

# Faith Formation

St. Joseph Catholic Church

September 2017

## Upcoming Events At A Glance

*September 6<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> – PSR starts*

*September 24<sup>th</sup> - VIRTUS Training session in the school cafeteria*

*September 30<sup>th</sup> – Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> Carpool to Matthew Kelly life-changing event in OKC.*

*Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> - Life chain Sunday*

## **Why is Youth Ministry so important?**

Youth ministry is essentially about coming together as a community to be there for our young people, to offer them a supportive foundation from which they can draw strength and spiritual nourishment as they go about their lives.

It's about developing good relationships through which we can listen, communicate and share our faith and in turn nourish the health and future of the church.

This is particularly important at this current time because many parishes are experiencing real difficulty in sustaining the faith of young people – sometimes after they make their First Holy Communion and almost certainly after they make their Confirmation.

In essence, there is a gap in the life of the church for young people which can be addressed through our re-visioning of youth ministry and this is why this initiative is so timely and important.

## Adult Faith Formation



VIRTUS training is mandatory for any adults, 18 and older, to be involved with students during a PSR or Catholic School related activity. Paula Ast will be presenting a VIRTUS Training session in the school cafeteria on Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup> from 1-4

## Favorite websites



[www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com)  
Listen to your favorite catholic radio and TV online!  
[www.wichitaadore.com](http://www.wichitaadore.com)

## Opportunities in the Diocese and Surrounding Areas

Thursdays in August Grief Share Series 7-9 SLC

Aug 14<sup>th</sup> Theology on Tap 8 – 10 at River City Brewery

Aug. 18-20 The fruit of silence retreat: St. Teresa of Calcutta's way to holiness SLC

Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> Pro-Life workshop 8:45-11 Good Shepherd Hall Cathedral

Sep. 2<sup>nd</sup> Theology Institute 9-4 SLC

Sep. 7<sup>th</sup> Date Night for catholic couples 6:15-9 SLC

Sep. 30<sup>th</sup> Matthew Kelly Living Every Day with Passion & Purpose. Tickets available

here. <http://dynamiccatholic.com/events/passion-and-purpose/oklahoma/>

Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> TEC #154 SLC



Years ago, when you presented your child for the Sacrament of Baptism, the priest or deacon asked you a very important question. He said, "You have asked to have your child baptized. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training him (her) in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him (her) up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbor. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?" You answered the question. "I do."

The parenthood vocation requires great sacrifice as you die to yourself so as to give life to your children. As parents, your primary responsibility is to help form your children on the journey to the Kingdom of God. What an undertaking! That journey means introducing your child to Jesus Christ, who is the Way, Truth and the Life. No one comes to Heavenly Father, except through Jesus. (cf.

John 14:6)

As parents, the Church teaches that you are the primary educators of your children in the ways of the Catholic Faith. This task cannot be done alone. The Church seeks to assist parents in this role and this is why the parish offers religious education classes for the youngest of children to the oldest of adults. All of us are students being formed in our Catholic Faith.

We share the responsibility of helping form our young children in the ways of the faith and to help each one encounter Jesus Christ. Let us keep this intention in our daily prayer.

A new academic year is beginning. I am confident that as a parent, you see the importance of the question that was asked of you when your child was baptized. The responsibility of bringing your child up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us requires teaching our children who Christ truly is. Thank you for enrolling your child in our parish religious education classes as St. Joseph Parish. May we work together as parents and teachers to present our children to Jesus Christ!

Sunday PSR: The first class is September 10th 9:15-10:15am

HIGH SCHOOL PSR: The first class is September 6th - 7pm mass, class until 8:30pm

Forms in the back of church are available for PSR registration. Please turn in ASAP.

Important dates: First Reconciliation will be on Saturday, January 20th at 9:00.

First Holy Communion will be on Sunday, April 8th at 2:00. Confirmation will be Tuesday, May 1 at 6:30 pm at the Cathedral.

## What are my kids learning?

**K-6-** The students will be doing The Image of God Series. 2nd grade will be preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and The Holy Eucharist.

**7th-** Theology of the body for middle school: This curriculum is based on Blessed Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body, which offers a very positive message of the gift of sexuality as a good and essential part of love and life.

**8th** – Building a relationship with Christ through a life of service. Our biblical focus is on the Acts of the Apostles which will hopefully build a foundation for Confirmation.

**9th** – As we prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation, we focus on our role as servants, and we expect our students to assist with the many events and activities in the parish throughout the year. We emphasize our "Faith in Action". They do earn Service Hours for these activities.

**10th-** Theology of the body for High School: This is a more mature curriculum based on Blessed Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body, which offers a very positive message of the gift of sexuality as a good and essential part of love and life.

**11th & 12th-** Providing practical and spiritual direction for building faith that will stick through college and beyond.

**Please pray for our children and youth as they prepare for their sacraments!**

We are excited to teach about our faith and God to your youth! Please continue to pray for us as well!