

**St. Joseph Catholic Church**  
**Formation Office**  
**1501 North Alafaya Trail**  
**Orlando, FL 32828**  
**(407) 275-0841**

August 2023

Dear Formation Parents:

Faith Formation is a lifelong process. Lifelong faith formation includes two key experiences in the Christian life: conversion to Christ and learning on our shared faith - the two go hand in hand. Sometimes the learning process produces deeper conversion. Other times, the conversion process leads to learning. These two faith experiences of the head and heart are the groundwork of lifelong faith formation.

While parents are the primary educators of their children, St. Joseph Catholic Church is privileged to partner with our families and to assist parents/guardians in sharing the Catholic faith with their children.

Our Formation program begins the week of September 10. Below are the registration guidelines for your review.

1. The registration fees for the 2023-2024 year is **\$60 / child**:

These fees are used to purchase textbooks, supplies, catechist training, and assist in the payment of property usages. The preferred payment method is online via Realm. We accept cash and check payments too. Make check payable to **St. Joseph Catholic Church**. Write "**formation**" on the memo line and include your child's name.

**NOTE:** If, for any genuine reason, a family is unable to pay the registration fee in full, please contact the parish office to make special arrangements. No child is ever turned away from our formation program due to the inability to pay the registration fees. All payment arrangements will be held in strict confidence.

2. After registering, please provide the following in order to complete the registration.
  - A valid copy of individual's baptismal certificate (Grades 1-12 ONLY)
  - Image Release Form
  - Payment

**All forms may be found on the parish website <https://stjosephorlando.org/youth-faith-formation/>.**

3. The children/youth formation sessions are scheduled on the following days.

<b>Grades 1 - 5</b>	<b>Middle School Youth Ministry Grades 6 - 8</b>	<b>High School Youth Ministry Grades 9 - 12</b>
Wednesday 4:30 – 6 pm Wednesday 6:30 – 8 pm	Thursday 6:30 – 8 pm	Sunday 6:30 – 8 pm

Formation for first grades through fifth grades begins on September 13.

Middle school youth ministry begins on September 14.

High school youth ministry begins on September 10.

Home school option is also available for first grade through eighth grade.

The adult sessions are as follows:

<b>Adult Formation English</b>
Wednesday 4:30 – 6 pm Wednesday 7:00 – 8:30 pm

4. Families who are registering children as transfers from another Formation program or Catholic school must include a letter from the transferring parish/school affirming the child/children’s consistent attendance.
5. In order to receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion, the child must be in second grade or above with a desire to receive the sacraments. There is a \$50 / person fee for sacrament preparation.
6. In order to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, the child must be in eighth grade or above with a desire to receive the sacrament. There is a \$125 / person fee for the Confirmation retreat.
7. Families are expected to be registered members of the parish. If you are not, follow the link to complete parish registration form <https://stjosephorlando.org/our-parish-2/parish-registration/>.
8. Families should be participating in the sacramental life of the Church by participating in weekly Mass and holy days of obligation.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call or email me at [eheinsen@stjosephorlando.org](mailto:eheinsen@stjosephorlando.org).

Blessings,

Edith Heinsen  
Formation Coordinator