



Family Faith Formation NEWSLETTER



Upcoming Events

- 10/23 – Class to Mass
- 10/26 – Pumpkin Painting and Candy Bags (JH)
- 10/30 – Harpsichord Concert
- 11/1 – All Saints Day Mass and Activities
- 11/3 – Raising Emotionally Healthy Children Seminar
- 11/10 – Hillside Food Bank (HS)
- 11/20 – Class to Mass
- 12/1 – Advent Prayer Service and Activities
- 12/4 – Guitar Concert
- 12/9 – Christmas pageant and party
- 12/18 – Class to Mass
- 1/8 – Epiphany Concert and Gathering
- 1/22 – Class to Mass
- 1/25 – Virtual Bingo (JH)
- 2/8 – Virtual Bingo (HS)
- 2/12 – Piano and Voice Concert
- 2/26 – Class to Mass
- 3/2 – Lenten Prayer Service and Reconciliation
- 3/22 – Outdoor Movie Night (ALL)
- 3/26 – Class to Mass
- 3/31 – Tridium Activity and Stations of the Cross
- 4/6 – Class to Mass
- 4/26 – Earth Day Totes (ALL)
- 5/7 – May Crowning

*For more information about any of these events, please see the [parish website](#) or call the Family Faith Formation office at (908) 232-8137



Meet the Catechists

Joe Holleran

This is my second year teaching Faith Formation and I am really excited to return for the 2022-2023 year! I never really imagined myself a "Sunday school teacher" but there are things in life you pick and there are things that pick you – this is the latter and I feel it is my obligation to carry on the Catholic traditions and core values to the best of my ability. I also attended Catholic school from kindergarten through MBA so this may be a practical use for all the theology courses I've taken over the years. My wife Melissa and I live in Westfield with our three children and one really stubborn French Bulldog puppy. James (11) just started at Roosevelt School this year and Cecilia (7) goes to Franklin School; our youngest, Fiona (4) goes to the YMCA Early Learning Center. My wife and I were married at Holy Trinity in 2006 before moving back to Jersey City (my hometown) for work/life/wife grad school reasons. We returned to Westfield in 2015 and we couldn't be happier with that decision. I ended my career in financial services in March of 2022 to be a full-time dad and my wife works in the financial services industry. In my "spare time" between life and shuttling the kids to taekwon do, swimming, gymnastics, guitar, soccer, and dance I can be found meticulously mowing my lawn or at the 5am CrossFit class at 908 Athletics – I also sneak out for a few holes of golf when I can.

What's New?

Check out our "Faith and Fun" center! It can be found in the hallway connecting the church to the Parish Center. If you've had to take a mid-mass bathroom break, you've walked past it. The bulletin board and shelves of resources are there for your enjoyment. You'll find an updated list of parish events for families to get involved with, as well as photos from fun parish happenings. There is also a Spotlight Artist display

All of our young parishioners are invited to create art with a Catholic connection to be featured on the board, on the parish website, and possibly even in this newsletter. What child wouldn't want to be "parish famous?" In the bins below the board are various activities, coloring pages, art submission forms, and mass reflection sheets. But wait – there's even more! The shelves contain a lending library filled with books and DVDs for parishioners of all ages.



All Saints Day

This year, we are hosting our first Saint Scavenger Hunt in the Parish Center immediately following the 3:45 mass for All Saints Day, November 1st. Children will be able to work with friends to solve the riddles about some well-known saints based on information spread throughout the parish center and create portraits of their favorite saints to be featured in upcoming bulletins, on the website, and on the parish Faith and Fun Center. All children are invited to participate, even if they cannot make the 3:45 mass. There is another mass at 7:30 for everyone to be able to attend on this holy day of obligation



Spotlight Artist

The first featured Spotlight Artist is Maximilian Tiberius Galante, a third grader at Jefferson School who attends our Sunday Faith Formation classes. About his art, Max wrote, "This is a picture of Holy Trinity Church. Father Anthony is talking about God to everyone. Another priest is holding up the Gospel. I drew the 2 TVs and window above Jesus." It seems that even during worship, children are drawn to screens! Who

will be our next Spotlight Artist, and how will they celebrate our Catholic faith through art? Until fairly recently, most people could not read the Bible, either due to lack of education or access to books. The church has a long history of communicating through art. Take a look at any of the multitude of stained glass windows, statues, mosaics, and paintings found in every church. Let's encourage our little ones to keep up the tradition of giving praise to God through art!