

Saint Mary Magdalene Catholic Church


May 13, 2021

Dear Families,

This past year has been a challenge and an opportunity for us all. One of the greatest blessings of the pandemic is that we have learned new ways to connect with each other while we couldn't connect in person. Our Faith Formation team has taken advantage of remote communication to bring the whole family back into the formation process. The liturgy of Baptism reminds us that the parents and godparents of every baptized child "must strive to bring [the child] up in the faith," (*Order of Baptism of Children*, 93) and that they "may... prove to be the first witnesses of the faith to their child." (*Order of Baptism of Children*, 105) Many families are already impressed and excited about the "new" family learning (from centuries ago) and I invite you to consider making this process a family affair.

As we return to larger communal gatherings, we will not forget the lessons we learned in the past year. We continue to embrace the family as the Domestic Church, sharing faith together, while still trying to meet the needs of all our families with new, hybrid, and more familiar options. Whichever method you choose, know that I and the entire parish support your family as we all continue to grow in the knowledge and love of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

May God bless this formation year abundantly and may he bless each and every one of you.

Peace,

Fr. Terry Crone
Pastor

SAINT MARY MAGDALENE CATHOLIC CHURCH
FORMATION OPTIONS FOR 2021-2022

Dear Holy Families,

On March 23, 2020, Pope Francis approved the new Directory for Catechesis. Regarding families, it says, "Enabling families to take up their role as active agents of the family apostolate calls for 'an effort at evangelization and catechesis inside the family.'" (#124 & Amoris Laetitia #200). "The Church is called to cooperate with parents through suitable pastoral initiatives, assisting them in the fulfillment of their educational mission" (AL #85) "to become above all the first catechists of their own children." (#124)

Guided by this wisdom, the following are options to renew our formation programs in the spirit of evangelization and the family.

Please see the individual schedules for session dates.

Youth who are preparing for sacraments will register for free standing sacramental formation sessions in addition to the normal faith formation choice the family makes. Please see the attached schedule. We will likely see quite a few children in the 3rd grade and 11th grade who will be in sacramental formation this year due to the pandemic.

Remember *THAT* we celebrate the sacraments is more important than *WHEN* we celebrate them. The age of reception is the minimum age not a mandated age of celebration. It is always in God's time – and your children are on time...in God's time!

We look forward to a vibrant year of families filled with disciples walking together as they lead others to Christ.

Peace,



Kathy Kelly-Huey

Director, Lifelong Faith Formation

#1 FAMILIES FORMING DISCIPLES

Catechist *and* Parent Led
 Sundays 10:15 – 11:30 a.m.
 Pre- K- 12th year of formation

Using the Archdiocese of Atlanta Session plans, all disciples of the family journey *together*. Currently this program is planned to be a three-year, monthly, thematic approach to formation. (9 Themes, 9 in-person sessions, 9 virtual sessions in 2020-2021) Groups of families meet with catechists online and/or in person to encounter the Lord and encourage each other to live as the Domestic Church.

Week 1 – In person entire family together at church between masses – Catechist led.

Week 2 – Family on Mission learning and working together at home – Family led.

Week 3 – Families gather **virtually** to share what they have been doing in their homes – Catechists + Family collaboration.

Year one focused on breaking open the Liturgical Year with the special emphasis on Catholic prayer traditions. (2020-2021)

Year two will focus on the Bible/Scripture with catechetical themes springing from the Lectionary. (2021-2022)

Year three is TBA (2022-2023)

| In Person | Mission Week | Virtual | | In Person | Mission Week | Virtual |
|-----------|--------------|----------|--|-----------|--------------|----------|
| Sept. 12 | Sept. 19 | Sept. 26 | | Feb. 13 | Feb. 20 | Feb.27 |
| Oct. 17 | Oct. 24 | Oct. 31 | | Mar. 6 | Mar.13 | Mar. 20 |
| Nov. 14 | Nov. 14-21 | Nov. 21 | | Apr. 10 | Apr. 17 | Apr. 24 |
| Dec. 12 | Dec. 12 – 19 | Dec. 19 | | May 15 | May 15 | May 22 |
| Jan. 9 | Jan. 16 | Jan.30 | | June TBA | June TBA | June TBA |
| | | | | | | |

#2 HYBRID LOYOLA PRESS

Catechist *and* Parent Led
Sundays, 10:15 – 11:30 A.M.
1st – 8th year of formation
Concurrent Catholic Parent sessions also offered during this timeframe

Using the Loyola Press age level curriculum, young disciples gather most Sundays in person with catechists for sessions (Fourteen sessions in 2021-2022). On weeks when no in-person session occurs, referred to as “Mission Weeks”, families are asked to review and enhance the session themes in the lived experiences of faith in the home. Resource tools will be provided.

