

Raising Our Faith

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

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

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

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

This week, Lent is coming to a close with Holy Week. Masses for Holy Thursday and Good Friday are being held at St Mary’s Milton. Easter Vigil will be here at St Joseph’s. Come support our 10 new members. See “Calendar of Events” for times.

I going to continue on the theme from last month... Family Formation. The Diocese has issued guidance that Bishop Hying feels so strongly about family involvement in Faith Formation that the Diocese is removing all support from graded faith formation models, like our own. There are a few models that we can adopt, but all include requiring whole families meeting once a month. The children will receive age-appropriate instruction during that time while the adults receive their own formation on a similar topic.

While we don’t need to change for another school year, we will be adding several mandatory family events for our Youth and Teen Formation families next school year as phase 1 of this change. These dates will be on the meeting calendar that is issued mid-summer. (These family events will be similar to Generations of Faith for those that have been involved with our program for many years.)

While the actual Family Formation model we will be using is still undecided, we are moving forward with expanding Family Formation this coming year with a large group as well as adding interested Family Formation Small Groups.

If your family is interested in Family Formation and/or you are interested in become a Catechist for the children breakout sessions during Family Formation, see the next page for more information and how to register.

Thanks for raising your children in the faith. ~Kim Jensen, CFF

St. Joseph’s Calendar of Events

- Thursday, April 6:** Holy Thursday Mass - 7pm @ St Mary - Milton
- Friday, April 7:** Good Friday Service - Noon @ St Mary - Milton
- Saturday, April 8:** Easter Vigil Mass - 8pm @ St Joseph - Edgerton
- Sunday, April 9:** Easter Mass - 10:30am @ St Joseph - Edgerton

NO JUNIOR DISCIPLES

- Wednesday, April 12:** Youth and Teen Formation Meet
- Sunday, April 16:** Junior Disciples Meet
- Wednesday, April 19:** Youth and Teen Formation Meet

3:30 - First Communion Retreat; 4:30 First Communion Parent Meeting (only invited families)

- Sunday, April 23:** Junior Disciples Meet
- Wednesday, April 26:** Youth and Teen Formation Meet
- Sunday, April 30:** First Communion at 10:30am Mass

NO JUNIOR DISCIPLES

- Tuesday, May 2:** Eucharistic Adoration 5:30PM - 8:30PM
- Wednesday, May 3:** Youth and Teen Formation Meet
- Friday, May 5:** Eucharistic Adoration after 8am Mass
- Saturday, May 6:** Bingo Night after Mass—Bring the entire family!

MASS TIMES

Saturday: 5:45PM @ St Joseph, Edgerton
Sunday: 10:30AM @ St Joseph, Edgerton

CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION TIMES

Saturday: After Mass Every Week - 7:00PM-end
Sunday: After Mass - 2nd and 3rd Sunday, ONLY
April 16; May 14 & 21

Life in Christ - April 2023 Pope Francis's Emphasis

For a culture of peace and non violence

Pope Francis reminds us "when tragic events seem to overwhelm our lives, we are called to keep our hearts open to hope and to trust in God, who makes himself present, accompanies us with tenderness, sustains us in our weariness and, above all, guides our path."

We pray for the spread of peace and non violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.
- Pope Francis

Family Task for the Month: This month, continue the great work raising children that care about others and help those in need. Talk to your children about being an upstander and finding a trusted adult when they witness or hear about any violence in their schools.

2023-2024 FAMILY FORMATION Q&A

What is Family Formation?

Family Formation brings faith formation into your home. The materials provided include weekly lessons with assignments.

Why Family Formation?

We are seeing a greater need for our Domestic Churches to receive Formation as whole instead of just the children coming in each week. A Domestic Church exists in each individual household. Making the switch to Family Formation helps the Church to better foster the relationship with God within each Domestic Church. There is also the busy modern family life. Families are able to reduce the number of trips they make to church, especially if we are able to host Family Formation Meetings around Mass times. And, Families cover their weekly lessons based on their weekly availability.

What meetings do we need to attend?

No more Wednesday afternoon Formation meetings for your family.

Those children in grades 6 and up will have 2-3 Teen Formation Meetings a month on topics beyond their home lessons. Teen Formation will continue to be "drop & go", so no parents need to attend beyond the Teen Small Group Leaders.

