

September

Year 1- Baptismal Retreat-

- Goal- To discuss as a family why the sacraments of initiation are important to your family.
- Discussion questions- What was your candidate's baptism like? Where was it taken place? Who was there? What memories are most vivid? Do you have any items saved from the day?
- Featured Saint- John the Baptist

Year 2- Parent Meeting

- Goal- to reinforce your candidate's commitment to the program and see where their faith journey is. We will also review the program and finalize all questions.
- Discussion questions- Do you understand the commitment to the program? Do you understand that sports, theater, or any other extracurricular activities fall second to this study?
- Featured Saint- St Sebastian

October

Year 1- Faith/Creed

- Goal- To learn the meaning of faith and exactly what we believe in as Catholic Christians.
- Discussion questions- Who gave you the gift of faith and when? How important is your faith and when did you need it most? Read the creed and discuss.
- Featured Saint- St Faith

Year 2- Choosing a Saint Name

- Goal Saints have lived faith filled lives and choosing a saint to emulate our own faith walk after inspires us to be closer to God.
- Discussion questions- Who and why did you choose your saint's name? Which saints do you admire most and why? What qualities do you wish to emulate in your faith walk?
- Featured Saint- St Teresa of Calcutta

November

Year 1- Church History

- Goal- To learn the history of our Catholic faith and how our church has been a big part of shaping our world today.
- Discussion questions- What traditions are most important in your Catholic faith? Catholic charities is one of the biggest charities in the world what do you admire most about it? What celebrations and traditions would not exist if there was no Catholicism or Christianity?
- Featured Saint- St Peter

Year 2- Sharing the Faith (living by example/Humble servants/practical ways to teach faith)

- Goal- Many people today do not have a faith to fall back on when in need or to know they are loved. Being able to invite friends in is exactly what Jesus calls us to do daily.
- Discussion questions- How can you be a disciple of Christ? What have you done that has brought someone closer to God? When are you most like Jesus?
- Featured Saint- St John Paul the 2nd

December

Year 1- Eucharist Retreat-

- Goal- To tour the church and learn the items used in mass and the sacred areas of the church.
- Discussion Questions- What are the most sacred areas inside the church? What is the importance of the different colors used in the masses? What items are used during every mass?
- Featured Saint- Blessed Carlo Acutis

Year 2- Prayer/ Eucharistic Miracles/ Adoration

- Goal- To learn different types of prayer and the miracles that prove the actual presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Then close in Adoration.
- Discussion Questions- What is lectio Divino and Ignatius prayer? How can they help to focus more closely on scripture? What are some miracles you know of that surround the Eucharist? If you do not know, look up Blessed Carlos Acutis webpage or watch the movie a Case for Christ.
- Featured Saint- St Nicolas

January

Year 1- Why Catholic? / How we Differ

- Goal- How the catholic faith stands out from other Christian faiths.
- Discussion questions- What other religions do you know about? What do you like and/or dislike about them? What do you like and/or dislike about our catholic faith? If you could change something about our Catholic faith, what would it be?
- Featured Saint- St Stephan

Year 2- Gifts of the Holy Spirit / Study Guide

- Goal- We will learn the 7 gifts of the holy spirit and recognize them more often in our day to day lives.
- Discussion questions- Read the 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit and their definitions. Which gift do you see most in your day-to-day life? Which gift do you wish to have more of? What can you do to improve each gift in your life?
- Featured Saint- St Thomas Aquinas

February

Year 1- teaching mass.

- Goal- The more you understand the catholic mass and its traditions, the more you will see the beauty of this treasured gift.
- Discussion questions- What parts of the mass do you not fully understand? Why is going to mass weekly important? If you could change something about the mass, what would it be and why?
- Featured Saint- St Therese of Lisieux

Year 2- Confirmation Retreat

March

Year 1- Defending Your Faith- Apologetics

- Goal- Understanding apologetics and teaching others what you believe.

- Discussion questions- What is apologetics? When in your life have you had to explain your Catholic faith? What do you wish you could explain better? Science and religion, how are they similar? Who are some of the most well-known catholic scientists? What does the pope say about the Big Bang, and evolution?

- Featured Saint- Joan of Arc

Year 2- Ministry Guide...What's Next?

- Goal- To reflect on the entire confirmation program and listen to different ministries in our parish in order to find ways each of us can serve and stay connected with the parish.
- Discussion questions- What was your favorite part of the two-year program? What did you learn and what do you wish to learn more about? If you could change anything about the program what would it be? What will you remember most about your Confirmation journey?
- Featured Saint- St Teresa of Avila

April

Year 1-Power of Prayer

- Goal- There are many ways to pray. We will discuss the different types of prayer and hopefully begin to understand our individual preferences on building our relationship with God.
- Discussion questions- How often do you pray outside of mass? How do you deal with distractions? What is adoration, Lectio Divina, the Rosary, examination of conscience, and Ignatian prayer? Which have you tried and what do you prefer?
- Featured Saint- St Monica

Year 2- Confirmation

May

Both years-

- Goal- To build stronger bonds to the church and to each other socially. It is important that our kids have a faith community to strengthen their beliefs and encourage their attendance well after confirmation. We recommend looking into Lifeteen Summer camps, mission trips, or local summer programs to strengthen their bonds with one another.
- Discussion questions- What programs, camps, or gatherings would you like to do? Research Life teen summer camp. Ava Maria youth Conference, Steubenville Orlando, Good Counsel Camp, or contact Kelly Evers for more opportunities or information.
- Featured saint- St John Bosco