



CONNECT. EDUCATE. INSPIRE.

FAITH FORMATION MINISTRIES

Seeking to encounter the Person of Jesus Christ at every age and stage of our human and spiritual development, at Saint James we are committed to intentional formation in faith from the moment of baptism until the moment of death. In the recognition that “knowledge draws love,” and that we are ultimately called to participate in the perfect Life and Love of the Trinity, we pursue authentic education in the teachings of the Catholic Church and formation in the radical discipleship to which Christ invites us. Because we cannot give what we do not have, we engage in continued active formation for ourselves, even as we seek to teach and model the faith to others.

10 FAMILY MINISTRIES EVENT TEAM **(new!)**

Sister Michaela, OP

srmmartinez@stjames-etown.org

(270) 734-6268

Plans, coordinates and provides family ministry events opportunities for the parish such as: hosting speakers, parish missions, men’s and women’s retreats. This committee will come together in direct preparation for the major events.

CATHOLIC WOMEN OF SAINT JAMES (CWOSJ)

Lorna Vertrees

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270-766-8687

We are committed to deepening our faith through our Catholic beliefs and Tradition. Our goal is to bring all women of the parish together to better understand and value the richness of our Catholic faith. Led by the Holy Spirit, we will share relevant information, reading and discussion, fellowship, and service ministries designed to open our minds and hearts so that we can more fully bring God into our lives and the lives of others. Catholic Women of St. James Church has something for every woman. We meet regularly on Wednesday mornings at 9 am, September through May. Volunteer opportunities within the CWOSJ include:

11 Facilitator/co-facilitators

11a Prayer leaders

11b Day trip coordinators

11c Special project coordinators

11d Charitable service coordinators

12 CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

This ministry is in need of a chair and co-chair. Please contact Sister Augusta if you are willing to help make this ministry a possibility going forward!

Volunteers are needed during the Saturday, 5 p.m. Mass, as well as the Sunday, 10 a.m. Mass to teach and assist with Children's Liturgy of the Word. Children ages 4-7 are invited to learn more about the weekend's readings in a more child-friendly manner. They are sent forth after the Opening Collect (Prayer), and return during the preparation of the gifts. A background check and Safe Environment training is required for all those interested in being involved.

CONFIRMATION

(2 year program--9th and 10th grade)

Olivia Dvorjak

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270-765-6268

The Confirmation program is to *inform* and *transform* the lives of the candidates. Year One will focus on "informing" the teens through weekly group sessions, sponsor meetings, and a curriculum specific retreat. Year Two will focus on "transforming" the teens through service workshops/opportunities, sponsor meetings, and continued personal formation. Please indicate on your stewardship form if you desire the sacrament as a participant or would like to assist as a volunteer. A background check and Safe Environment training is required for all those interested in being involved.

Opportunities are available to assist as:

13 Small group leaders

13a Retreat planners

13b Chaperones

14 BAPTISM PREPARATION TEAM **(new!)**

Sister Augusta, O.P.

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270-765-6268

The baptism of a child becomes a major game-changer for the whole family. Work with Sister and other members of the parish to present the rich Catholic teaching on the Sacrament of Baptism to parents wishing to have children baptized.

Baptism preparation sessions are held about 4-6 times per year; the team will meet quarterly to prepare and plan.

15 FAITH FORMATION “THINK TANK” TEAM *(new!)*

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270-765-6268

Put heads together with other parishioners to discern and explore the faith formation needs of our parish. We will pray and ask the Holy Spirit’s guidance, working together to provide concrete opportunities for parish members of all ages to grow in faith.

This committee will be in need of a chair and co-chair. Contact Sister Augusta if you are interested.

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION (age 3 – Grade 8)

Sister Augusta, O.P.

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270-765-6268

Recognizing that “parents are the primary educators of their children in the faith,” our religious education program involves the whole family. Children age 3 through grade 8 receive grade-level catechesis while the parents receive complementary religious formation.

A background check and Safe Environment training is required for all those interested in being involved.

There are many opportunities to serve this vital ministry, including:

- 16** serving as a classroom catechist for a specific grade level
- 16a** facilitating adult learning groups
- 16b** babysitting for children under three
- 16c** assisting with set-up and clean-up of monthly sessions
- 16d** providing hospitality
- 16e** administrative assistance in the office
- 16f** planning for parties and major events

MARRIAGE DATE NIGHT

Jen and Darin Coen

jencoen@yahoo.com

270-791-3177

Join married couples of all ages for a monthly “date night” dedicated to deepening the graces of the Sacrament of Matrimony. It is an evening of fellowship, conversation, prayer, and study focused on living your Catholic marriage and family life. Learn from the witness of other married couples of the parish, and share mutual encouragement in the monthly recommitment to faithful Christ-centered love.

Ways to serve in this ministry include:

17 Babysitting for the children of the couples (*A background check and Safe Environment training is required for all those 18 and older who are interested in being involved.*)

17a Serving as a co-chair couple and assisting with organization of the evenings

18 MARRIAGE SPONSOR COUPLES

Sister Michaela, O.P.

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270-765-6268

Married couples are invited to assist those who are preparing for marriage in the Catholic Church. A sponsor couple is asked to meet with an engaged couple six times before the Sacrament of Matrimony occurs and three times after the wedding, to pray with them, journey with them, and help them tap into the grace of the sacrament. Sponsor couples are required to attend a training session for *Joined by Grace*, the marriage preparation program used at Saint James.

19 SPANISH-LANGUAGE SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION **(new!)**

Sister Michaela, O.P.

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270-765-6268

Are you fluent in Spanish? Your assistance in teaching the faith is invaluable! We are in need of parishioners fluent in Spanish to assist with preparation for the Sacraments of baptism and matrimony, as well as catechesis for children preparing for 1st Communion and adults wishing to go through RCIA. *A background check and Safe Environment training is required for all those interested in being involved.*

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

Sister Augusta, O.P.

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270-765-6268

It takes a village... or in this case a *parish* to welcome new members and introduce them to the rich beliefs and practices of the Catholic faith. Deepen your own faith as you share it with those who are seeking to become fully initiated members of the Catholic Church. Opportunities are available to assist in the process of RCIA as a:

20 Sponsor

20a Session catechist

20b Dismissal (*Breaking Open the Word*) leader

20c Hospitality leader.

21 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Sister Augusta, O.P.

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270-765-6268

A yearly summer event, VBS immerses children of the parish in the wonders our Catholic Faith and its practices in a non-academic setting. VBS seeks to build an authentic Catholic culture, utilizing music, drama, art, play, and prayer to help children encounter one another and Jesus Christ. Many volunteers are needed to organize and facilitate this week-long event! ***This event is also in need of a chair and co-chair. Please contact Sister Augusta if you are willing to help make this event a possibility going forward!*** *(A background check and Safe Environment training is required for all those 18 and older who are interested in being involved.)*

22 YOUTH MINISTRY

(GRADES 9th-12th)

Olivia Dvorjak

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270-765-6268

Saint James Youth Ministry aims to empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ through the fostering of their personal and spiritual growth with Sunday evening educational classes, Wednesday evening study group, service projects, retreats, and social events! All teens are invited to join us for our events, fellowship, and to grow in their faith. Parishioners are invited to help with events! Please indicate on your stewardship form if you would like to be involved in the Youth Ministry as a participant or as a volunteer (i.e. chaperone). *(A background check and Safe Environment training is required for all those 18 and older who are interested in being involved.)*