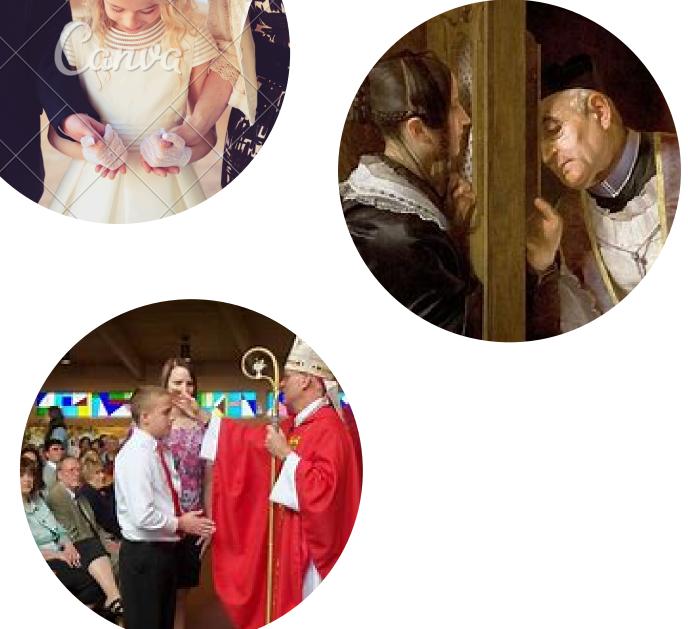
# Queen of Apostles Faith Formation

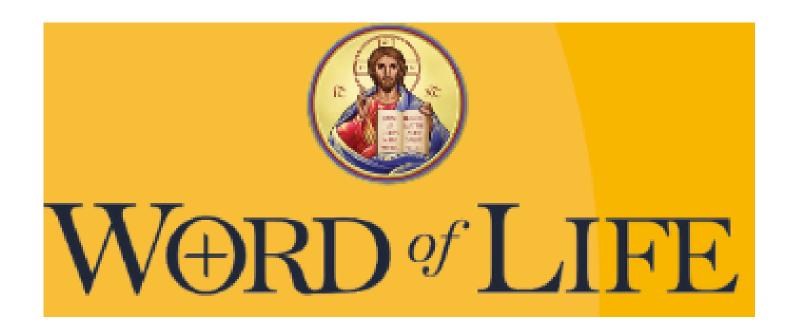


"The definitive aim of catechesis is to put people not only in touch but in communion, in intimacy, with Jesus Christ: only He can lead us to the love of the Father in the Spirit and make us share in the life of the Holy Trinity"





### - Pope St. John Paul II Catechesi Tradendae



**Faith Formation Program for Families with Children Kindergarten - 8th Grade (Up to** 12th Grade if not Confirmed)

# 2024 - 25 QOA Faith Formation



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# QUEEN OF APOSTLES PARISH



#### **MAIN CAMPUS ADDRESS:**

18 Woodlawn Ave, Joliet, IL 60435

\*ALL of the formation program will be done at this Address\*

> Phone: 815 – 725 – 1527 Website: qoa-joliet.org

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 8 am – 4 pm, Friday 8 am – 1 pm

#### MARION STREET CAMPUS ADDRESS:

710 W Marion St, Joliet, IL 60436

**Contact Information:** 

Director of Faith Formation Dylan Maugel d.maugel@queenofapostlesjoliet.net

# **QUEEN OF APOSTLES** PARISH



### MASS SCHEDULE

#### Sunday Mass

#### <u>Main Campus</u>

(St. Paul Site) Anticipatory (Saturday) 4 pm (English)

**Daily Mass** 

<u>Main Campus</u>

(St. Paul Site) 7:30 am (English) Noon (English) 7 pm (Vigil – Spanish)

Holy Days of **Obligation** <u>Main Campus</u> (St. Paul Site)

Sunday 7:30 am (English) 9:30 am (English) 11:30 am (English)

### <u>Marion Street</u>

#### <u>Campus</u>

(St. Patrick Site) Anticipatory (Saturday) 6 pm (Spanish) Sunday 8:30 am (English) 10 am (English – Gospel) 12 pm (Spanish)

#### Marion Street

#### <u>Campus</u>

(St. Patrick Site) Tuesday - Friday 8 am (English)

