

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish
3040 Hamburg St., Schenectady NY 12303
(518)355-4193/Fax (518)982-1035
stgabriels.faithformation@aol.com

St. Madeleine Sophie Parish
3514 Carman Rd., Schenectady NY 12303
(518)355-3115/Fax (518)280-0071
ffo@smsparish.org

June 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Enclosed is the St. Madeleine Sophie/St. Gabriel's Faith Formation Registration form for **all students in Grades 1-11**. Our 2019-20 SMS/SGA Faith Formation calendar will be handed out when classes begin in late September. You'll be notified later in the summer about session starting dates, which are scheduled based on grade level and church location.

Included in this packet is the **2019-2020 Safe Environment** letter regarding the training we're required to offer annually. **ONLY complete and return the form** if you do not want your child(ren) to participate in the "Protecting God's Children" program or your child is registered in the Faith Formation Independent Study or home class option.

Important things to know when registering:

1. Please note: there is a slight increase in the Registration Fee across the board and a new Sacramental Fee for those families whose children will receive First Communion or Confirmation in the 2019-20 program year. These added funds will help cover the rising cost of running the SMS/SGA Faith Formation program.
2. If your family is experiencing financial hardship, please contact us directly. Every parish child deserves the opportunity to participate in our Faith Formation programs regardless of the ability to pay.
3. Submit ***both the Registration form and fee***, as well as ***a copy of the Baptismal Certificate for all new students not baptized at St. Gabriel's or SMS Church***, when enrolling in the Faith Formation program. Classes will be filled based on registration date and can only be offered if we have enough students registered and/or catechists available to teach.
4. Payment is accepted in cash or by checks made payable to ***St. Gabriel's Church*** or ***St. Madeleine Sophie Church***; SMS Parishioners can also pay online at <https://smsparish.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities>.
5. Sister Rosemary Cuneo, CR, our Youth Minister, will be emailing the families of registered 11th graders in August with information about Confirmation, including details regarding the meeting on September 8, 2019 for Candidates, their parents and sponsors. Contact her directly at sisterro@smsparish.org to learn more.

Catechists are needed to teach class sessions at every grade level, so please prayerfully consider volunteering your time and talents. As a token of our appreciation, catechists pay a reduced fee for their children registered in the program. If you're interested in getting involved, return the bottom of this letter with your registration form or contact us at ffo@smsparish.org or stgabriels.faithformation@aol.com for more info.

Our "mission is to teach and reflect the gospel message of Jesus to our parish families so that all may be called to holiness as a community of faith, joy, and love." Thank you for your continued support!

The Faith Formation Staff of St. Madeleine Sophie and St. Gabriel's Parishes – Donna, Terri, Sister Ro, Nicole and Joanne

Interested in being a Catechist or Volunteer for the 2019-20 Faith Formation Program?
Complete and return this slip with your Registration forms

Name: _____ Email: _____

Phone: _____ Cell#: _____

I prefer to teach ____ grade at: ____ St. Gabriel's ____ St. Madeleine Sophie ____ Either Parish

Or, I can help as a: () substitute catechist () catechist aide () gatekeeper/hall monitor () office assistant