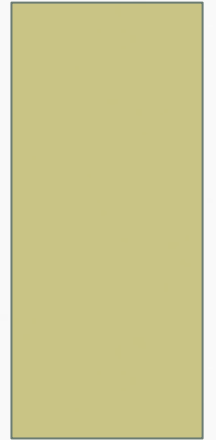


# FAMILY FAITH FORMATION – 2025/2026

SAINT PATRICK'S & SAINT LUKE'S



# THE PURPOSE OF FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

- To help you learn more about God so that you can deepen your own personal relationship with Him.
- To give you the confidence to speak about your Catholic faith with others.
- To help you as you guide your children in their own personal relationship with God.
- To provide you with an opportunity to spend more time with your immediate family and also with our parish family.
- To provide you with a short time for prayer and an opportunity to use the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

# THE PURPOSE OF FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

- The Catechism of the Catholic Church is divided into 4 sections. They are:
  - The Creed – What we believe
  - The Sacraments – How we are sanctified
  - The Commandments – How we are to live
  - Prayer – How we relate and interact with God
- This year we will be studying Prayer

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

- What is a Mother?

For human beings the primary definition is this:

The female parent to a child.

A secondary definition is:

A woman in relation to her child or children.

## MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

Notice that the word mother refers to a specific kind of relationship between people, that of a woman to her child.

Relational words by their very nature point to the relationship between two things.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

There are many relational words:

Velocity – The relationship between time and distance.

Molecule – The relationship between two or more elements.

Husband, cousin, grandmother, aunt, brother are all words that describe human relationships.

## MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

Relational works have no meaning when separated from the things they connect.

You cannot be a mother if you have no children.

You cannot be a brother if you have no siblings.

## MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

Mary is referred to as “mother” in various places in the Bible.

She is the mother of Jesus, the Christ.

Is she also the mother of God?

## MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

Nestorius, the Patriarch of Constantinople from 428 – 431 said “No.”

He argued that the Son of God, the Divine Word, has always existed and Mary was created.

Since the Son existed before, how could Mary be the mother? No child comes before its mother.

## MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

The issue is not age, but relationship, and a relationship connected with the Incarnation.

Recall that the Incarnation is that event at which the Son of God united to His divine nature our human nature and thus can be called true God and true man.

## MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

This union of two natures in one person has a special name.

It is called “the hypostatic union.”

## MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

The Council of Ephesus held in 431 declared that Mary could be called “Mother of God” Theotokos and not just Christotokos as Nestorius proposed.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)



# MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

Titles of our Lord include:

Lord, Son of God, Christ, Jesus, Savior,  
Word, God, Master, Messiah, Redeemer.

Some only refer to His divine nature and others to His human nature and some to both.

## MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

Mary is mother to the person and not to the nature of the Son of God.

Hence, she is both mother of Jesus and mother of God (and for that matter, mother of any other title we use for the second person of the most Holy Trinity).

## MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

When Jesus was hanging on the cross, He gave to Mary a new son, Saint John and to Saint John a new mother.

Why? Mary would have no one to take care of her after Jesus died.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

Consider what this means for us.

We are brothers and sisters in the Lord by virtue of our baptism.

We are related to each other as spiritual siblings.

## MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

If Saint John is our brother in Christ, then that means we are also children of Mary.

We are adopted sons and daughters of God which makes us brothers and sisters of Jesus Himself.

Remember too that Jesus taught us to call God our Father which makes Jesus our brother.

## MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

If Jesus Himself is our brother, then that means His mother is our mother too.

Mary considers us her spiritual children and she cares for us as any loving mother would do for her children.

## MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

Mary is also Queen of Heaven.

In ancient times, the queen was the mother of the king and not the wife.

Jesus proclaims that He is a king and that His kingdom is not of this world.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

If Jesus is a king, then Mary is a queen.

If Jesus is the king of heaven, then Mary is the Queen of heaven.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)



# MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

Major feasts of Mary and their meanings:

- Mary, the Mother of God on January 1<sup>st</sup> (New Year's Day)
- The Annunciation on March 25<sup>th</sup>
- The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on August 15<sup>th</sup>
- The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary on December 8<sup>th</sup>

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

Other feasts include:

- Our Lady of Lourdes (2/11)
- Our Lady of Fatima (5/13)
- The Queenship of Mary (8/22)
- The Nativity of Mary (8/9)
- Our Lady of Sorrows (8/15)
- Our Lady of the Rosary (10/7)
- The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (11/21)
- Our Lady of Guadalupe (12/12)

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)



# MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)



# MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)



# MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

Other Marian Prayers:

The Angelus

The Hail Holy Queen

The Memorare

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

In your homes

Place a statue or picture of Mary

Wear a medal or the scapular

## MARIAN DEVOTIONS (PART 2)

Mary is our spiritual mother and she loves us very much. She will always watch over us and take care of us. Most of all, she wants us to grow in love with her Son, Jesus. For these reasons, we should stay close to her and always pray to her, especially in times of greatest need.

# HOMework

- Parents at Home:
- Watch the videos on *Mary*
- Discuss with your children the practice of honoring *Mary* and of how she is our spiritual mother.

# FAMILY PRAYER

