

What's going on in Junior High?

There are indeed some exciting changes happening in our Junior High (7th and 8th grade) Faith Formation programs! St. Susanna is committed to offering Faith Formation opportunities for all students through the 8th grade. Moving forward, there is an expectation that our families *will participate in faith formation opportunities beginning in the first grade in order to begin preparing for the Sacraments of First Eucharist, Reconciliation, and Confirmation.*

Here is a quick recap which should help answer some questions we've been receiving from parishioners:

▪ **What are the options for Junior High Faith Formation? (Religious Education classes)**

There will be four options:

- ✓ The new summer CFP session, a two-week intensive formation class with interactive learning, prayer and liturgy opportunities, and community building. Dates for the summer sessions are: **June 11th – 22nd from 8:30am to 12:30pm and July 9th – 20th from 8:30am to 12:30pm**
- ✓ The 'traditional' CFP classes which run from mid-September through April and are held in the school classrooms. These classes will also feature interactive learning and community building.
- ✓ Enrollment at St. Susanna School or another Catholic School
- ✓ The Home Study option for CFP, a mid-September through April option

▪ **What about Confirmation?**

Beginning in the fall of 2012, Confirmation preparation will be available for any student in the 8th grade or older at the time they **BEGIN** Confirmation preparation **AND** who has been enrolled in one of the Faith Formation opportunities listed above. Since this will be a transitional year, students currently in 7th grade (during the 2011-2012 school year) will not need to have been enrolled in a faith formation program during their 7th grade year, however, they **will need to enroll** in a faith formation option during their 8th grade year (2012-2013 school year) in order to be eligible to prepare for Confirmation.

Beginning in the fall of 2013, students must have been enrolled in **both** 7th and 8th grade Faith Formation in order to be eligible to prepare for Confirmation at St. Susanna. Confirmation preparation will remain within a community setting with students and mentors/parents journeying together toward the reception of the Sacrament.

- **Faith Alive** has played an important and significant role in the lives of our Junior High students for years. This will not change! The program has served junior high students from St. Susanna School, area Public Schools, and our own CFP students. During Faith Alive our youth have an opportunity to explore various aspects of their 'Middle School' lives - peer pressure, gossip, relationships, stress, dating, and more - and to see how the teachings and beliefs of our church influence the choices we make. Faith Alive also offers retreats and service opportunities that deepen our belief that Catholicism is a way of life! Faith Alive (and our high school youth ministry program, Marianist LIFE,) are **NOT** going away – They are here to stay and we strongly encourage participation as a way of experiencing and living your faith throughout the year!

Direct questions regarding CFP Summer Sessions to:

Susan Gravely, gravelys@stsusanna.org or 398-3821 x3110

Direct Confirmation Preparation questions to:

Jodi Mott, mottj@stsusanna.org or 398-3821 x3195

Direct Faith Alive questions to:

Jeff Davis, davisj@stsusanna.org or 398-3821 x3195 or Jodi Mott