



**SAINT LAWRENCE PARISH
Office of Faith Formation**

*"I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.
My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me.
I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish."
(John 10)*

**RE: REGISTRATION 2018-19 for Grades 1-10
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2018**

Registration for 2018-19 is currently open. Forms and program information are available under the Faith Formation bulletin board (outside the Religious Ed office, in the left entry of the church near the upstairs rest rooms) or can be accessed at www.stlawrencegoffstown.org.

Contingent upon staffing, all programs currently offered will be available and filled on a first come, first served basis. **Please review the guidelines for each program prior to registering.**

Typically, children enroll in a parish faith formation program in 1st grade to establish a foundation of faith upon which to build. Formal sacramental preparation begins in 2nd grade with First Reconciliation (Confession) preparation and celebration. Children are expected to be in their second year of religious education prior to reception of the sacrament, so it is encouraged to enroll children in the first grade. Sacramental preparation continues in 3rd grade with preparation for, and celebration of, both Confirmation and First Eucharist. Our faith formation programs will continue as usual for all our children because the goal of this new diocesan initiative is *lifelong* faith formation! We can always grow in faith!

The next two to three years will be transition years as we move to the above-mentioned sacramental model outlined by the Diocese of Manchester. In order to achieve this, in 2018-19, we will prepare 2nd graders for First Reconciliation, 3rd graders for Confirmation (as well as First Reconciliation for those 3rd graders who have not yet received this sacrament), 4th graders for both First Reconciliation and Confirmation, and 8th, 9th, and 10th graders for Confirmation. If your child is in 1st grade, it will be their foundational year. If your child is in 5th, 6th, or 7th grade, they will attend faith formation classes as usual and then prepare for Confirmation next year (as 6th, 7th, and 8th graders).

We, as parents, are the primary educators in the faith formation of our children. Our ability to provide these opportunities for our children is directly contingent upon our own generous response to the parish's catechetical needs. Please prayerfully consider becoming more involved in the spiritual, moral, and communal development of your children by becoming a part of the St. Lawrence Parish catechetical team. **Please consider helping in any of our programs as a catechist, classroom aide, children's liturgy teacher or aide.** Training and resources are provided.

Welcome to the St. Lawrence Parish Faith Formation Programs! We look forward to seeing you!

In Christ,
Maggie Tipping, Director of Religious Education
Ed and Christine Hager, Co-Directors of Confirmation