Additional Mass on Wednesday 7 pm (Spanish)

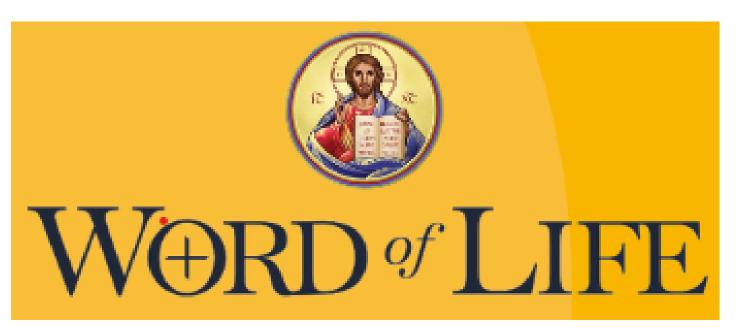
7:30 am (English) Noon (English) 6 pm (English)

### Marion Street <u>Campus</u> (St. Patrick Site) 8 am (English) 7 pm (Spanish

**Additional Masses are offered at our** Parish Mission,: St. Joseph in Rockdale

Website (with Mass Schedule): https://fsspjoliet.wordpress.com/

# 2024-25 Faith Formation





### **Mission and Vision**

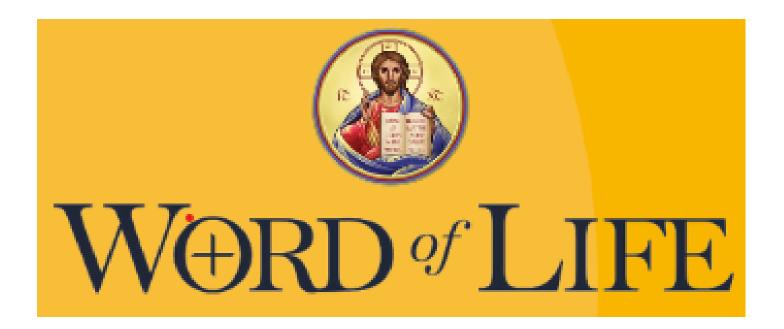
Queen of Apostles Faith Formation will help children, teachers, parents, and families discover their authentic Catholic identity to reinvigorate fruitful participation in the Church's life and mission.

Queen of Apostles will include a WEEKLY PROGRAM beginning with a PARENT AND CHILD Session on Saturday September 21st from 9 am – 10:30 am or Monday September 23rd from 6 pm – 7:30 pm (Depending on the Track you choose). On Wednesday September 25th from 6 pm – 7:30 pm at the Queen of Apostles Main Campus, there will be an additional meeting for Confirmation grades 7 & 8 (and those in high school who have not received Confirmation).

#### Four Golden Catechetical Threads

- 1. **Salvation History:** Tells the story God's presence and plan in history and our place in that plan.
- 2. **Christian Anthropology:** Reveals our identity in Christ and who we are called to be.
- 3. Heroic Virtue and Character Formation: Makes clear that our dignity and purpose are found by choosing to live with heroic virtue and character.
- 4. Learning through Discipleship: Witnesses ways to inspire students to live as committed disciples of Christ.

# 2024-25 Faith Formation



### **Parent and Family Faith Formation**

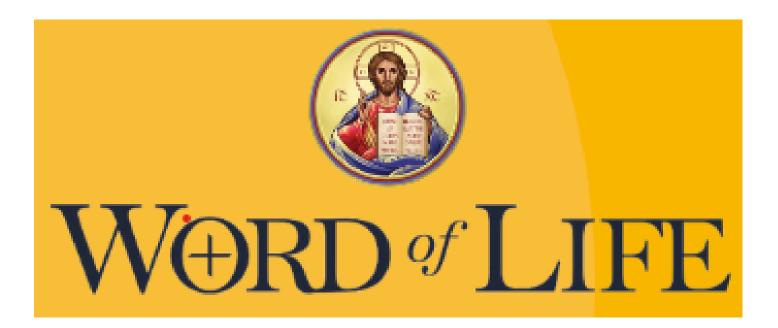
Word of Life includes built-in parent and family faith formation that supports parents in their important role as primary catechists of their children. Using both print and electronic media resources, Word of Life engages and enriches parents at varying levels of interest, knowledge, and formation.

