



2017 – 2018

**St. Joseph Church**  
*built on Generations of Faith since 1765*

**Invitation to Greatness ~ Morality**

Our catechetical initiative is called Generations of Faith, which offers opportunities for adults, children and teens to come together to learn about the Catholic faith. Growth in the faith is promoted through participation in the Sunday Eucharist and parish and home learning experiences and practices.

• **The gatherings include:**

**1. Friday Evening                      All Ages                      6:30 – 8:45 pm**

**A simple meal is served at 6:30 pm.**

**2. Saturday Morning                      All Ages                      9:30 am – 11:45 am**

**A simple breakfast is served starting at 9:30 am.**

**3. Sunday Morning                      Weekend I**

**Families with Children *only* in Grades K-6.**

**Families come together on a Sunday morning in the Parish Center at 10 am. There is time for hospitality, prayer, teaching, and family activities. This session finishes no later than 11:40 am.**

**4. Sunday Morning                      Weekend II**

**Families with Children *only* in Grades K-6.**

**Families come on Sunday morning for the 10:30 Mass in the Parish Center. Mass is followed by hospitality, prayer, teaching, and family activities. This session finishes no later than 12:30 pm.**

## **5. Sunday Afternoon                      All Ages**

**Mass in Church at 12 noon followed by the Gathering in the Parish Center.**

**Lunch is served after Mass. This session ends by 3 pm.**

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### **• Practice Faith**

**“Practice of the Faith” experiences (in addition to the gatherings of Generations of Faith) are scheduled during the year; households are asked to attend at least 2 of them.**

### **• At Home**

#### **Grades 1 -3**

**At home each month, parents work with their children on assigned chapters from *Jesus Our Life*. This book is a required purchase.**

#### **Grades 4, 5 and 6    Be My Disciples    Book 5**

**Children in these grades are responsible for reading assigned chapters and taking the online quiz at the end of the chapter. Quiz results are posted to [sjparish@optonline.net](mailto:sjparish@optonline.net).**

**2017 – 2018              We Believe, Part 3 and Part 4    Chapters 9 – 16**

#### **Grades 7 & 8              Be My Disciples: Life in Christ Jesus**

**Children in these grades are responsible for reading assigned chapters and taking the online quiz at the end of the chapter. Quiz results are posted to [sjparish@optonline.net](mailto:sjparish@optonline.net).**

**2017 – 2018              Our Call to Moral Living              Chapters 7 – 12**

**Study Cards    This year’s study cards are Set 3: The Sacraments. They will be posted monthly on our website ~ [www.faithformationnj.org](http://www.faithformationnj.org)**

## **• Sacramental Preparation**

## **A Sacred Time**

**Children and teens prepare to celebrate the sacraments by getting to know Jesus Christ and developing a friendship with him through prayer and worship at Mass. As they grow in their love of Christ they learn how loved and precious they are to God.**

**The first step in preparing children and youth to receive Holy Communion and Confirmation is regular attendance at Mass on Sunday.**

### **The Path to Holy Communion**

**In September <sup>+</sup> children are enrolled to prepare for the sacraments of Penance and Holy Communion. They participate in the celebration of the Eucharist, the Mass.**

**<sup>+</sup> Children enrolling in September must have attended a full year of catechesis [religious education] prior to this enrollment period.**

### **Confirmation**

**Teens who participate in Youth Ministry during the high school years have the option of celebrating Confirmation.**

**In the first year of Youth Ministry teens participate with their families in our parish's faith formation process, Generations of Faith.**

**Teens in the second year of youth ministry are assigned to a small group with a facilitator guide. These small faith groups gather on Sunday evenings throughout the year.**

**Retreats, opportunities to practice the Works of Mercy and special events are an important part of the parish's ministry to teens.**

**Teens who have not completed the At-Home assignments in 'Be My Disciples' will be asked to do so while preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation.**