



Dear Families,

Here we find ourselves in August once again! As we reflect on the past year, we are grateful for the continued growth, learning, and development of our Faith Formation programs. We are excited about the year ahead and pray that our Faith Formation program will continue to flourish, providing a beautiful opportunity for our children and families to grow together in faith as our ONE Catholic Community.

Our Faith Formation schedule for this year for Grades K-10 will remain the same this year, and will be:

Holy Family, Albion:
Sundays, 9:00 – 10:30 AM

Holy Trinity, Medina:
Sundays, 9:30 – 11:00 AM

St. Mary's, Holley
Mondays, 6:00-7:30pm

As you review the schedule, you will notice certain dates marked with an asterisk (*). These dates indicate our monthly parent sessions. Parents or guardians should plan to attend during those classes. Each class will conclude in Church, where our entire Faith Formation community will gather in prayer. In Albion and Medina, we will transition directly from class into Mass together.

In addition to our weekly classes and monthly parent sessions, we will continue our **ONE Catholic Passport Program**. This year, we have reduced the number of required enrichment opportunities from ten to **six (6)**. We will provide the opportunity for the children to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during class time in both Advent and Lent.

On the first day of class, each child will receive a ONE Catholic Passport. At every approved event or activity they attend they will receive a passport stamp and have space to reflect on their experience. While six opportunities are expected, we encourage families to participate in as many parish events and faith-building opportunities as they wish throughout the year.

We are also excited to introduce a more consistent and effective system of email communication this year to help families stay informed and connected.

As we prepare for updated diocesan standards and continue strengthening our sacramental preparation, we will be implementing six **proximate preparation sessions** for both First Reconciliation and First Communion, similar to our Confirmation preparation model. These sessions will be held in addition to regular weekly Faith Formation classes.

Children preparing for First Reconciliation and First Communion (traditionally in 2nd and 3rd grade, respectively) are expected to have successfully completed at least one full year of Faith Formation immediately prior to enrolling in sacramental preparation. For example, children wishing to celebrate First Reconciliation during 2nd grade should have participated in Faith Formation during 1st grade.

Our Confirmation preparation process will continue as a series of six-monthly proximate preparation sessions beginning in October. These sessions will be held family-wide across ONE Catholic. Students preparing for Confirmation are expected to:

- Attend weekly Faith Formation classes.
- Participate in all six proximate preparation sessions.
- Attend the spring retreat.
- Complete an interview with one of our priests.

Confirmation Prep is a two-year program, typically 9th, and 10th grades, with Confirmation celebrated in the spring of 10th grade. The weekly curriculum during 9th and 10th grade will focus on Confirmation preparation, while the six ONE Catholic-wide sessions will serve as the proximate preparation for the Sacrament.

Of course, Mass attendance is most important. Students preparing to receive a sacrament this year are asked to sign in for Mass each week on the designated sign-in sheet.

We are pleased to continue offering **High School Youth Ministry** throughout the year. These gatherings provide opportunities for our middle and high school students from across ONE Catholic to grow together through faith, service, fellowship, and fun. A complete schedule of events will be forthcoming.

Included with this letter (or attached to this email), you will find:

- Faith Formation schedules for each location
- First Reconciliation information and dates
- First Communion information and dates
- Confirmation information and dates
- Registration form
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Completed registration forms may be:

- Dropped off at any parish office
- Emailed to ekwiatkowski@onecatholic.org
- Mailed to: ONE Catholic
Attn: Emily Kwiatkowski
106 South Main Street
Albion, NY 14411



Again this year you can register online by scanning the QR code to the right.

To help ensure that we have enough supplies for all of our young people, we ask everyone to complete their registration forms by **September 1st**.

We are also seeking a few additional catechists, classroom assistants, and office volunteers to help during Faith Formation. If you have ever considered sharing your faith in this way, I would love to speak with you. Please reach out, and we can find a time to discuss the opportunities available and determine whether one of our programs might be a good fit for you.

Families whose children attend Catholic schools (St. Joseph's, Notre Dame, DeSales, etc.) or who participate in a Catholic homeschooling program should notify us by **September 1st** if their child will be preparing for a sacrament this year. These students are expected to attend the six proximate preparation sessions and retreat but are not required to attend weekly Faith Formation classes unless they wish to do so.

Lastly, many of you may have heard that I have transitioned into the role of **Business Administrator for ONE Catholic**. As we search for our new **Coordinator of Lifelong Faith Formation**, I will continue working alongside our Forming Disciples Pillar to ensure that all of our Faith Formation programs continue smoothly. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or if there is anything we can do to support your family.

Thank you for allowing us to partner with you in forming your children in the Catholic faith. We look forward to another wonderful year of growing together in Christ.

Peace and all good,

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