



## ST. MARK RELIGIOUS FORMATION REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### St Mark offers three (3) Religious Formation options for children and youth:

**Option 1: Regular Religious Formation** sessions are conducted weekly on Sunday (except the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month) by a primary catechist with the assistance of a catechist aide or 2<sup>nd</sup> parent. These weekly sessions are applicable for the following age groups by grade: Pre-School (4-5) and Kindergarten (5-6) during 8:30 and 10:30 mass on Sunday. 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade (ages 6-13) on Sunday in two sessions at the church: Session 1 is 12:30pm to 2:00pm and **Session 2 is 3:00pm to 4:30pm** (NOTE – NEW TIME). 9<sup>th</sup> Grade (age 14) is on Sunday at **6:00pm to 7:30pm** (NOTE – NEW TIME). Note: All sessions are conducted at the church complex (space is limited to 15 children/youth per formation session; placement in each session is by first come first served)

**Option 2: Home Study** – parents are the primary teachers of our children in handing on our faith. In this option you directly form your children in the language and practices of the Catholic faith and associated way of life. In this option you can choose when to sit down together with your child(ren) to learn about our faith. This method of religious formation is open to all ages (6-13), grades 1-8. Those entering the 9<sup>th</sup> grade are to enter our Regular Sunday option as they begin community building in preparation for Confirmation formation (normally 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade). Preparation for First Reconciliation and Eucharist is accomplished at the parish and involves both parent and child (along with the other option children). Grades 1-6 use the Faith First Legacy religious formation books along with the Home Family Guide. The Faith First website is an excellent resource and is recommended for your use. Pflaum Gospel Weeklies are also available at the Religious Formation table for your use. Grades 7-8 use the Sadlier “We Live our Faith.” An assignment schedule is provided to guide you and your child through the appropriate sessions. Home Study is a contract-based partnership between the parent and parish community. The parish provides the resources necessary to conduct the program and invites you and your children to attend the scheduled Full Community gatherings each year, attend catechist meetings to assist you in your formation. In return you agree to make your way through the formation material, bring in the books to be checked for progress twice during the year and attend the events and share in the work of this community.

**Option 3: Family Model** – is an intergenerational (family oriented) religious formation option. It is normally conducted once a month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month for 3 hours from 12:30 to 3:30pm. It is an option that is popular with larger families that allows you to be formed as a family in the Catholic faith. It is open to all families, no matter what the age of your children or what sacraments they have received (except those preparing for Confirmation). It requires at least one adult from each family. This model uses the Kathleen O’Connell Chesto program, Family Centered Intergenerational Religious Education (F.I.R.E.), and needs to have all adults help facilitate along with the formation team and/or assist in other ways. Lessons are planned and conducted by the Religious Formation staff along with the participating families. This option is limited to 30 families.

### Regular Religious Formation Session Fee:

1 child.....\$50.00; 2 children.....\$70.00; 3 or more.....\$85.00

### Home Study and Family Model Formation Fee:

1 child.....\$40.00; 2 children.....\$60.00; 3 or more.....\$75.00

**Note:** Sacramental Preparation for those preparing for First Eucharist and Reconciliation is an additional \$30 for books and retreats.