A Pastor's Perspective

August 31, 2025 Bulletin

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,



Labor Day weekend is considered "the traditional end of summer and return to school." Of course, most of us hope that the next few months will continue to bring us warm, sunny days as well as cool, comfortable nights. And without wishing away the gift of those precious days, we also know that the holiday season will be upon us before we know it (Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas). But for now, the coming weeks will see our children settle into their school routines of academics, athletics, and other extracurricular activities.

Last week, I wrote about some of the faith formation offerings available to adults (e.g., *That Man Is You* for men; *Walking with Purpose* for women; and *Foundations of Faith* for all adult learners). This week, I write to highlight some of the other religious education opportunities available to our other parishioners through the ministries of St. Paul the Apostle Parish.

All Saints Catholic School – 161 Years Young: We are ready to welcome your children at All Saints Catholic School as we begin our 161st year on Tuesday, September 2nd! The new school year comes with some good news: our enrollment is strong with nearly 200 students, and we still have openings for your child(ren), along with financial aid for qualifying families. Our school is authentically Catholic, being built on a foundation of traditional faith and family values, empowered by the teachings of Jesus Christ and his Church, and supported by a faith-filled faculty under the leadership of Mrs. Johanna Lake, Principal. For more information, please contact Mrs. Lake at either campus (St. Mary Campus, PreK-Grade 3 at 947-7063 or St. John Campus, Grades 4-8 at 942-0955). Website: allsaintsmaine.org.

Faith Formation Programs: Mrs. Julie Sanclemente, Mrs. Dawn MacKay, Fr. Matthew Valles, and Deacon Luis Sanclemente are ready to welcome your children, teenagers, and young adults into our programs that not only catechize (that is, they teach the beauty, truth, and goodness of our Catholic faith, sacraments, and traditions) but also evangelize (that is, they make disciples who have an intimate and loving relationship with the Lord Jesus).

For more information about any program, see page 2 and also call our parish office at 217-6740. Please pray for all who will participate in the gift of lifelong faith formation.

Peace and blessings / Msgr. Andrew Dubois

Sacrament Formation

Baptism Preparation for Parents with Children from Infancy through Grade 2

2nd Tuesday of every month – Please call the office to register

Confirmation and First Eucharist, for Children in Grades 1 & 2

Students must be enrolled in Faith Formation Classes as well (please see above)

Register at www.stpaulbangor.me/sacrament-formation

Order of Christian Initiation for Children, for Individuals in Grades 3-8 (OCIC)

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults, for Individuals in High School or beyond (OCIA)

OCIC and OCIA meet at St. John Hall, Bangor, on Wednesday evening, from 6:00-8:00 pm

Marriage Preparation Classes for all Engaged Couples

Saturday, September 20 & Saturday, September 27

For more information and/or to register, go to: stpaulbangor.me/marriage-prep-program.

Ongoing Faith Formation

Students in PreK through Grade 5

Register at stpaulbangor.me/faith-formation-registration-children

Sunday morning at St. Matthew Hall, Hampden, from 9:00-10:15 am

Sunday morning at St. Mary School building, Bangor, from 10:00-11:15 am

Wednesday evening at St. Joseph Hall, Brewer, from 3:45-5:00 pm

Youth Ministry for Students in Middle School (Grades 6-8) & High School (Grades 9-12)

Register at www.stpaulbangor.me/youth-ministry-registration

Sunday evening at St. Joseph Hall, Brewer, from 5:15-7:00 pm

Young Adult Ministry for Individuals ages 18-39 years old

For more information, please contact Fr. Matthew at matthew.valles@portlanddiocese.org