An example:

Each Unit has 4 chapters. On Week 1 and 3, catechists present main ideas. On Week 2 and 4 parents lead sessions at home to support and enhance the primary ideas.

- Week – 1 Catechist introduces the main ideas from the chapters.
Mission Week Packets are sent home with the children.
- Week – 2 Mission Week- Parents lead their children from material in the packets.
- Week – 3 Catechist introduce the main ideas from the next chapters.
Mission Week Packets are sent home with the children.
- Week – 4 Mission Week- Parents lead their children from material in the packets

| Children/Youth 1 st -8 th In Person | Mission Weeks at Home | Concurrent Catholic Parent Sessions Topics geared for adults |
|---|-----------------------|--|
| Sept. 19 | Sept. 26 | Sept. 19 |
| Oct. 3 | Oct. 10 | Oct. 3 |
| Oct 24 | Oct. 31 | Oct. 24 |
| Nov. 7 | Nov. 14 | Nov. 7 |
| Nov. 21 | Nov. 28 | |
| Dec. 5 | Dec. 12 | Dec. 5 |
| Dec. 19 | Dec. 26 | |
| Jan. 16 NO SESSION – ALL PARISH SERVICE OPPORTUNITY DAY! | | |
| Jan. 23 | Jan. 30 | Jan. 23 |
| Feb. 6 | Feb. 13 | Feb. 6 |
| Feb. 27 | Mar. 6 | Mar. 6 |
| Mar. 13 | Mar.20 | |
| Mar. 27 | April 3 | |
| Apr. 10 | April 17 | |
| Apr. 24 | May 1 | |

#3 TRADITIONAL WEEKLY LOYOLA PRESS

Catechist Led / Parent Supported

Wednesdays, 5:45 – 6:45 P.M.

1st - 8th year of formation

Using the Loyola Press age level curriculum, young disciples gather most Wednesdays in person with catechists for sessions (Twenty-Six sessions in 2021-2022).

Timing of this session allows for families who were not able to attend Mass on Sunday to attend Mass on Wednesday evening. Concurrent Catholic Parent Sessions will be offered during this session (parenting session schedule coming soon).

| In Person Session Dates | In Person Session Dates |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sept. 15 | Jan. 5 |
| Sept. 22 | Jan. 12 |
| Sept. 29 | Jan. 19 |
| Oct. 6 | Feb. 2 |
| Oct. 20 | Feb. 9 |
| Oct. 27 | Feb. 16 |
| Nov. 3 | Feb. 23 |
| Nov. 10 | Mar. 2 |
| Nov. 17 | Mar. 9 |
| Dec. 1 | Mar. 16 |
| Dec. 8 | Mar. 23 |
| Dec. 15 | Apr. 20 |
| | Apr. 27 |

#4 Traditional Loyola Press Home Study

Parent Led

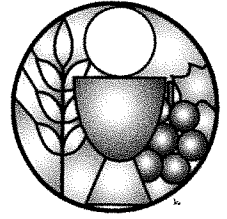
Pre-K – 10th year of formation

Using USCCB (and pastor) approved materials for Faith Formation sessions, young disciples journey with parents in the home. St. Mary Magdalene uses Loyola Press and provides books and online resources for home formation. It is the expectation that families will participate in four session gatherings throughout the year to maintain contact with the faith community (Dates & Times TBD). Additional material and supplies will be provided during the year as well as opportunities to gather with the larger community.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP 9th – 12th

Gathering Sunday afternoon beginning September 12th, 4 – 5:30 PM. A separate schedule to follow.

Sacramental Formation 2021-2022
St. Mary Magdalene
Reconciliation, Eucharist, and Confirmation



After the appropriate number of years of formation, a child/youth may be presented to celebrate the Sacraments. The Archdiocese of Atlanta recommends that all sacrament formation be “free-standing”. Following is an overview of sacramental preparation.

