various programs in any way you are able, especially this holiday season.

Works of love directed to one's neighbor are the most perfect external manifestation of the interior grace of the Spirit....
~ Pope Francis

For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love you have demonstrated for his name by having served and continuing to serve the holy ones. – Hebrews 6:10(NAB)

Monthly Family Task: Please talk to your children about giving to others with money, items, and service. As a family, give as you are able this holiday season. Include your children in the discussion of who will benefit from the donations and talk to them about the reasoning for choosing that organization or group to receive the donations.

Changes will be coming to our parish...

Bishop Hying has started Into the Deep. This initiative will better align the offerings within our Diocese to match the needs of each area. During October, Father David talked about the need for this process. To summarize it, Catholics need to change our mindset from maintaining our parishes to acting as missionaries growing our outreach to those around us. Our goals are to not only reinstate Catholics that have fallen away from the faith back into our Parish Family, but we need to share our faith with others to bring others to Jesus. Our current church structure is not helping this mission process flourish.

In the coming year, we will see many changes to our parish. We will be merging with other parishes within our Pastorate. We will make use of cost sharing measures and remove duplicity between the churches to reduce costs and allow more of the funds received from parishioners to further our missionary tasks.

Tentatively, St Piux X in Cambridge and St Joseph in Fort Atkinson will be with us in a Pastorate. Our actual Pastorate churches may change when Bishop Hying makes the final decisions in January or February of 2023. Father will announce when everything is finalized for the Pastorates.

How will Faith Formation change? Nothing is changing for the current school year and we will continue planning for summer. Next school year is when changes will start. We will have some changing curriculums to align with our Pastorate and some changes in how Faith Formation is offered.

There are already plans to expand Family Formation, our in-home, family led formation with a monthly in-church meeting.

Beyond Family Formation, we have the weekly graded formation that we have all grown up with. That is where you will see the most changes. Any offered classes will have a blending of age groups to best fit both our youth's needs and the available volunteer Catechists.

More information will be known in Spring. I will point it out when I open Family Formation registration in March/April 2023.

Communion of Saints - This Month's Celebrations

December 8: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	December 26: Feast of Saint Stephen
December 9: Saint Juan Diego	December 27: Feast of Saint John the Apostle and Evangelist
December 10: Our Lady of Loreto	December 28: Feast of Holy Innocents
December 11: Saint Damasus I	December 29: Saint Thomas Becket
December 12: Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe	Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
December 13: Saint Lucy of Syracuse,	December 31: Saint Sylvester I
December 14: Saint John of the Cross	January 1: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
December 21: Saint Peter Canisius	January 2: Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen
December 23: Saint John of Kanty	January 3: The Most Holy Name of Jesus
December 25: Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord	January 4: Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton