

**ISHPEMING AREA FAITH FORMATION
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & PASTORAL SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016**

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

St. John the Evangelist
Father Larry Van Damme
Amy Peters
Julie Sarvello
Patty Luke

St. Joseph Parish
Fr. Dan Moll
Deacon Steve Schaffer,
Nancy Decaire, Vice President
Tom Farley, President

Angela Johnson, Secretary

STAFF MEMBERS

Administrator: Angela Johnson
Secretary: Jody Forrester
Youth & Intergenerational
Religious Education Coordinator: Melissa Pillifant
Sacramental Preparation Coordinator: Mary Turino

Marriage Prep: Parish priests coordinate
Pastoral Care: Larry Poissant coordinates through the Faith Formation Center
RCIA: Faith Formation Center coordinates
Baptismal Prep: Faith Formation Center coordinates
Grief Support: Sister Margey Schmelzle coordinates through the Faith Formation Center

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

- **Weekly Classes:** Monday nights for K – 12th graders, 25 sessions from Sept. 14, 2015 to May 18, 2016

Students participating in weekly K-8 Religious Ed:	St. John	St. Joseph	other
141 total students (83 percent of all possible)	57 of possible 66	50 of possible 66	9

* See attached report for details

- **High School Students :** 9th – 12th graders, Total possible students St. John- 28, St. Joseph-38, St. Paul-2
Total participated St. John-9; St. Joseph- 3; St. Paul-1

- **Sacramental Programs (children):**

First Reconciliation held Thursday March 1, 2016 at St. Joseph Church
Introduction Sunday – Introducing candidates to the parish May 1, 2016 at both parishes
First Holy Communion held Sunday May 15, 2016 at St. Joseph Church

			St. Paul
Total 23 participants	St. John the Evangelist	St. Joseph	St. Michael
Grade 2	10	8	
Grade 3	2	1	
Grade 4		1	

Confirmation: April 19, 2015 at St. Peters Cathedral 1 Student-Austin Pierpont

Catechetical Sessions for Sacramental Preparation (Held for students and parents)

Orientation	Monday, Sept. 14, 2015
First Reconciliation Retreat	Saturday, Feb. 27, 2016
First Communion Retreat	Saturday, April 23, 2016
First Communion practice, review proper reception	Thursday, May 10, 2016
Introduction Sunday	Sunday, May 1, 2016

- **General Ongoing Adult Ed** Provided free audio cd's on topics specific to the sacraments for this year's Together in Faith themes, as well as Catholicism in general; Purchased books to add to our adult library based on each of the Together in Faith subjects. Created two parish inserts to refresh people on the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Mass attendance.

ADULT SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS

- **RCIA:** One Inquiry held: 10/13/15,

Regular Catechesis for 3 adults - Easter Sacraments received on March 26, 2016

- **Pre-Baptism:** Preparation sessions offered quarterly to couples and God parents

Couples attending the preparation session (# attended of possible #)

	Oct. 2015	Jan. 2016	April 2016
St. John	0 of 1	0 of 6	1 of 2
St. Joseph	0 of 0	0 of 1	0 of 1

Note: This number does not reflect the actual number of baptisms that took place in the parishes.

PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY

- **Grief Support:** Eight monthly meetings held on the third Wednesday of the month.
- **Ministry to Homebound & Nursing Home Parishioners:**
 - **First Friday Mass** is held at both the Mather and Valente Nursing Homes. Seventeen total volunteers along with the two priests who alternate between the two facilities. A social follows.
 - **Nursing Home Volunteers-** Six people visit both the Mather and Valente Nursing Homes weekly bringing communion. Parishioners number: Mather 16; Valente 37
 - **Weekly visits to the Homebound:** Two ministers visited: St. John- 2 ; St. Joseph- 7
 - **Annual Mass for the Anointing of the Sick:** Held at St. Joseph Church on Thursday, Sept. 24, 2015. A soup luncheon followed. Volunteers: 20 plus choir; participants: 50-plus
 - **Day of Renewal for Ministers to the homebound and nursing home residents** – November 4, 2015: Included a Soup luncheon – Total present 15

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME

To be held 2016-2017

CELEBRATIONS

Catechetical Sunday Sept. 20, 2015

FAITH FORMATION STAFF CONTINUING EDUCATION

Fall Catechetical Gathering Sept. 19, 2015 Evangelizing our Families-Engaging New Generations of Disciples
Attended by: Melissa Pillifant, Jody Forrester, Mary Turino

Spring Study Day March 17, 2016 Recipients of Mercy, Dispensers of Mercy
Attended by: Angela Johnson, Mary Turino, Jody Forrester
(Melissa Pillifant attended- paid through Fr. Marquette)

FAITH FORMATION STAFF CONTINUING EDUCATION (continued)

Ava Maria Press- Webinar December 9, 2015 “Advent Action: Open the doors for Mercy”
Angela Johnson

Melissa Pillifant participated 20 hours through Fr. Marquette School.

CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR CATECHISTS

Catechist Training Mini workshop to familiarize the teachers with the curriculum
in August 2015; Catechists are also encouraged to participate in the
monthly Together in Faith sessions which include adult teachings.

**No Echoes of Faith session offered.*

SAFE ENVIRONMENT AND VIRTUS

Safe Environment VIRTUS training for Sept. 15, 2015
adult volunteers at St. Louis the King Church (Harvey)

Safe Environment VIRTUS training for Oct. 13, 2015
adult volunteers at Fr. Marquette Elementary School

Safe Environment VIRTUS training for Jan. 5, 2016
adult volunteers at St Michael Parish

Safe Environment Training and Christian March 29, 2016 (Grades 1, 5-8)
Chastity Training for students was
conducted and the necessary reporting
completed.