

Faith Formation Family Events 2025-2026

7/26/2025 Faith Formation Registration Begins

9/7/2025 Opening Mass at 11 a.m. followed by a Cupcake Social. During the social, registration will continue, and we will distribute the Parents Handbooks, printed calendars, and meet the Catechists. Each grade will have a table set up with this year's materials and we'll all get a chance to get to know one another.

10/26/2025 All Saints Party - Faith Formation has focused on learning about saints and sainthood in class, and we are now ready to celebrate. Everyone should be dressed as a saint, know the lyrics to *When the Saints Come Marching In*, and be able to find their saint upstairs in the church for a photo op. There will be games, crafts, food and fun. Middle School students and Confirmation class will decorate and man the events.

11/30/2025 Advent Wreath Party - This is a Faith Formation class where families are invited to join their children in building a family Advent wreath as they learn about Advent. We will be building each family an **Advent wreath** to be blessed by Father. Please bring a small *unwrapped* gift to support St Joseph's Family Advancement Ministry (FAM) in their 'Gift of Love' campaign. If you'd like to bring *Christmas cookies*, we will have lots of milk (or juice) to go with them! This year we are adding a Nativity Swap. If you'd like to 'swap' or donate a nativity, please bring yours in! Middle School students and Confirmation class will decorate and man the events.

12/6/2025 First Reconciliation and Penance Service – Our sacramental preparation class will be making their First Reconciliation as a family and whether you've gone to confession recently or haven't for many years, this is a great chance to Prepare for the Lord. Be open to receive the Lord's endless mercy! Our Confirmation class will present this service.

12/7/2025 Breakfast with Santa – SJCS presents Santa and the Knights of Columbus make pancakes and sausage.

12/24/2025 Nativity Celebration - All St. Joseph parishioners ages 3-18 are welcome to participate in this Advent Tradition! The pageant will take place at the beginning of the 6:30 pm Mass. Nativity Play Practice is scheduled for 12/21/2025

at 9:30 in the Social Hall. Volunteers of all ages needed for the play, as readers, ushers, greeters, altar servers, etc.

2/1/2026 Candlemas Pancakes - In 2026, Candlemas, also known as the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, will be celebrated on Monday, February 2nd. It's a Christian holiday commemorating the presentation of the infant Jesus at the Temple in Jerusalem, and the purification of the Virgin Mary, 40 days after his birth. A key tradition is the blessing of candles, symbolizing Jesus as the light of the world, which are then used throughout the year in homes and churches. Please bring a new or gently used coat to donate to the homeless. The Knights of Columbus will host us!

2/27/2026 Stations of the Cross – Praying the stations helps us to become holy. Praying them as a family we become a holier family. We learn to have more compassion for those who suffer. It pulls us out of our selfishness and teaches us to sacrifice for others. We can learn to be patient in situations of unavoidable suffering. There will be several ways for all youth to volunteer.

3/12/2026 Lenten Penance Service – Offered during the season of Lent so we can prepare our souls for the celebration of the Easter. It will be presented by our Middle School and Confirmation classes.

3/29/2026 Palm Sunday Procession - A family event to celebrate “The Miracles of Jesus and Palm Sunday.” Each grade will be doing a different act and all children may wear costumes.

4/26/2026 Year End Mass and Social - Opening Mass at 11 a.m. followed by an Ice Cream Social catered by Rosie's from Dublin. During the social, we will look for feedback on our program and help for next year!

5/10/2026 Celebration of Mary - All classes will meet in the Social Hall for “A Day About Mary” and then form up to process up to the altar rail to present Mary with our prayers and flowers. This Mother's Day weekend, please join us in offering a spiritual bouquet to Our Blessed Mother. Please write down your prayer intentions and offer them to Our Lady along with flowers of thanksgiving for her motherly love and intercession. All Faith Formation children will process at the very beginning of Mass at 11:00 am.