

Sacred Heart Parish

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

The year 2020 has certainly presented all of us with a unique journey! At Sacred Heart Parish, we are excited and ready to continue our partnership with your family. I wish to update you on our preparations for the 2020- 2021 Faith Formation year in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Sacred Heart Faith Formation team has been working diligently to create a rigorous and safe return-to-learn plan in order to proceed with the journey of Catholic education that feeds your child and family spiritually, emotionally, and intellectually.

We are committed to providing a quality Catholic education, regardless of the mode of delivery being used. The education your child receives from Sacred Heart is distinct, as our Catholic beliefs, traditions, and teachings are deeply embedded in weekly instruction. We are looking at meeting on-site two weeks each month for the first two months.

On-Site Learning: This model indicates services are offered at Sacred Heart Parish. We will be meeting in the church basement with Newman hall being divided with partitions. To meet this goal, we have planned for additional cleaning, social distancing, training, and health/safety plans.

Wednesday Evenings:

First thru Sixth Grade would meet on the First and Third Wednesdays of each month. September 23 being the First week.

Sept. 23rd, Oct. 7th, Oct. 21st and Nov. 4th.

Seventh thru ninth grade would meet on the Second and Fourth Wednesdays of each month. September 30 being the First week.

Sept. 30th, Oct. 14th, Oct. 28th and Nov. 11th.

We would start out the year with this schedule and hoping to resume to normal at a later date.

Virtual Learning this model indicates services will be held remotely for all students. Virtual learning will be used in emergency situations when on-site learning is not possible. When students are using remote virtual learning we will be using Zoom.

We recognize it is not possible to eliminate all COVID-19 exposure risks. We are implementing strategies to make our faith formation as safe as possible. We will ask parents to screen students at home for COVID 19 symptoms prior to attending religious education each evening. Children or staff with a temperature of 100.3 or above should not attend religious education classes.

At this time, we are strongly encouraging students, staff, and parents to wear masks, especially in situations where proper social distancing is difficult. Parents will be expected to provide a face mask for their children. Additional cleaning and disinfecting procedures will be implemented. Hand sanitizer and kleenex will be available in multiple places in the classrooms.

All positive cases of COVID-19 will be reported to Jones County Public Health. We will follow their guidance for notification, contact tracing, cleaning, and closure.

Please complete the registration accurately and make sure your contact information is up to date in case we need to communicate with you. I will need a parent email address in order to use zoom if necessary. Please be sure to write down your email address on the form. The Finance Committee has decreased the tuition this year because of COVID. This year tuition is \$100.00 for each student. Confirmation and First Communion have additional fees due to extra books. Our students will be able to write in their books. All fees need to be paid up front with the return of Registration forms. We are also offering ACH where you can use automatic transfer of payment each month. Please complete and mail back the **Registration form by September 11th**. This will give the Faith Formation Team some time to set up all the classes.

Please keep your child at home if they do not feel well. It is important to keep your child home if they have a fever. Please reach out with any questions or concerns. Our faith formation team is here to help!

Please know that plans and guidance may change as more information is received. Our local return-to-learn team will continue to review this information in order to welcome your child back to faith formation classes to continue their spiritual, social, emotional, and intellectual growth as safely as possible. Thank you for entrusting us with your most precious gift.