- Lesson enhancement videos to reinforce main concepts of each chapter.
- Lectio divina videos to guide and engage students in prayerful reflection.
- **Sacred Art videos** to reflect on the mysteries of the faith through art.
- **Prayers to Know videos** to teach the students basic Catholic prayers.
- **Teacher Doodles** provide graphic depictions to help teachers explain

different elements of the faith in ways that students can easily understand.

More information will be presented at the First Formation Session about how to use and access the student and parent portals. For an overview of the program visit: https://overview.wordoflifeseries.org

# 2024-25 Faith Formation



### **Curriculum Overview**

- Who God Is and Who We Are God is love and our Creator, The Trinity, Made in His Image
- Salvation History From the Fall of Adam and Eve, God establishing His Covenant with Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, and fulfilling it in Christ
- **Paschal Mystery -** Life, death, and resurrection of Christ and how we are called to participate in it through the Liturgy and the Sacraments
- Life in Christ how to live as Christ did, virtues, service, morality, and life of the Church and the Sacraments
- **Prayer -** Learning about the Mass, the Liturgical Seasons, Asking Saints and Mary for Intercessions, how to be well disposed to the Sacramental Grace

Those receiving First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation will have a more in-depth concentration on the Sacraments they are receiving and will be required to attend certain retreats and do additional tasks in preparation for the Sacraments.

# FAITH FORMATION TUITION

No family will be denied Faith Formation because of financial hardship. If you are in need of a payment plan or financial assistance, contact the Director of Faith Formation at 815 – 725 – 1527 or d.maugel@queenofapostles.net.

### **Tuition Cost:**

- Family with 1 Child \$
- Family with 2 Children-\$
- Family with 3 or More Children-\$

#### **Additional Fees:**

- 2 nd Grade First Sacrament Materials and Processing Fee +\$ / child
- 8 th Grade Confirmation Preparation Materials and Retreat +\$ / child

Families may pay tuition in full or in installments. Program fees must be fully paid by the final Faith Formation session in May. Tuition may be paid online at our website: <u>https://www.qoa-joliet.org</u> or scan the QR code on this page. The tuition fees cover the cost of the lesson materials, books, and speakers.

#### **Payment Conditions:**

- 1. At least \$25 of your total cost is due upon registration.
- 2. All accounts must paid by May 19th, 2025.
- 3. Monthly payments are due on the first Monday of each month

### <u>Saturday Track / Monday Track</u>

Upon Registration Families will choose between attending weekly Faith Formation Sessions either on Saturdays from 9 am – 10:30 am or Mondays from 6 pm – 7:30 pm. You MUST contact and get approval from the DRE to send your child(ren) to the other class night. ALL CHILDREN in the religious education program will attend formation nights WEEKLY.

### **Family Formation Nights**

Parents and their children in grades Kindergarten – 8th grade attend Formation Night together. This is IN ADDITION TO the WEEKLY Faith Formation Nights

Formation Nights for all parents and children grades K – 8th grade meets on the following Saturdays from 9 – 10:30 am/Mondays from 6:00–7:30 pm in

#### the Main Campus Church:

- Saturday, September 21st / Monday, September 23rd (First Formation Day)
- Saturday, November 2nd / Monday, November 4th
- Saturday, November 23rd / Monday, December 2nd (Please NOTE: Saturday Track meets on Saturday before Thanksgiving weekend)
- Saturday, February 8th / Monday, February 10th
- Saturday, March 8th / Monday, March 10th
- Saturday, May 10th / Monday, May 12th (Last Formation Day)

### <u>Weekly K - 8 Child Formation Nights</u>

ALL CHILDREN in the religious education program will attend formation nights WEEKLY. either on Saturday mornings from 9 - 10:30 am or Monday evenings from 6 - 7:30 pm in the school on the Main Campus.

