**St. Joseph’s Church Faith Formation**

**47 DePaul St., PO Box 376**

**Emmitsburg, MD 21727**

August 1, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Getting through Faith Formation this past year and a half was quite challenging, but your children and our catechists prevailed on Zoom. We will continue to work with St. Anthony Shrine and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel parishes for faith formation.

Our sessions for **K-8th Grade** will be in person at Mother Seton School on Sunday mornings starting on September 12 from **9:00 – 10:10**. We would like for the parents (at least one) to stay for a meeting before we divide into our groups.

We will continue to use the *Christ Our Life* series from Loyola Press for K-8. To be in compliance with the Archdiocese of Baltimore’s Office of Child Protection we will also present to each grade the *Growing with God: Safe and Sacred* seriesfrom Loyola Press. This will be supplemented with *Messages That Protect* from the Archdiocese of Baltimore. It is **required** by the Archdiocese that we offer a series on Child Protection in our parishes and Catholic schools. This is part of an ongoing effort to help create and maintain a safe environment for children and protect all children from sexual abuse, in the context of Catholic moral teaching about family life and healthy sexuality. You can learn more about the program by going to [www.loyolapress.com/faith-formation/child-safety-and-catholic-family-living/growing-with-god/parents-and-students/](http://www.loyolapress.com/faith-formation/child-safety-and-catholic-family-living/growing-with-god/parents-and-students/). There is a place on the registration form for you to give permission (or not) for your child to participate in *Growing with God*

**First Reconciliation and First Eucharist:** we will use the Loyola Press God’s Gift: Reconciliation and God’s Gift: Eucharist for sacramental prep. I do not have dates for the sacramental prep meetings or for the sacraments. Once our new pastor arrives and is settled in I will get those dates to you.

**Confirmation** sessionswill meet on Tuesdays from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm starting on September 14. It is important that your child attend all sessions. Parents, please plan to stay for our first session.

If you have any questions or concerns about any program we are using, please contact me at 301-447-2326 ext. 19 or [Doria.wolfe@archbalt.org](mailto:Doria.wolfe@archbalt.org) (preferred).

Peace,

Doria Wolfe, CRE

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