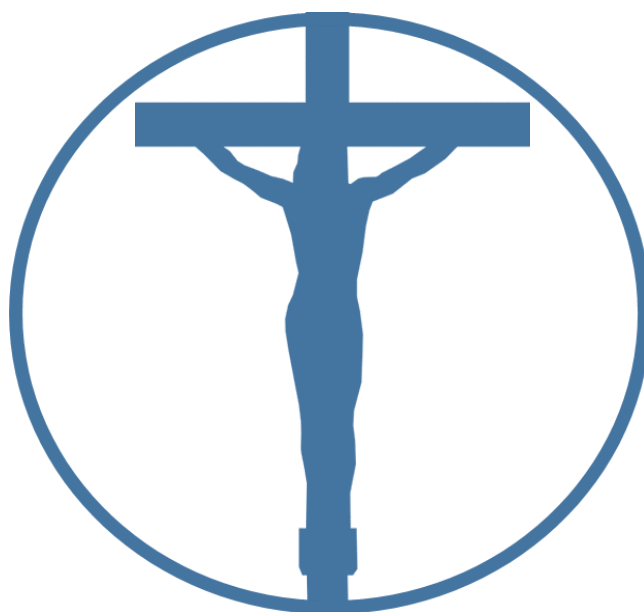




THE COMMUNITY OF THE
Good Shepherd
A CATHOLIC PARISH

**7th Grade
Faith Formation Handbook
2019-2020**



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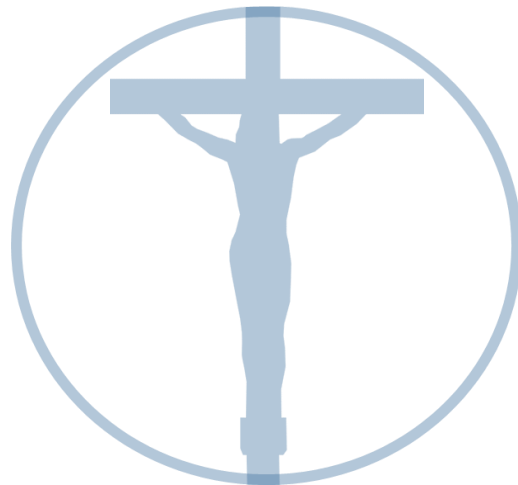
Welcome to Good Shepherd's 7th Grade Faith Formation Program!

Our Youth Ministry's Vision

To form intentional Catholic disciples who gather in faith, share in hope, and grow in love.

Our Mission

To draw, empower, and foster disciples through prayer, teaching, and experiences of Christ's love.



Why do we have this ministry?

We want to see young people thrive!

"Jesus came "so they might have life and have it more abundantly." (Jn. 10:10)

We want that abundant life for our young people.

What does this mean we do in Faith Formation?

We encourage and guide young people to have a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and his Church through games, discussion, prayer, service, and teaching.

7th Grade Student Expectations

- Be currently enrolled in 7th Grade
- Attend Sunday Mass, receive the Sacraments regularly
- Actively participate in the program, which includes:
 - **(Optional)** 2 Personal Spiritual Plan meetings
 - Student Sessions
 - Service Events (done independently)
 - “SixFortyEight” Junior High Youth Nights (**description on page 4**)
 - Family Sessions (**School Year Faith Formation only**)

Service

To help our students learn Christ’s mission of loving service, we ask them to participate in four service events (on their own or with friends), one in each of the following areas:

1. **Family** - service outside of normal household responsibilities
2. **School/City** - fundraisers, volunteering at sporting events, cleaning grounds, city clean up days, etc.
3. **Greater Cincinnati** - Serving at Matthew 25: Ministries, the Freestore Food Bank, Wesley Chapel Mission Center, etc.
4. **Good Shepherd** - Fish Fry-Days, parish socials, become an Altar server, etc.

***Each service event should be unpaid and last at least an hour.**

Service hours are due **Friday, May 1, 2020.**



“SixFortyEight” Junior High Youth Nights

“I am the bread of life” (Jn. 6:48)

SixFortyEight youth nights are an opportunity for ALL Junior High students to stay connected to one another and our parish. We will take time to pray, eat pizza, and play games. These take the place of Theology Bytes for the Summer Faith Formation students.

SixFortyEight Nights take place (mostly) on the first Fridays, 6:48-8:15 p.m. Content starts at 6:48 p.m. sharp!

Location: Youth Room (Rm. 15)

Dates:

October 4, 2019	January 31, 2020*
November 1, 2019	May 1, 2020
January 3, 2020	

****Exception to first Friday schedule for 648 Nights***

Family Sessions

*“Observe, my son, your father’s command,
and do not reject your mother’s teaching” (Proverbs 6:20)*

(School Year Faith Formation Only)

Parent sessions are designed to help parents and their child engage in fun activities and conversations about our faith. These will be held (typically) on the fourth Sunday of September, October, January, and February from 10:15-11:45 a.m.

Dates:

September 8 & 29, 2019	January 26, 2020
October 27, 2019	February 23, 2020

Personal Spiritual Plans

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened unto you." (Mt. 7:7)

What is a Personal Spiritual Plan (PSP)?

A PSP is a way for students to talk with parents and mentors about their faith and where God is calling them to grow.

How does a PSP work?

Each student will receive a questionnaire about strengths and areas for growth in each of these four areas of formation:

- 1) Personal Character Formation (Habits that contribute to living well)
- 2) Intellectual Formation (Knowledge and understanding of our faith)
- 3) Spiritual Formation (Personal and communal prayer life)
- 4) Pastoral Formation (How we share Christ with others)

Students will work with a parent to fill out the sheet at home and schedule a 30-45 minute meeting with one of our PSP Advisors. Each student who participates, along with a parent, will meet with an Advisor to go through the plan, set some goals, and schedule a follow-up meeting to review lessons learned.

Who will participate in a PSP meeting?

This is our second year doing PSPs. We will invite students and their parents; there is no consequence for declining to participate. If you and your student want to participate in this, please contact Walter.

When will these PSP meetings happen?

PSP Meetings will be based on the availability of each family. There are several advisors to help accommodate families.

Why do we do these PSPs?

Two main reasons: 1) to foster parent/student discussions of faith and to encourage formation outside of our sessions 2) Faith Formation can be an excellent supplement to our faith, but cannot replace the role of families and personal inquiry and growth.

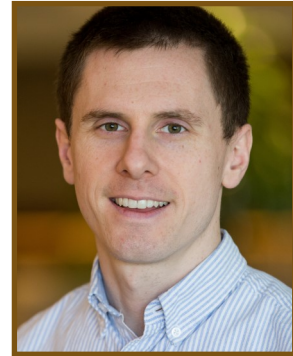
Contact Information

Questions or Concerns, Contact...

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Good Shepherd's 7th Grade Faith Formation Webpage

www.good-shepherd.org/7th-grade-weekly-faith-formation