- Saturday, September 28th / Monday, September 30th
- Saturday, October 5th / Monday, October 7th
- Saturday, October 19th / Monday, October 21st
- Saturday, October 26th / Monday, October 28th
- Saturday, November 16th / Monday, November 18th
- Saturday, December 7th / Monday, December 9th
- Saturday, December 14th / Monday, December 16th
- Saturday, January 11th / Monday, January 13th
- Saturday, January 25th / Monday, January 27th
- Saturday, February 22nd / Monday, February 24th
- Saturday, March 15th / Monday, March 17th
- Saturday, March 29th / Monday, March 31st
- Saturday, April 5th / Monday, April 7th
- Saturday, April 12th / Monday, April 14th
- Saturday, April 26th / Monday, April 28th
- Saturday, May 3rd / Monday, May 5th

### **7th and 8th Grade Confirmation Preparation Dates**

- 7th Grade Confirmation Meeting for parents and children –
- 8th Grade Confirmation Meeting for candidates and their parents –
- 7 th and 8th Grade Confirmation Retreat (candidates only) –
- 8 th Grade Candidate & Sponsor Retreat (for confirmation candidates and sponsors) –
- Confirmation Practice for 8th Grade Confirmation Candidates and Sponsors—
- Confirmation Mass—TBA

### **First Communion Preparation Dates**

Families with children preparing to receive their First Reconciliation and First Communion in Spring of 2025 participate in ALL religious education nights AND attend these meetings for First Reconciliation and First Communion Preparation.

### **First Communion Preparation Dates**

- First Reconciliation Service Saturday December 7th 10:30 am – Noon (PARENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND)
- First Communion Retreat and Sacristy Tour Saturday, May 3rd – 9 am – Noon (PARENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND)
  - Those on the Monday Track will not have to attend the Faith Session on May 5th)
- First Communion Practice Wednesday May 14th, 6 7:15 pm
- First Communion Masses May 17th/18th (locations and times TBD)

### **Monthly Catechist Meetings**

Catechist Meetings for all volunteer catechists and teachers are held monthly, usually on the last Wednesdays of the month from 5:30-7 pm in the Parish Office

- Wednesday, September 4th
- Wednesday September 11th
- Wednesday September 18th
- Wednesday, October 23rd (Last Monday is Halloween) Wednesday, November 20th (Due to Thanksgiving)
- Wednesday, December 18th (Due to Christmas)
- Wednesday, January 29th
- Wednesday, February 26th
- Wednesday, March 19th
- Wednesday, April 30th

#### **Arrival Procedures**

- Arrive at least 5 minutes before the Start of Class (a good time to have your children go to the restroom)
- Enter the building using Door C (the gym entrance). Families should enter the north parking lot using WOODLAWN AVENUE and exit via CAMPBELL STREET. Those parents who wish to bring their children into the building should park on the north side (near the Campbell Street entrance) and follow the sidewalk to Door C.
- **During Family Formation Nights:** Enter and park as you normally would. Families will enter the Church to pray and then children will be dismissed with their catechists to go to the school classrooms.
- Parents are not allowed to walk through the school or be present with

*their children in the classroom*, as this disrupts teaching and learning. If for some reason other than an emergency, you need to pick-up your child early from class, please contact the Director of Faith Formation to make arrangements

#### **Dismissal Procedures**

- **Dismissal should follow the same procedure:** Enter off of Woodlawn and exit via Campbell.
- Classes are over at 7:30 pm. We cannot leave the building until all children are picked up.
- For safety, children will only be released to parents or other legal guardians unless written authorization is provided to the catechist and the Director of Faith Formation. If you want your child dismissed to an older sibling or a carpooling parent, or they are walking home please notify the catechist and the Director of Faith Formation

#### **Arrival Procedures**

- Arrive at least 5 minutes before the Start of Class (a good time to have your children go to the restroom)
- Enter the building using Door C (the gym entrance). Families should enter the north parking lot using WOODLAWN AVENUE and exit via CAMPBELL STREET. Those parents who wish to bring their children into the building should park on the north side (near the Campbell Street entrance) and follow the sidewalk to Door C.
- **During Family Formation Nights:** Enter and park as you normally would. Families will enter the Church to pray and then children will be dismissed with their catechists to go to the school classrooms.
- Parents are not allowed to walk through the school or be present with

*their children in the classroom*, as this disrupts teaching and learning. If for some reason other than an emergency, you need to pick-up your child early from class, please contact the Director of Faith Formation to make arrangements

#### **Dismissal Procedures**

- **Dismissal should follow the same procedure:** Enter off of Woodlawn and exit via Campbell.
- Classes are over at 7:30 pm on Mondays and 10:30 on Saturdays. We cannot leave the building until all children are picked up.
- For safety, children will only be released to parents or other legal guardians unless written authorization is provided to the catechist and the Director of Faith Formation. If you want your child dismissed to an older sibling or a carpooling parent, or they are walking home please notify the catechist and the Director of Faith Formation

