

Dear 7th & 8th Grade Families of Youth Faith Formation:

I hope you all are enjoying the last few weeks of summer and that you are preparing for the transition into the school year. The catechists and I are excited to have you participate in Youth Faith Formation this year! There are two groups, Week A (starting Sept. 18) and Week B (starting Sept. 25). Each student has a Week Assignment (*refer to calendar attachment*) and will follow his or her schedule plotted out on the calendar. There will be a mandatory Orientation Night for parents & students on **Wed., Sept. 4 for Week A Students & Wed., Sept. 11 for Week B Students from 6:30pm – 8:30pm** in the Cafeteria of Resurrection School. You and your child's presence is imperative in order to understand the dynamics of the program, set clear expectations and allow us to address any questions or concerns.

If you have not REGISTERED yet, please do so with Mary Lou Lymper ASAP, so we can properly prepare for your child's presence and participation this year. Please call 856.667.2440 ext. 346 to speak with Mary Lou.

Weekly Process (every other Wednesday night from 6:30pm – 8:30pm):

6:30pm – 7:00pm meet in cafeteria for prayer, snack, announcements and community time

7:00pm – 8:00pm break-out into small groups with assigned catechists

8:00pm – 8:30pm large group activity / reflection

Mini-Course Topics

7th Grade Topics: Social Justice, Self Respect / Inclusion, World Religions

8th Grade Topics: Morality, Mystery, Vocation

Rotations

Each student will be in a small group which will participate in 4 sessions per mini-course. At the end of the year he or she will have rotated through 3 mini-courses for a total of 12 sessions.

Experiential Learning Process

This program has been designed specifically to engage your child in their faith formation by providing them with the privilege of "hands-on" activities, space outside of the classroom and opportunities to turn their faith into action. The catechists have been working diligently to design a unique program that will nurture, engage, and challenge your child. Based on each student's experience and learning on Wednesday nights, each student will be given essential questions to reflect on and will be responsible for building a portfolio. Please check our website for further details: <http://sites.google.com/site/colteenfaith/>

In addition, we will be utilizing a new educational resource this year called Edmodo, in order to better engage the students and collect their reflections. Please check out the demo at:

<https://youthfaithformation.edmodo.com/>

As your child continues to be informed by your faithful example, we want to thank you for placing your child's faith formation as a priority. We look forward to seeing you at your assigned Orientation Night!

Gratefully,

Ryan O'Connor

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Pastoral Associate for Youth Faith Formation

856.667.2440 ext. 345

7th & 8th Grade Youth Faith Formation Calendar
2013-2014

Week A	Large Group	Week B
Sept. 4, 2013	Orientation Night (w/ parent) Mandatory Attendance	Sept. 11, 2013
Sept. 18, 2013	Prayer Service	Sept. 25, 2013
October 2, 2013	Mitzvah Day Information	October 9, 2013
October 16, 2013	Hunger Presentation	October 23, 2013
October 30, 2013	Sandwich Making	
	NO CLASS: November 6, 2013	
	Sandwich Making	November 13, 2013
November 20, 2013	Wrap – Up / Switch	
	NO CLASS: November 27, 2013	
December 4, 2013 6pm-8pm	Advent Intergenerational Gathering (choose one)	Sat., December 7, 2013 10am -12pm
	Wrap – Up / Switch	December 11, 2013
December 18, 2013	Many Faces of Mary	
	NO CLASS: December 25, 2013	
	NO CLASS: January 1, 2014	
	Many Faces of Mary	January 8, 2014
January 15, 2014	Ministry Fair	January 22, 2014
January 29, 2014	Teaching Mass	February 5, 2014
February 12, 2014	Wrap – Up / Switch	February 19, 2014
February 26, 2014	Vocation Fair	
March 5, 2014	All Group Ash Wednesday (Both Week A & B)	March 5, 2014
	Vocation Fair	March 12, 2014
March 19, 2014	Camden Cultural Night	March 26, 2014
April 2, 2014 6pm-8pm	Lenten Intergenerational Gathering (choose one)	Sat., April 5, 2014 10am-12pm
April 9, 2014	Community Garden	
	NO CLASS: April 16, 2014	
	Community Garden	April 23, 2014
April 30, 2014	Wrap-Up / Outdoor Mass	May 7, 2014

Week Assignments: 7th & 8th Graders with last names A – K will follow Week A and last names L – Z will follow Week B. Unexcused absences are not permitted, since you have all the dates and understand the priority of this commitment. If an emergency arises or any conflict, please contact me at 856.667.2440 ext. 345. **3 or more absences will result in an incompleteness for the year.**