



Dear Faith Formation parents,

We would like to extend a warm welcome to returning families and all new families to our Faith Formation program!

Each of us is called to be a disciple—to say yes to Jesus’ invitation and go wherever He leads us. When we surrender ourselves to the Lord and actively grow in our relationship with Him, we discover true purpose for our lives along with the freedom, peace, and fulfillment that we long for so deeply. This call extends to our children and those around us, to whom we play a pivotal role in leading toward Christ and the Catholic Church that He founded. All of us want the very best for our children. We want them to know their worth in the eyes of God, to make good choices, to live out the truth, and to be authentically happy both now and forever. Therefore, we strive to help them discover the timeless truths of the Catholic Faith and to experience a real, personal encounter with our Lord who never ceases to call us to Himself.

As a parent, no one plays a more influential role in a child’s life than you. Trends demonstrate that when parents develop their own faith and model it to their children, their children are much more likely to follow their footsteps and continue practicing their faith as they grow into adulthood. Today, as younger generations are facing unprecedented challenges to their faith and morals, there is a tremendous need for this. As your child goes through the most formative years in their faith development, the most valuable thing you can do is continue to invest in your own faith as an adult. This in turn, will provide a deeper contribution to your child’s faith than our children’s faith formation programs ever could. We want your children’s faith experience to take root in their lives—and know that you do too—which is why we invite each parent to join their child in faith formation by committing to the following:

- 1) To live out your Catholic Faith by attending weekly Mass, as well as engaging in daily prayer and frequenting the Sacrament of Reconciliation.**
- 2) To grow in your Catholic Faith by proactively investing in your own faith formation within our parish community. St. Brendan offers several worthwhile opportunities for adults including Walking with Purpose, Adult Bible Studies, That Man is You, and weekly Eucharistic Adoration.**
- 3) To serve others in our parish community through offering your time, talent and treasure. The mission of St. Brendan is one we all share together—when each of us contributes to this mission, everyone benefits, and our parish thrives!**

Thank you for responding to the call to serve as the primary teachers of your children. We want to be the best secondary teachers as well, so please always feel free to reach out to us for assistance when needed.

Together, as we look forward to this coming year, let us pray that the youth of our parish would continue to draw closer to Jesus and build a life-long foundation for their faith!

Enclosed with this letter you will find important details regarding the 2018-2019 catechetical year. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us.

Please be assured that you and your families are in our prayers,

Joshua Kilmer  
Director of Youth Evangelization and Catechesis

## General Information for Children's Faith Formation

### Yellow Key Tags

- Returning families (Monday nights) - place the 18.18 sticker attached on the back of your yellow tag.
- New families (Monday nights) - your key tag is enclosed. Place the 18.18 sticker attached to this letter to the back of your key tag & bring it each Monday; it gives you access to the building. If you are new family & didn't receive a key tag in this mailing, please contact Bonnie Creeger [bcreeger@stbrendans.net](mailto:bcreeger@stbrendans.net)
- Without the key tag you must sign in each week and show your driver's license. If you wish to purchase an additional tag, it is available for \$5.00 at the front entrance of school when Faith Formation classes are in session. Sunday Faith Formation families do not need to use the key tags.
- If families need additional key tags due to different parents and/or people doing drop-off/pick-up, you can purchase additional tags for \$5 at the front desk of the school at any time.

### Parking Lot:

- Please follow the map enclosed on the back of the calendar. **DO NOT park or remain idle in the driving/drop-off lanes, please use the parking spaces instead.** Children may not always be within view, so we ask all drivers to proceed with caution by driving *slowly and safely*.
- **Drive through/drop off doors** are still available (but not for pickup). See enclosed map for details.
- **Traffic Control will still be present.** Please respect the police officer and/or volunteer located where Davidson road meets the back entrance of the school as we continue to provide a safe area for children.