Reconciliation and First Holy Communion – Catechist/Parent collaboration
Sundays, 1- 2:30 PM

Using the Loyola sacrament formation curriculum, parent and child will participate in catechist led, in-person sessions as well as journey together at home. Fully online, Home study sacrament formation is also an option utilizing the Augustine Institute *Signs of Grace* program.

An **Orientation Session** for parents of all elementary age children seeking sacraments of initiation is:

- Wed. Sept. 9 Parent Formation w/ Fr. Terry 7:30 – 8:30p

Reconciliation Formation 1-2:30 PM, Parent and child together, **Three** Sessions

- Sunday September 26, October 31 and November 21
- Celebrate First Reconciliation during Advent Parish Reconciliation Service date TBA

Eucharist Formation, 1-2:30 PM Parent and child together, **Five** sessions

- January 30, February 27, March 20, April 10, and April 24
- Celebration of First Holy Communion during the weekend Masses of April 30 and May 1, 2022.

Home Study Sacramental Formation families work at their own pace and times. Reception of the sacraments should be the same as those in the traditional catechist/parent formation programs.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Reconciliation | |
| Parent Meeting | Wed. September 9 th at 7:30 PM with Fr. Terry |
| 3 Sunday Sessions 1-2:30 PM | Sept. 26, Oct. 31, Nov. 21 |
| First Reconciliation | TBA date Parish Reconciliation Service |
| | |
| First Holy Communion | |
| 5 Sunday Sessions 1-2:30 PM | Jan. 30, Feb. 27, Mar.20, Apr. 10, and Apr. 24 |
| First Communion | Apr. 30 and May 1 during the Masses |



CONFIRMATION

“The free-standing, parish-conducted Confirmation *formation* program must be distinguished from the ordinarily required two-year prerequisite *foundational* religious education program.” (Archdiocesan Guidelines for the Sacraments of Initiation). Here at St. Mary Magdalene, to be eligible to participate in Immediate Confirmation preparation (Referred to as Confirmation Immersion), a teen must have been actively involved in Catholic formation for at least two years prior to the tenth (10th) grade (including one year in middle school).

Teens are invited and expected to participate in **all** youth ministry activities throughout their high school years (9th – 12th grades).

Immediate preparation (Confirmation Immersion) consists of

1. Attendance in the immersion program
 - a. Two consecutive Saturday sessions, from 12 noon -6:00 PM (includes Mass).
2. Participation in a weekend retreat experience.
3. 20 Hours of Charitable Works and/or Social Justice

Options for 2021-22 Immersion Sessions:

- Session A – December 4 AND December 11
- Session B – January 8 AND January 15
- Retreat dates TBA likely February or March (Dependent on Confirmation Date)
- Confirmation TBA hopefully the weekend of March 26/27 (Dependent on Bishop availability).



St. Mary Magdalene 2020.2021 Emergency Information

Transportation from St. Mary Magdalene

The following people have permission to pick my child up from St. Mary Magdalene.

| Name | Phone number | Relationship |
|------|--------------|--------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Parent and Community Opportunities to help the faith formation sessions - We need everyone!

The success of our program depends entirely on you. Please share your time and talent in spreading the "Good News." Please check the appropriate space.
 Catechist: Grade _____ Day _____ Co-Catechist Grade _____ Day _____ Sacramental support _____
 Substitute: Grade _____ Day _____ Driving to events _____ Catechist Appreciation _____ Office/Clerical _____ Day _____
 Bake _____ VIRTUS training required. (bakers excluded) VIRTUS registration will be forwarded to you after returning this form. Then you will be invited to training which is good for 5 years.

No child will be denied Religious Education due to financial difficulties.

To arrange payment plan or tuition assistance, please contact Fr. Terry or Kathy Kelly Huey, DRE.
 Please fill out the payment plan/tuition assistance form and have the pastor or DRE sign the form, then return it to the R.E. office so arrangements can be made.

Registration Fees 2021 - 2022

Please go to our website www.smmcatholic.org – click the Faith Formation Payment button to process your payment.

