

Saint Peter Church
30 Saint Peter's Lane, PO Box 707
Higganum, CT 06441
(860)345-8018

April 2022

Dear Faith Formation Families,

Thank you for trusting Saint Peter Church to be part of your children's faith formation process. Faith formation begins in the home but should always involve your church family as well. We do not take this responsibility lightly. Our priests, teachers, and parish council are dedicated in providing the best religious education possible for your children.

This year (2022-2023) our goal is to have every grade attend classes in-person. Faith formation is best provided within an active classroom setting. ZOOM had served its purpose, but we are ready to move on in our program.

Enclosed / attached is the class calendar and other forms related to the registration process. We are now taking applications for the 2022-2023 faith formation year. We ask the following to make things easier for everyone involved.

1. Applications and other forms will be emailed to you using the email we have on file. **We ask that you print out the forms and mail them into the church office to complete the registration process.** In the past, some emails blended in with the original email thread making them difficult to find. If you would rather have the necessary forms mailed to you in the traditional way, we would be happy to do so.
2. Payments of fees can be made either by check (with the application) or by using our on-line giving system. The link to our on-line giving system may be found on our website, stpeterhigganum.com. If you have any questions about signing up for on-line payments, please call the church office at (860)345-8018. We would be happy to take you step by step through the process. If you already use our on-line giving system for church offertory, you are already registered. Just make a one-time payment under the religious education fund tab.
3. There is a firm registration deadline in order to ensure that your child has the appropriate grade level materials. **This year's faith formation registration deadline is August 31, 2022.** We need time to order the materials, get them into the facility, sort them and put them in the classrooms.

We understand some of our students have sports / school commitments in the fall. **If your child will be attending any portion of the faith formation year, their registration is still needed by this date in order to have the proper materials for them.** When they begin attending the classes, missing materials will not be an issue and the learning process will not be delayed any longer than necessary.

This year (2022-2023) will be a sacramental year which includes First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation. Forms pertaining to the 3rd grade Communion Class and the 10th grade Confirmation Class are included for students in those grades. Confirmation is a two-year program. Any students not completing the 9th grade formation process will be placed in the 9th grade in order to complete the work to receive the sacrament. They will receive the sacrament when they complete the 10th grade portion of the program the following year.

Understandably, this is a lot of information to take in for the upcoming year. Parts of the program such as mandatory service hours will be determined in the near future. We will let you know of these developments as they happen.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the church office by calling **(860)345-8018** or by emailing **faithformationspchigganum@gmail.com**.

Sincerely,

Rev. Joseph F. De Costa

Rev. Joseph F. De Costa
Pastor

Carol Ann Keough

Carol Ann Keough
Coordinator of Religious Education

Saint Peter Church, Higganum

Faith Formation Calendar 2022-2023

Grades 1-10

Classes: 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Date:

October 2, 2022

First Class

October 9, 2022

NO CLASS

October 16, 2022

Class

October 23, 2022

Class

October 30, 2022

Class

Special Notes:

Columbus Day Holiday

Rosary (in church)

November 6, 2022

Class

November 13, 2022

Class

November 20, 2022

Class

November 27, 2022

NO CLASS

No-Go-Tell Program

Thanksgiving Weekend

December 4, 2022

Class

December 11, 2022

Class

December 18, 2022

Class

December 25, 2022

NO CLASS

Christmas / New Year Break

January 1, 2023

NO CLASS

January 8, 2023

Class

January 15, 2023

NO CLASS

January 22, 2023

Class

January 29, 2023

Class

Christmas / New Year Break

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

February 5, 2023

Class

February 12, 2023

Class

February 19, 2023

NO CLASS

February 26, 2023

Class

Winter Break

March 5, 2023

Class

March 12, 2023

Class

March 19, 2023

Class

March 26, 2023

Class

Stations of the Cross (in church)

April 2, 2023

Last Day of Classes

Palm Sunday – April 2, 2023

Easter Sunday – April 9, 2023

Sacraments:

April 29, 2023*

First Communion

**

Confirmation (10th)

*Tentative Date (rehearsals to be scheduled)

**Date Based on Bishop's Schedule

April 2022

Dear Third Grade Faith Formation Students and Families,

This faith formation year, we will joyfully celebrate the sacraments of **First Reconciliation** and **First Holy Communion** at Saint Peter Church! It is an exciting time in the lives of our students, their families, and the entire church family as well. Now, this may seem a little overwhelming at first, but please know your children will be well prepared to receive their sacraments. We encourage questions, thoughts and comments during the entire process of preparation and cannot wait to celebrate this special time with you.

To help you stay well informed, here is a brief overview of what is to be expected in third grade this year.

Student Responsibilities:

- To attend faith formation classes and do the required work. Limit absences as they are an interruption to the learning process,
- Participate in your classes, asking questions and interacting when appropriate,
- Learning your prayers, not necessarily memorizing the words, but learning what they mean and what you are praying and asking of the Lord. We want you to be comfortable with and understand the prayers, especially the form of confession.

Parent / Guardian Responsibilities:

- Fully complete the registration paperwork,
- Obtaining a baptismal certificate from the church where your child was baptized. If your child was baptized at Saint Peter Church, Higganum, let us know this so we can research the information at the beginning of the program,
- If your child was never baptized, this needs to be done first, before receiving the other sacraments,
- Encourage your child in the Faith and help them complete their faith formation lessons as necessary.