#### **Attendance Policy**

- Queen of Apostles Faith Formation Program has a very limited teaching period in which to provide a consistency of instruction and enables the children to grasp the tenets of their faith. We recognize that an absence is sometimes unavoidable, and we want to work with you if there is a problem
- If your child is ill and cannot attend, please contact the Director of Faith Formation by calling at 815-725-6927 or emailing d.maugel@queenofapostles.net as soon as possible.
- When your child returns to faith formation, please make arrangements with the catechist for your child to make up any missed work.
- Once a formation session has begun, no student is permitted to leave the building unless accompanied by a parent. The parent should notify the Director of Faith Formation and then a classroom aide will bring the child to the gym to be picked up by the parent. No child will be allowed to wait outside the school building
- We expect your child to attend the track they were registered for, but if they cannot attend the class on the Saturday or Monday. The parent may request to have the child attend the other day of faith formation by getting approval from the Director of Faith Formation by contacting him through phone or email.
- Regular attendance is expected for all those enrolled in Queen of Apostles Faith Formation Program. Since each lesson builds upon the previous material, it is crucial for students to attend class regularly. Missing more than four classes will result in a meeting with the Director of Faith Formation and possibly adding an additional year of formation (at the discretion of the Director of Faith Formation).

### <u>Tardy Policy</u>

- Faith Formation Sessions begin at 9 am on Saturdays and 5:30 pm on Mondays. Late arrivals can cause disruptions to the catechists and those who have arrived on time for faith formation.
- If your child is tardy the parent will have to bring their child to the gym where a Faith Formation aide will assist the child to the classroom in the school. If you are able to notify the Director of Faith Formation of your child's late arrival before the faith formation session, please do so.
- Consistent tardiness (especially when they are not communicated with the Director of Faith Formation) may result in accumulating an absence and/or a meeting with the Director of Faith Formation

#### **Behavior Policy**

Queen of the Apostles Faith Formation program is an opportunity for children to encounter the Lord and learn how to live in Christ. Catechists sacrifice their time to pass on the faith to your kids. This is also a time of growing in knowledge and love of God. Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated as to respect the offering of the Catechist's time, the opportunity for Children to encounter the Lord, and giving due reverence for the Lord.

Behavior expectation from children enrolled in the Queen of Apostles Faith Formation include:

- listening to the teacher
- participating in discussions
- keeping hands, feet, and objects to oneself
- using words that encourage and uplift (no swearing, teasing, or mocking)
- raising a hand and speaking only when called upon walking, not running, in the building
- walking quietly in the hallway (other classes are in session)
- helping to clean up the classroom
- returning all items used to their proper places

### **Behavior Policy**

Behavior that will not be tolerated includes, but is not limited to:

- talking at inappropriate times
- distracting the classroom
- fighting
- bullying
- running in the hallways
- damaging church or school supplies
- making messes in the classroom
- leaving the classroom or school building

At times it becomes necessary to give correction and discipline. When needed, the following steps will be taken:

**First Offense:** Verbal warning by the catechist or aide to the individual student

**Second Offense:** The child will be asked to leave the class and visit the Director of Faith Formation. The Director will meet with the child and return to the class with an apology to the catechist and other students. The parents will be notified.

<u>**Third Offense:</u>** The catechist will send to the Director of Faith Formation and the Director will call the parents</u>

<u>Any Further Offense or Serious Acts of Misbehavior:</u> The child and parents will meet with one of the pastors to discuss possible suspension or expulsion from the program

**Dress Code:** Please dress modestly and not wear anything that would be distracting in the classroom or the church. No short shorts, tank tops, halter tops, spaghetti straps, clothing with inappropriate branding or wording. If child is dressed inappropriately, you will be called and will need to bring them a change of clothes.

**<u>Electronics/Phones</u>**: No phones or electronics are permitted to be on during Faith Formation. If a child has an electronic device out during class the Catechist will take the device and place it on their desk. If the pattern is repeated, the parent will be contacted by the Director of Faith Formation.