### Additional Information

- Go to <https://www.stbrendans.net/childrens-faith-formation/childrens-faith-formation-classes> There, you will find our calendar and info including per grade lesson/chapter listings that are being taught each week in the instance that your child misses a class and needs to make-up a lesson.
- **Each parent should be thoroughly familiar with the Faith Formation Parent Policy Handbook** available online at the Faith Formation page. This is your go-to resource for questions, which includes important information about attendance, arrival and dismissal, child supervision, Sacramental preparation, the Home Faith program, and other policies.

### Classes

- To avoid confusion, please have your child bring with him/her the **verification slip included** on the first day of class.
- **Kindergarten – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Monday evening classes** begin on Monday, September 10 from 4:30-5:45 PM (A-Shift) or 6:15-7:30 PM (B-Shift) in the school classrooms.
- **8<sup>th</sup> Grade CHOSEN program**
  - **Classes kick off on Sunday, September 9 from 1:30-3:00 PM.** Each week 8<sup>th</sup> graders will meet in Wellnitz Hall & then if there is breakout needed, the boys will go to school classrooms for discussions.
  - **The Confirmation Retreat is September 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> at CYSC's camp (Damascus Catholic Mission Campus)**
  - All parents of 8<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation teens can find information about this retreat enclosed in this packet. If you didn't receive it, please let Bonnie know!

## Communications

- Regular communication about Faith Formation will occur through email and Flocknote. If you have not signed up for Flocknote yet or need to adjust your settings to receive, go to:  
<https://app.flocknote.com/login>

## Emergency Cancellation

- If St. Brendan School (and Hilliard City Schools) are closed on a Monday, the Faith Formation classes for that night will be cancelled. If the school closes during the school day, the same will hold true. St. Brendan Faith Formation Classes cancellation will be listed on our website, as well as with the local radio and TV station's closing reports. Do not count on those reports. We call with our closings but the stations do not always post it in a timely manner.

## SCRIP

- Do you want to earn a reduction in registration fees for Faith Formation for the next catechetical year? The SCRIP program is your answer. Visit <https://www.stbrendans.net/school/scrup-program/> for info!

## Children's Liturgy of the Word – Starting Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>

- Children's Liturgy of the Word will be offered during the 8:45 & 10:30 AM Masses (for children ages 4 to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade). During the first part of Mass, children will be invited to go off to a separate area where they will hear about the Mass readings and receive a lively teaching that is geared toward them. Then, when the Liturgy of the Eucharist begins, children will re-join their families.

## Special Events – Save the Date!

- Be sure to save the date for these BIG family events coming up this year! (*these events are not required but are highly recommended for all Faith Formation families*)
  - **Trunk or Treat** – Tuesday, October 23rd at 6:00 PM Outdoor Campus (*Families dress up, decorate the trunk of their cars, and come to St. Brendan's to hand out candy!*)
  - **Live Nativity & Advent Family Celebration** – Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in the MPR
  - **Parish Mission & Children's Mini-Mission** – Stay tuned for the dates!

## Faith Formation Contacts

- Joshua Kilmer, Director of Youth Evangelization and Catechesis, ext. 231, [jkilmer@stbrendans.net](mailto:jkilmer@stbrendans.net)
- Bonnie Creeger, Assistant to the Director, ext. 233, [bcreeger@stbrendans.net](mailto:bcreeger@stbrendans.net)
- David Messina, High School Youth Minister (grades 9-12), ext. 232, [dmesina@stbrendans.net](mailto:dmesina@stbrendans.net)
- Anna Dick, Middle School Youth Minister (Grades 6-8), ext. 232, [adick@stbrendans.net](mailto:adick@stbrendans.net)
- Teresa Boyne, Early Childhood Coordinator, ext. 450, [tboyne@stbrendans.net](mailto:tboyne@stbrendans.net)
- Lynn Mickey, Facilitator (Monday evening program), [lmickey@gmail.com](mailto:lmickey@gmail.com)

**In case of an emergency, if you need to contact the Faith Formation Office during classes, please call 614-876-1272 ext. 292**