- Early Bird Rate before June 1st: 1 Child 90.00, 2 Children \$150.00; 3 or more children \$180.00
- Regular Rate after June 1st: 1 Child - \$125. 2 Children \$195; 3 or More Children \$235
- Sacramental fee for Confirmation \$40.00. Sacramental fee for Reconciliation/ Eucharist \$70.00
- Catechists receive 20% reduction off total tuition excluding sacramental fees.**

Payments should be made online via the SMM website or this link

<https://www.osvhub.com/st-mary-magdalene-cath-church-1/forms/2021-2022-faith-formation-fees-osv-form>

This registration form will not be processed until payment or alternate arrangements have been received.

ST. MARY MAGDALENE PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT / LIABILITY WAIVER FORM
2021-2022 THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF ATLANTA 2401 Lake Park Dr. SE, Smyrna, GA 30080 (St. Mary Magdalene)

Does your child have any health or special needs? Yes _____ No _____ Note any special medical problems - allergies, medications, physical limitations, learning disabilities (ADD, ADHD, Anxiety), etc. for each child. An IEP from your child's school is helpful if your child has one.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

EMERGENCY CONTACTS: Please list two relatives or neighbors who will assume temporary care of your child in the event you cannot be reached.

1. Name _____ Phone(s) home _____ cell _____
2. Name _____ Phone(s) home _____ cell _____

Family Doctor First Name _____ Last name _____

Name /Address /Phone/ Name of Insurance Company _____

I hereby grant permission for non-prescription medications (i.e. Tylenol, etc.) to be given if deemed appropriate. (Please check one) Yes No
In the event that I cannot be reached, I give permission to have my child transported to the nearest hospital or medical facility and to authorize emergency treatment.
I will assume full responsibility for all charges related to above.

Signature of Parent /Guardian _____ Date _____

CONSENT AND LIABILITY WAIVER In the event of any accident or injury, I agree on behalf of myself, my child(ren)'s other parent, if known or living, (name of parent) the child(ren) named ABOVE, or our heirs, successors, and assigns, to hold harmless and defend the Archdiocese of Atlanta, the pastor or any representative of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry, unless the parties involved were careless and negligent.

Signature of Parent /Guardian _____ Date _____

MEDIA and PERMISSION TO CONTACT FORMS on the following pages are to be completed for each CHILD.
CONSENTS BEGIN AUGUST 1, 2021 AND END ON JULY 31, 2022.

TUITION ASSISTANCE FORM (2021-2022)

Dear Parents:

April, 2021

We understand that in certain times assistance is needed to offset family situations in tough economic times. Faith formation and spreading the Good News is the mandate that Jesus Christ gave the Church at Pentecost. We are here to help you in any way possible.

As the church, we do have fixed costs such as heating, electricity, the care of the physical church as well as salaries of the staff to help keep the church running from a practical standpoint. Tuition fees help offset some of the practical costs associated with the "physical church". However, your ability to pay does not and should not get in the way of you bringing your children to your parish family to help you with your child's faith formation.

Parent's Name _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Total household income _____ (including any child support)

Reason for tuition request: Are you able to help defray any cost? If so, what do you think you could afford? If you cannot afford to help monetarily, are there other gifts of time and talent you could offer which might defray church costs in other areas? Could you consider becoming a catechist, help with liturgy, grounds, or skilled work?

Name of Child(ren) First and last names

Amount I/we can contribute _____ Payments we can make _____

Please return this confidential information to either Fr. Terry Crone or Kathy Kelly Huey.
Please place this form in an envelope with both names above and mark the envelope on the outside "Confidential".

Thank you for the gift of your children and your faithfulness to Our Lord.

Peace,

Kathy Kelly Huey
Director, Faith Formation



Annual Media Release Form

Complete One Form per Child

Child's Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

School Year
(where applicable): _____

Our parish and/or school, _____, uses images, interviews, and videos of our children for a variety of internal and external communications. Our forms of internal and external communications include but are not limited to: print, such as newspapers, bulletins, and newsletters; photographs and digital images; film and videos; web posts, web pages, and image carousels; social networking platforms including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

We follow the Archdiocese of Atlanta's [Social Media Policy and Guidelines for the Use of Social Networking Sites with Minors](#). Please see this resource for more information.