# **Parent Commitment/Expectations**

### As parents raising our child(ren) in the Catholic faith, please commit to following the Precepts of the Catholic Church:

- 1. Attend Mass on all Sundays and holy days of obligation.
- 2. Fast and abstain on the days appointed by the Church.
- 3. Confess our sins at least once a year.
- 4. Receive Holy Communion during the Easter season.
- 5. Contribute to the support of the Church.

### As parents of Faith Formation, I commit to:

1. Praying with my children each day using the prayers they have been learning in Faith Formation

- 2. Being a model of virtue and striving toward Sainthood
- 3. Attend all Faith Formation Sessions
- 4. Having your children turn in all their catechetical assignments

5. (2nd, 7th, and 8th Grade) Attending all Sacramental Meetings and Retreats and turning in their Baptismal Certificates to the Parish Office

6. Communicating when to the Director of Faith Formation if my child will be

absent or tardy

There will be prayers and/or Bible verses to memorize, family faith projects, to complete, and short accountability assignments to complete every week. As the primary teacher of the faith, we are having you work with your children to help complete these tasks as part of faith formation at home.

At the First Session, we will walk you through how to use the parent portal in order to access an online version of your child's textbook and other formation videos for growing in your own faith!



# Faith & Family Resources

### **Apps for your Phone or Device**

**FORMED –** FORMED.org is a premier online platform filled with over 4,000 Catholic studies, movies, cartoons, audio dramas, ebooks, and talks – and it's free for St. Jude parishioners!

**Amen –** the Free Catholic Prayer, Meditation, and Scripture App

#### Websites

**Family Formation Blog (Familyformationblog.net)** – The Family Formation blog is a very helpful tool for parents teaching the weekly lessons at home. The blog offers lesson notes and additional ideas, audio files of the monthly memory verse set to song, and articles for adults to deepen their faith.

**Catholic Answers (Catholic.com)** – Have questions about the Catholic Faith or a home lesson topic? Search the world's largest database of answers about the Catholic Faith. Learn more about Catholicism through articles, books, videos, and more.

**Word on Fire (Wordonfire.org) –** Videos, articles, podcasts and weekly homilies from Bishop Robert Barron that proclaim Christ in our culture.

**Masstimes.org –** It can be difficult to find a Mass when traveling. Mass Times makes it much easier: Masstimes.org provides worship times, church locations, contact information, website links and maps.

**United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (usccb.org)** – the website of the usccb contains a digital Catechism of the Catholic Church, Bible, daily readings and reflections, news, church statements, and many other relevant tools to help you live out your Catholic Faith.

#### **Our Favorite Catholic Family Resources**

**Catholic Sprouts (catholicsprouts.com)** – Ministry founded by catholic parents Nancy and Bill Bandzuch. Catholic Sprouts has a daily podcast you can listen to over breakfast or in the car on the way to school and many downloadable catholic resources for your family.

**Catholic All Year (catholicallyear.com) –** Catholic All Year teaches families how to bring liturgical seasons and celebrations into their homes.

**Messy Family Project (messyfamilyproject.com) –** Messy Family Project mission is to empower parents, strengthen marriage and bring families to Christ. This is done through their podcast, short videos, downloadable resources, and live events.

**CatholicHOM (Catholic Households on Mission) (catholicHOM.com) –** A dynamic community of families, at every age and stage, supporting each other in becoming Households on Mission to love like Christ.

# Faith & Family Resources

#### **Catholic YouTube Channels and Podcasts**

**Ascension Presents**—Well-produced videos on YouTube from a variety of Catholic speakers.

**Pray-As-You-Go Podcast**—Gives a daily lectio divina. Each 12-minute episode is designed to help you to pray wherever you are; on a bus, in a car, walking your dog.

Catholic Stuff You Should Know–Hosted by priests. They cover a variety of topics and share their experiences as parish priests with a great mix of banter, hilarious commentary and solid factoids about Catholic stuff you should know. The Bible in a Year (with Fr. Mike Schmitz)—In this podcast, Fr. Mike Schmitz walks you through the entire Bible, providing commentary, reflection, and prayer along the way.

**Abiding Together-** A podcast that provides a place of connection, rest and encouragement for women who are on the journey of living out their passion and purpose in Jesus Christ.

St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology – Scripture study podcast in the Catholic tradition. Renowned biblical scholar Dr. Scott Hahn offers a weekly reflection on the Sunday readings.

