

December 4, 2025 Christian Formation Report to Pastoral Council

All sacramental and religious ed calendars can be found on the small bulletin board across from room 3.

Christian Formation Program (CFP Kindergarten-5 religious education):

- Six children from Resurrection received the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Saturday, November 15 at Holy Family.
- The older elementary children are going to take some time at the end of class each week to research a saint and create a presentation. They are very enthusiastically working on their saint projects.
- Val Bica will celebrate The Feast of St. Nicholas with the younger children by filling their shoes with goodies.

Youth Ministry (grades 6-12 Religious education)

We continue to meet the first and third Sunday evenings from 6:30-8:15.

Michael Prior, his dad, and a good friend, spent close to 10 person-hours removing mile-a-minute vines, grape vines, wineberry bushes and more from the parish property adjacent to the small parking lot.

- **Children's Liturgy of the Word** is offered the third Sunday of the month.
- **Summer Service:** No fundraisers during December. Donations for the Winter Arts Festival on February 1 are trickling in.
- **Confirmation Preparation Classes** begin Sunday, Dec. 14 10:45-12:15. This meeting is for both a parent/guardian and the confirmation candidates.

Adult Faith Formation

The Jesus House committee met Sunday, November 23 to do some long-term planning.

Christian Formation Committee will meet Thu, Dec 11. The CFC meets 4 times per school year.

Iron Hill Deanery

- The three steering committees formed over a year ago have now merged into one.
 - The deanery is hoping to coordinate monthly service or prayer experiences for high school students.
 - A deanery-wide retreat is planned for Saturday, March 7.
 - Oblate Fr. Jim Greenfield will lead the morning. More details and publicity resources will be coming once details are finalized.
1. The proposed theme is *Living Flexibly in an Anxious World*.
 2. Fr. Jim's description: *He will speak on "Living Flexibly in an Anxious World," drawing from Salesian spirituality and Scripture. Pope Francis praised St. Francis de Sales for recognizing that "the world was changing, and the mark of a completely evangelical response was flexibility and a farsighted vision."* His bio highlights his leadership as President of DeSales University and his prior service as Provincial of the Wilmington-Philadelphia Province.

Fr. Jim Greenfield, an Oblate of St. Francis de Sales, began his tenure as president of DeSales University in 2018 and serves as the first alum in the role. He was provincial of the Wilmington-Philadelphia Province for 10 years from 2008 – 2018 while residing in the Diocese of Wilmington. Prior to that, Fr. Jim taught at George Washington University, The Catholic University of America, and the former Washington Theological Union, all in Washington, DC, alongside his work in Oblate formation.

Diocese:

The Diocese is promoting Damascus Summer Camp, A Catholic Summer Camp near Emmitsburg, MD. Elaine first announced it in her Nov. 5 weekly newsletter and will continue to promote it all year.

Damascus Summer Camp is a week-long residential camp for middle school and high school youth located in Emmitsburg, MD. Damascus Summer Camp engages young people into the sacramental life, mission and work of the Catholic Church. Damascus was founded in 2001 and this year will welcome nearly 10,000 campers from all over the country to their 3 camp locations.

The cost of camp is \$645 for a week of food, lodging, and high adventure. However, Bishop Koenig has made Damascus Summer Camp a priority, trusting that the Holy Spirit will lead our young people, families, schools, and parishes to a growth of Catholic identity. He is offering a generous scholarship of \$145 to the first 100 families to register.