Faith Formation Program Responsibilities:

- To provide the necessary learning materials and support to help each child understand the Catholic faith,
- To provide the necessary learning materials and support to help each child understand the importance of the sacraments they are about to receive,
- To be there for both students and their families when either have questions or issues for which they need answers or help. We are here for you.

The sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion should be received both reverently and frequently. This is why the preparation to receive these gifts of God is so very important. Together we will make this year as special as possible for your child.

Sincerely,

Carol Ann Keough
Coordinator of Religious Education

April 2022

Dear 9th & 10th Grade Confirmation Students and Families,

This faith formation year, we will joyfully celebrate the sacrament of **Confirmation** for our 10th grade students at Saint Peter Church. It is an exciting time in the lives of our young adults, their families, and the entire church family as well. Now, this may seem a little overwhelming at first, but please know our young adults will be well prepared to receive this sacrament. We encourage questions, thoughts, and comments during the entire process of preparation and cannot wait to celebrate this special time with you.

To help you stay well informed, here is a brief overview of what is to be expected in both Confirmation grades this year. Please know that the preparation to receive the sacrament of Confirmation is a two-year process as directed by the Diocese of Norwich. The preparation begins in 9th grade and continues in the 10th. The sacrament is conferred when the young adult is in the 10th grade after having completed the necessary work from the 9th grade level.

9th & 10th Grade Student Responsibilities:

- To attend faith formation classes and do the required work. Limit absences as they are an interruption in the learning process.
- Participate in your classes, asking questions and interacting when appropriate.
- Participate in any retreats provided by the parish for your benefit.
- Complete any service hours or attendance guidelines as required by the diocese.

Parent / Guardian Responsibilities:

- Fully complete the registration paperwork.
- Obtaining a baptismal certificate and any other sacramental records from the church where your child received those sacraments. If your child received his or her sacraments at Saint Peter Church, Higganum, let us know this so we can research the information at the beginning of the program.
- If your child was never baptized, received Reconciliation or Communion, this needs to be addressed first before Confirmation. How this will be done will be discussed further with the pastor.
- Encourage your child in the Faith and help them complete their faith formation lessons as necessary.

Faith Formation Program Responsibilities:

- To provide necessary learning materials and support to help each young adult understand the teachings of the Catholic faith,
- To provide necessary learning materials and support to help each young adult understand the importance of the sacrament they are about to receive,
- To be there for both the students and their families when either have questions or issues for which they need answers or help. We are here for you.
- To arrange with the schedule of the Bishop of Norwich an appropriate date and time for the conferring of the sacrament of Confirmation.

Sincerely,

Carol Ann Keough
Coordinator of Religious Education

Saint Peter Church, Higganum

Faith Formation Registration Form 2022-2023

All registrations are due on or before August 31, 2022. Date: _____

Name of Student: _____
(First) (Last)

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Male: ____ Female: ____ School Grade Entering 9/2022: _____

Street Address: _____ Town: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (Home): _____ (Cell): _____ Email: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Maiden Name: _____

Father's Name: _____

Step Parents: _____ Child primarily lives with _____

Siblings Names and Dates of Birth: _____

Registered Members of Saint Peter Church? Yes: ____ No: ____

Emergency Phone Numbers: Name / Relationship: _____ Phone: _____

Did your child attend religious education classes last year? Yes: ____ No: ____

Grade Completed and Where: _____

Sacraments Received: MUST BE COMPLETED

If not Saint Peter Church, Higganum, please be sure to include the names, towns, and state where sacraments were received.

Baptism: Yes: ____ No: ____ Church, City, State & Year Sacrament Received:

Reconciliation: Yes: ____ No: ____ Church, City, State & Year Sacrament Received:

First Communion: Yes: ____ No: ____ Church, City, State & Year Sacrament Received:

Medical Information: If your child has any medical conditions, allergies, or learning disabilities, please fill out the information below. Please note that all information will be kept confidential.

Medical Condition or Allergies: Yes: _____ No: _____ If yes, please explain:

Other information you feel the program coordinator or catechists should know:

Volunteers are always welcome and are encouraged to participate. Please check areas which are of interest to you.

Catechist: _____ Assistant: _____ Special Events: _____

Set Up / Clean Up (Events): _____ Baking (Events): _____

Tuition Fee Schedule:

1 student = \$100

2 students = \$125

3 students or more = \$150

Grade 3: First Reconciliation and First Communion Year – add \$25 per student to the fee

Grade 10: Confirmation Year – add \$25 per student to the fee (The Grade 9 Confirmation class must be completed in order to be eligible to attend the Grade 10 Confirmation class.)

Please mail this completed registration form with a check payable to Saint Peter Church: Saint Peter Church, PO Box 707, Higganum, CT 06441.

Paper registration forms (one per student) must be completed and handed in through the mail or by dropping the paperwork off via the church collection basket, or directly at the church office, 30 Saint Peter’s Lane, Higganum, CT 06441 on or before August 31, 2022.

The Faith Formation fee may be paid by check submitted with the registration form(s) or through the on-line giving system. A link to this system may be found on our website stpeterhigganum.com, You may already be signed up for on-line giving for your church offertory. You may use your account, making a one-time donation to the “religious education registration” fund. If you have any questions concerning on-line giving, please call the church office, (860)345-8018.

Faith Formation Office:

Coordinator of Religious Education – Carol Ann Keough

email – FaithFormationSPCHigganum@gmail.com call: (860)345-8018