Your family (both adults if 2-parent household) will come to a once-a-month family meeting at church which acts as a check-in while enriching the at-home formation material. Adults will receive Formation on a topic similar to what the children will be covering. Your actual monthly meeting dates are set by the Lead Catechist for your group.

Group? What are groups?

Our trial group was a small group with only 5 families with 12 school-age children. We saw great relationship building in this model and will support other small groups looking to form. Each small group must source their own nursery attendant and Children's catechist.

New this Fall is a large group which allows for more age-appropriate lessons during the children breakouts during the monthly meeting. Age-appropriate groups are merged based on need and volunteers.

What does it mean to be a Lead Catechist versus a Children's Catechist?

The Lead Catechist runs the adult group and verifies family assignments are completed. Children's Catechists lead a children's group during breakouts. We have found it is best if the Children's Catechist is in a different group than their family attends so they also can participate. Monthly topics and lessons, including materials, will be given to all Catechists for a uniform program. Lead Catechists and Children's Catechists do not pay the annual Formation Enrollment Fees.

Who can enroll?

Our 2023-2024 Family Formation Program ages are Grades 5K-8. Those younger than 1st grade will be supervised in the church nursery during the monthly meeting. Families enrolled in Family Formation with children age 4 through 5K are encouraged to enroll those children to our Junior Disciples program. Those with children in High School will enroll those high schoolers in the 2-3 times a month Teen Formation meetings. These High Schoolers are asked to help during Family Formation in various service roles and the parents are still encouraged to attend the Parent portion of the meetings.

How to enroll?

Scan the QR Code and complete the Google Form that applies to your situation.



Communion of Saints - This Month's Celebrations

April 6:	Holy Thursday	April 23:	Saint George & St Adalbert
April 7:	Good Friday	April 24:	St Fidelis of Sigmaringen
	St John Baptist de la Salle	April 25:	St Mark the Evangelist
April 8:	Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil	April 28:	St Louis Grignon de Montfort
April 9:	Solemnity of Easter Sunday	April 29:	St Catherine of Siena
April 11:	St Stanislaus	April 30:	St Pius V
April 13:	St Martin I	May 1:	St Joseph the Worker
April 16:	Divine Mercy Sunday	May 2:	St Athanasius
April 21:	St Anselm of Canterbury	May 3:	Feast of Saints Philip and James

Every April, Catholic parishes and schools across the United States participate in National Child Abuse Prevention Month. While dioceses work year-round to prevent abuse, during this month a special emphasis is placed on the importance of learning how to protect the vulnerable from this evil.

Together, for the next nine days, let's pray that the vulnerable are protected from abuse, and that survivors of abuse may be accompanied on their paths to healing.

Novena

for Protection and Healing from Abuse

Intercessions

- Day 1:** May the most vulnerable be protected from all types of abuse and exploitation.
- Day 2:** May those who have been sexually abused receive comfort and healing.
- Day 3:** May those who work with children and young people be vigilant in protecting them from harm.
- Day 4:** May those who provide help for the abused act with wisdom and compassion in their healing ministries.
- Day 5:** May all families strive to provide safe and nurturing environments for children and young people.

Day 6: May all those who have committed abuse acknowledge the harm they have done, repent, and accept justice that ultimately comes from God.

Day 7: May those who have been abused receive the courage to tell their story, and may they be believed and supported.

Day 8: May Church leaders, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, promote justice and healing for survivors of abuse.

Day 9: May our Holy Father, Pope Francis, fulfill his role as good shepherd and protect the most vulnerable in his flock.

Prayers

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be, Prayer for Healing

Prayer for Healing

God of endless love,
Ever caring, ever strong,
always present, always just:
You gave your only Son
to save us by his blood on the cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace,
join to your own suffering
the pain of all who have been hurt
in body, mind, and spirit
by those who betrayed the trust placed in
them.

Hear the cries of our brothers and sisters
who have been gravely harmed,
and the cries of those who love them.

Soothe their restless hearts with
hope,
steady their shaken spirits with
faith.

Grant them justice for their cause,
enlightened by your truth.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts,
heal your people's wounds
and transform brokenness into wholeness.

Grant us the courage and wisdom,
humility and grace, to act with justice.

Breathe wisdom into our prayers and labors.

Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace in justice.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

