

FAITH FORMATION 2025-26

February 1,
2026

Issue #9

Latest news and bulletin updates

Sacramental Preparation:

First Reconciliation/First Holy Communion

What a blessing you are to us! **The First Holy Communion Retreat** is scheduled for Saturday, Feb 7, 2026 from 9:30-2:00, lunch provided. Parents attend with candidate. We will have prayer, activity and rehearsal for First Holy Communion.

Have you turned in your child's Baptismal Certificate? Please send us a copy to faithformation@st-joseph.cc today.

Please see [website](#) for important dates and info.

Confirmation

The Spring Confirmation Retreat is scheduled for **March 8, 2026** beginning at 9:45 am, followed by Mass at 11, and then prayer and activities until 4 pm, lunch provided. Parents/sponsors attend with candidate.

Have you turned in your Baptismal Certificate?
Have you turned in your sponsor information?
Have you researched your patron saint?
Have you written your letter to Bishop Parkes?
Are you attending Mass regularly and discerning God's plan for you?

The next opportunity for Volunteer Hours is: **The Candlemas Pancake Breakfast and Coat Drive, Sun, Feb 1st at 9:30 am** - see email to volunteer.

Please see [website](#) for important dates and info!

Christian Initiation for Children

Please see **both** the First Reconciliation/First Holy Communion and Confirmation sections above.

Please see [website](#) for important dates!

Faith Formation for Parents

Please join us for coffee and donuts while the children are in class. This week *The Sacraments*.

Don't Forget to Mark your calendar for Stations of the Cross and the Lenten Penance Service!

"How you and your child can serve"

Serving at Mass isn't just about shaking hands, moving the water and wine or holding a heavy book—it's actually about being a leader in the Church. When you're serving, you're not just a "helper" for the priest; you're a **minister**. Your job is to help the whole parish focus on God. If you look bored or distracted, other people might get distracted too. But if you're reverent and joyful, you're helping everyone else pray better.

Consider becoming an altar server, or joining the Altar Linen Society, welcoming everyone as a greeter, bringing up the gifts, learning to be an usher, or reading during the Liturgy of the Word.

Please serve!

First Reconciliation Retreat 2026



During our First Reconciliation Retreat we prayed together and learned about the Ten Commandments and God's boundless mercy! The rainbow is an eternal reminder of His faithfulness, love, and mercy to His creation. This biblical symbol represents hope, redemption, and God's enduring commitment to His Word, even amidst life's storms. "No matter how long and dark the storm is, there is always light, beauty and the fulfillment of God's promise waiting for us if we just lift up our eyes to see."

This Month in Faith Formation

Current News:

This month we will begin a new tour, the **Tour of Service**, for grades 3rd through 8th. We will visit the church and learn how they can serve as part of the Mass.

Here's a couple of ways to think about *servicing*:

- It's about teamwork: Just like on a sports team, everyone has a part to play. When you work together with the priest and the other servers, Mass goes smoothly.
- Know what you're doing: It helps a lot if you understand why things happen during Mass. Learning about the different ministries helps us to grow in faith.
- Be friendly: If you see someone who might want to try serving, invite them! It's less scary to try something new when a friend is doing it with you.
- Remember why you're there: Before Mass starts, taking a moment to pray helps you remember that you're there to help everyone worship God.

Favorite Picture of the Month from the *First Reconciliation Retreat* Playing charades!



Favorite Prayer This Month

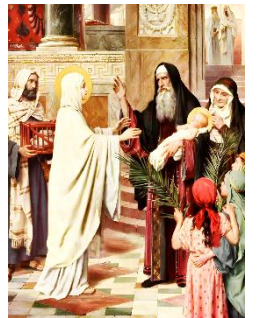
"May God give you, for every storm, a rainbow, for every tear, a smile, for every care, a promise and a blessing in each trial. Amen."

A Look Ahead At Tours:

- 1/25/26 Tour of Service - 3rd-8th
- 2/15/26 Stations of the Cross - PreK-8th
- Next up: **ROSARY PROJECT Tour**

Upcoming:

The Presentation of Jesus and Candlemas is almost here! Join us for the Blessing of Candles, a Pancake Breakfast hosted by our Knights of Columbus, and the Confirmand's Coat and Blanket drive on Feb 1st at 9:30 am in the Social Hall.



Lent is coming soon! We are looking for teenage volunteers for the **Lenten Penance Service, March 12th at 7 pm**. We need greeters, readers, ushers - see email to volunteer. Confirmandi should plan to attend.

Faith Formation Living Rosary Project

Just in time for Mother's Day - a Living Rosary presented by your children. **We need a videographer - can you help?**

Faith Formation Book Club

Don't forget to borrow a book, read it and then let us know if we should buy more to share with your friends in Faith Formation!

A 2-Month Look Ahead At Family Events (save the dates):

- 2/1/26 Candlemas Pancake Breakfast (FE)
- 2/27/26 Stations of the Cross (FE)
- 3/12/26 Penance Service (FE)

Grades Pre-K – 5
Meet at SJCS from 9:45-10:45 am
Grades 6-8
On Tour at the church

Communion prep (FHC)
Meet at SJCS from 9:45-10:45 am
Confirmation prep
Class in Knights Hall at 9:45
Parents - Meet in SJCS cafeteria

Tour Schedule This Month in Church
Grades 3-8 Tour of Service
Sign in at SJCS

