



St. James R.C. Church - Office of Faith Formation
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lcreed@stjamesfaith.org

April 2023

Dear

Welcome to St. James Faith Formation! We see by your parish registration that you have a child who will be entering First Grade in the fall of 2023; this means you should begin to think about his/her religious education as well. In our diocese there is two year preparation for the reception of the Sacrament of First Penance and First Holy Communion (which are celebrated in the second grade). In order for you child to receive when they have reached the second grade you need to register them for the fall 2023 for the first level of Faith Formation so that they will have the required two years of preparation.

In our Parish Faith Formation process we stress the RELATIONSHIP with God rather than learning all the "Facts". We do have norms that we follow, i.e. by end of first level children should know how to make the Sign of the Cross and pray the Our Father and Hail Mary, basic knowledge of who God is, who Jesus is and who the Holy Spirit is (The Blessed [holy] Trinity) but, their understanding that God is their Father, Brother, Friend and they should have a personal relationship with him.

While we did not have formal testing this year, we did expect that our students would do their best to participate in class discussion, complete any assignments on time, and of course, participate in the celebration of Mass. We cannot build a relationship with God and one another if we do not take the time to be in God's house and participate in the Eucharist.

We expect that **ALL** students will be **ATTENDING IN PERSON** the 2023-2024 school year. **Homeschool option** is only for medical reasons and only for levels 3, 4, 5, & 6. You must register **IN PERSON** if you are choosing the Homeschool option, to discuss what it will entail.

We will be keeping the email addresses for our students (firstname.lastname@stjamesseaford.org) should we have to quickly move into google classroom, so do not forget your passwords.

Registration can be completed as follows:

ONLINE – at our website (stjamesrcchurch.org) [instructions included in this mailing]

MAIL– please mail completed form with payment to the address above.

IN PERSON – ALL in person registration ***must be done by appointment only***. Please call to make an appointment to register in person.

The following are the email addresses you should use to correspond with this office:
lcreed@stjamesfaith.org for Mrs. Lucy Creed, Director of Faith Formation

astankiewicz@stjamesfaith.org for Ms. Anna Stankiewicz, Administrative Assistant
mruppertl@stjamesfaith.org for Mrs. Myra Ruppert, Administrative Assistant
stjamesfaithformationseaford@gmail.com for the general mailbox
Absence@stjamesfaith.org **USE THIS EMAIL TO REPORT ABSENCES**

You will receive individual level emails when you pick up your materials in August.

If you are registering a Level 1 New Student, please include a copy of their **Certificate of Baptism** with the registration form, we cannot process the form without the Certificate of Baptism. If you are registering online you **must email a copy of the Baptismal Certificate to us immediately or we cannot process** the registration form. Children will be placed into classes on a "first-received" basis. We are limiting class size to 20 students per class. Once a class is **full** we **will not** add additional students. Tuition is due at the time of registration. Please make checks or money orders payable to **St. James Church**. **Do not delay registration due to a financial hardship.** Please call our office so we can work out a suitable payment plan – all information is strictly confidential.

If you need your child/children to be with a specific child, then all of the registration forms from all families must be submitted at the same time and all forms should indicate the students' names. We cannot guarantee that we can meet all requests.

REGISTRATION ENDS ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2023

Once you register you will receive an **email** advising you when to pick up class placement, textbooks, schedules, etc. We ask that all fees for past years be paid in full by this time.

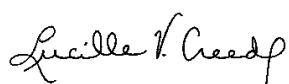
In order to insure safety of our students we rely on our volunteers; therefore we asking you to mindfully consider your service opportunities here at the parish. We hope that you would consider offering your time and talent as a catechist. If we do not have a sufficient number of catechists we will not be able to accommodate the over 1100 students that are currently in our program. We have attached a volunteer form and ask that you prayerfully consider offering your time and talents as a catechist or hall monitor to ensure the safe and productive running of the program

A reminder that after September 15, 2023 there is a \$25 change fee if you make any changes to your child's class (day, room etc.) this covers the cost of the change (reprinting attendance sheets, teachers' rosters, etc.) all changes must be made before October 31st, we will make no changes after the October 31st date.

We thank you for partnering with us to deepen the faith of your children and their relationship with the Blessed Trinity.

May God continue to Bless your family as we enter into a new year of Faith Formation.

Sincerely in Christ Jesus,



Lucy Creed, Director of Faith Formation (lcreed@stjamesfaith.org)