**Pints with Aquinas**—Matt Fradd addresses questions from St. Thomas Aquinas' Summa Theologiae in an easy to understand way so you don't have to be a theologian or philosopher to enjoy listening.

### Resources for Forming your Kids on the Topics of Love, Life, Sexuality, Gender, and the Human Person

**Beyond the Birds and the Bees: Raising Sexually Whole and Holy Kids –** A

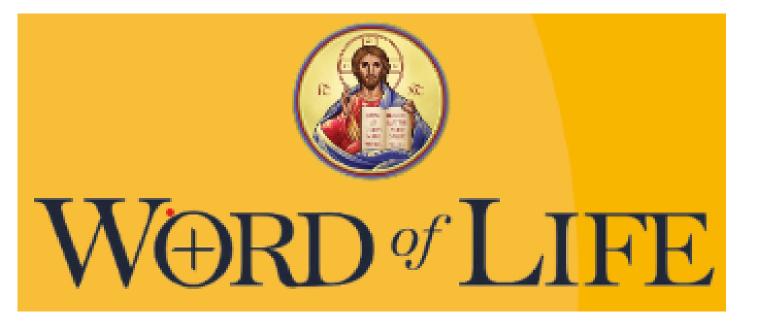
book by Greg and Lisa Popcak with practical tips for parents of infants to adolescents. Not a reader? Tune into the Popcak's podcast More2Life which features relevant, relatable and achievable tools and solutions straight from the genius of John Paul II's Theology of the Body.

(www.ewtn.com/radio/podcasts/more2life-~NW)

Person and Identity Project (a project of the Ethics and Public Policy **Center)** – Assists Catholic families and institutions in responding to the false claims of gender ideology and proclaiming the truth about who we are, in the light of Christ. (personandidentity.com/parents)

Canavox.com "Dear Katy" Videos for Parents – Katy offers advice on what sexual integrity looks like in marriage, dating and relationships and how to speak to your children in sensitive and age-appropriate manner on these topics. (canavox.com/videos)

# Volunteering





### **CATECHISTS and VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

- Weekly Faith Formation Sessions
- Choose to be a Catechist for either the Saturday sessions from 9 am – 10:30 am or Monday sessions from 6 pm – 7:30 pm
- Formation for Catechists / Volunteers will be on Wednesdays from 6 pm -7:30 pm beginning Sept. 4
- You will need to be VIRTUS Certified for the Safety of the Children at Queen of Apostles
- There will be videos for continuing formation for volunteers and formation for each lesson one teaches
- Catechist Manuals provide complete lesson plans and a script for catechists to use to engage students
- You will be a witness of the Gospel to many and fulfilling the Great Commission of going and making disciples!

Please reach out to our Faith Formation Director at d.maugel@queenofapostlesjoliet.net or call 815 - 725 - 1527 ext. 240 if you are willing to be a FAITH FORMATION VOLUNTEER

# Volunteering

#### Volunteer Opportunities include:

- Catechist
- Classroom Aide
- Set-up/Take-down Helpers
- Hospitality Helpers to provide snacks and refreshments for Faith Formation celebrations, receptions, and other events
- Photographers to capture the memories and activities of Faith Formation

**Volunteers 18 and older:** Adults that would like to volunteer must contact the Director of Faith Formation to complete an "Adult Volunteer Application Form". As mandated by the Diocese of Joliet, all volunteers 18 and older are required to comply with all Diocesan Safe Environment policies and procedures and to undergo a state and federal criminal background check. Adult Volunteers must register for a VIRTUS© Protecting God's Children online account and take a Protecting God's Children training prior to volunteering (http:// www.virtusonline.org). In addition, all volunteers in a repetitive role are required to take Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Mandated Reporter Training (https:// mr.dcfstraining.org).

**Volunteers under 18:** Minors who are interested in volunteering must contact the Coordinator of Faith Formation to complete the "Application Form for Minors Serving as Volunteers". High school Volunteers are also required to register for a VIRTUS online account and take the Healthy Relationships 2.0 online course through VIRTUS.org.

All volunteers are provided with and are required to read the Diocese of Joliet Policy Regarding Sexual Abuse of Minors and Vulnerable Adults (revised 2021) and the Diocese of Joliet Standards of Behavior for those Working with Minors (revised 2021).