Please indicate below whether our parish and/or school has permission to circulate interviews, images, and/or videos of your child for all parish and/or school events for one year:

I hereby grant permission for the following parish and/or school, _____, to use images and interviews of my child, _____, for internal or external communications for **one year**. My child may be photographed and/or interviewed for *The Georgia Bulletin*, and other media outlets. I understand content may be reprinted in *The Georgia Bulletin* or other media for public dissemination, including but not limited to film; video; television; radio; newspapers such as *The Atlanta Journal and Constitution*; websites and online platforms; and social media networks including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. I release and relieve the parish and/or school, and the Archdiocese of Atlanta, from any responsibility or liability for any claims arising from the publication or reproduction of any photographs or interview in any news or other media. I waive any and all right to inspect or approve the finished images, video, or printed matter that may be used in conjunction with any image or video, or to approve the eventual use for which it may be applied.

I understand that photographs, videos, and/or interviews are being done with the knowledge and approval of the parish and/or school, and that a signed release form is required for every participating individual.

NO, I do not want my child included in, nor my child's image used, in any internal or external communications. *This does not include Catholic School yearbooks or newspapers.*

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Date

Print Name of Parent or Legal Guardian

Please contact your Parish Catechetical Leader or School Administration immediately to adjust your media release permissions.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Supplant this release annually. Keep the most recent release until the child is 20.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC
ARCHDIOCESE OF ATLANTA



Permission to Contact Youth
Complete One Form per Child

Child's Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Our parish and/or school, _____, follows the Archdiocese of Atlanta's Social Media Policy and Guidelines for the Use of Social Networking Sites with Minors for contacting youth via social media. We may also use text messages, email, and parish/school-approved online/virtual platforms to contact youth. Per this policy and guidelines, parents must be made aware of how social media and electronic communications are being used. *Parents must be told how to access the sites, and be given the opportunity to be copied on all material sent to their children.*

After receiving written permission to communicate with young people, Archdiocesan employees should be encouraged to save copies of conversations whenever possible, especially those that concern the personal sharing of a teen or young adult. Please reference the policy and guidelines for more information.

Please indicate below whether our parish has permission to contact your child:

I hereby grant permission for the following parish and/or school, _____, to contact my child, _____, for internal or external communications for **one year** via social media, email, text, and/or parish/school-approved online/virtual platforms. I understand I can request the same communications provided to my child, and that it does not have to be via the same technology (for example, if children receive a reminder via Twitter, parents can receive it in a printed form or by an email list).

NO, I do not want my child contacted or communicated with in any way.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Date

Print Name of Parent or Legal Guardian

Please contact your Parish Catechetical Leader/School Administration immediately to change these permissions.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: This form is to be kept for current year. Supplant annually until the child is 18.



Annual Media Release Form

Complete One Form per Child

Child's Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

School Year
(where applicable): _____

Our parish and/or school, _____, uses images, interviews, and videos of our children for a variety of internal and external communications. Our forms of internal and external communications include but are not limited to: print, such as newspapers, bulletins, and newsletters; photographs and digital images; film and videos; web posts, web pages, and image carousels; social networking platforms including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

We follow the Archdiocese of Atlanta's [Social Media Policy and Guidelines for the Use of Social Networking Sites with Minors](#). Please see this resource for more information.

Please indicate below whether our parish and/or school has permission to circulate interviews, images, and/or videos of your child for all parish and/or school events for one year:

I hereby grant permission for the following parish and/or school, _____, to use images and interviews of my child, _____, for internal or external communications for **one year**. My child may be photographed and/or interviewed for *The Georgia Bulletin*, and other media outlets. I understand content may be reprinted in *The Georgia Bulletin* or other media for public dissemination, including but not limited to film; video; television; radio; newspapers such as *The Atlanta Journal and Constitution*; websites and online platforms; and social media networks including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. I release and relieve the parish and/or school, and the Archdiocese of Atlanta, from any responsibility or liability for any claims arising from the publication or reproduction of any photographs or interview in any news or other media. I waive any and all right to inspect or approve the finished images, video, or printed matter that may be used in conjunction with any image or video, or to approve the eventual use for which it may be applied.

I understand that photographs, videos, and/or interviews are being done with the knowledge and approval of the parish and/or school, and that a signed release form is required for every participating individual.

NO, I do not want my child included in, nor my child's image used, in any internal or external communications. *This does not include Catholic School yearbooks or newspapers.*

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Date

Print Name of Parent or Legal Guardian

Please contact your Parish Catechetical Leader or School Administration immediately to adjust your media release permissions.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Supplant this release annually. Keep the most recent release until the child is 20.