



Saint Agatha Parish

Office of Faith Formation
432 Adams Street, Milton, MA 02186-4398

Winter 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian,

It is time to register for Faith Formation Sessions -- Grades 1-8 for 2017-2018.

Please read all of the enclosed materials very carefully.

Registration for the Confirmation Program (Grades 9-10) will be sent separately.

We have recently consolidated all of our parish records into one database, so this form also serves as an update to the parish information system. You will note several items that are not directly related to the Faith Formation program, but are valuable for the parish to know. (e.g. the names and birthdates of younger or older children). We appreciate your assistance in keeping the parish records up to date.

If you have a child entering the program for the first time who was *not* baptized at St. Agatha, you need to provide a *copy* (do not send originals) of the new child's Baptismal Certificate.

More and more we are "going green" and working to be good stewards of the parish resources and those of the planet. We are using e-mail as much as possible so it is ***critically important that we have your family e-mail and that it is printed legibly and clearly.***

CHANGES TO GRADES 6-7-8 CURRICULUM FOR 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR!

Beginning in September 2017, our grade 6 students will attend classes on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday from 3:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. This is the same time period that the grades 1-5 students now attend.

Grades 7 and 8 will participate in a curriculum created by LifeTeen, called **Edge**. This program is currently used at St. Mary of the Hills and I believe will work well for our 7th and 8th grade students. It will also help to prepare them to enter the Confirmation program in grade 9.

When will Edge classes meet?

The program will meet on Thursday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Gathering Space of the lower church. Similar to the Confirmation program we currently use, Edge will meet every week with alternating classes; 7th grade will meet one week and 8th grade will meet the next week. We will alternate weeks throughout the school year.

Our program is dependent on the dedicated service of over 125 volunteers in a variety of capacities. Please consider sharing your time and talent to foster the growth in faith of the children of our parish and sign up for one of the volunteer opportunities listed under Grades 1-6 or Grades 7-8. We are always in special need of catechists (teachers). Perhaps you could team up with a friend and co-teach the class, which we try to keep small (around 12 children per class). We would be happy to discuss any of our volunteer positions with you.

Please return the form with your payment and copy of any required Baptismal records to the Faith Formation Office as soon as possible **but no later than June 1st**. Returning them even earlier would be a great help to our planning and preparation process.

You may return your registration materials by sending them in to Faith Formation sessions with your child, mailing them, or placing them in the locked mailbox located at the back of the Rectory under the Faith Formation sign.

Faith Formation is a lifelong endeavor in which we are continually learning about and growing in our faith. **Attendance at all levels is important to ensure that continuity of formation.** Learning the basics during grades 1-8 is a requirement to prepare for Confirmation. We cannot claim our adult faith unless we first know it and understand it.

Grades 9 and 10 are the immediate preparation for Confirmation. We concentrate on what it means to live as an adult in the Catholic Church. What are the gifts? What are the responsibilities? Are we ready to publically proclaim our faith?

St. Agatha Parish is proud to be able to offer structured catechesis at each of these levels, to supplement the learning that is happening in the home. We are happy to partner with the parents in this effort. We are confident that families will ensure that there are no gaps in this process; we never can 'take a break' from our faith.

Due to space limitations and availability of catechists, we will follow these procedures:

- **Children will be assigned to classes, in the order in which registration are received.**
- **No child will be assigned to a class until there is a catechist to teach it. In the last few years this has meant that, even children who were registered by the deadline or close to it, were not able to be placed in a class because there was not a catechist available.**
- **If you register after June 1st, we cannot guarantee that your child will be assigned to a class by the first session.**

In light of the above procedures, we urge you to register your child(ren) as soon as possible.

If you know any parishioners whose oldest child will enter the first grade next year, please ask them to contact the Faith Formation Office for registration materials or to check our parish website www.stagathaparish.org .

We want all of our parish children to be able to participate in Faith Formation sessions. Financial assistance is available. Please call the office.

Thank you for all you do to form your children in the faith!
We pledge you our continued support.

Sincerely yours,

Eddie McDaniel & Jenn Caputo
Faith Formation – Grades 1-8
(617) 696-1388

2017-2018 Curriculum for Grades 6 – 7 – 8

Beginning in September 2017, our grade 6 students will attend classes on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday from 3:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. This is the same time period that the grades 1-5 students now attend.

Grades 7 and 8 will participate in a curriculum created by LifeTeen, called Edge. This program is currently used at St. Mary of the Hills and I believe will work well for our 7th and 8th grade students. It will also help to prepare them to enter the Confirmation program in grade 9.

What is Edge?

Edge is a Catholic middle school youth ministry program. It provides a safe fun place for youth to find solid Catholic community, to get answers to their questions about faith, and most importantly, to experience Jesus in a profound and personal way. Edge resources speak to the physical, psychological, cognitive, relational, and spiritual maturation of middle school youth. The resources present Catholic teaching in a way that young people can understand.

When will Edge classes meet?

The program will meet on Thursday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Gathering Space of the lower church. Similar to the Confirmation program we currently use, Edge will meet every week with alternating classes; 7th grade will meet one week and 8th grade will meet the next week. We will alternate weeks throughout the school year.

How will classes work?

Each week the students will gather in a large group for prayer, review and teaching. Then students will be broken into small groups, each with a group leader, for discussion questions or an activity relating to the lesson. The group will then come back together for summary, closing prayer, announcements and dismissal.

ST. AGATHA PARISH

2017-2018

Faith Formation Registration Form Grades 1-8 / Parish Family Information Update

(There is a separate form for Grades 9-10. It is not necessary to register for Grade 11)

By completing this registration form you become/continue to be a registered member of the St. Agatha Parish community.

---FAMILY INFORMATION---

(Please print clearly)

Family Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone(s) Father _____

Cell Phone(s) Father _____

Mother _____

Mother _____

E-mail address (Please print clearly) _____

Father: First Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Occupation _____

Mother: First Name _____ Last Name _____ Maiden Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Occupation _____

Emergency Contact Do not list yourself as the Emergency Contact. (We MUST have a non-parental Emergency contact. We will always try to contact the family first.)

Name _____ Relationship to child(ren) _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

---CHILD(REN)'S INFORMATION---

To keep the Parish records current, please list all children in your family, including those not enrolling in our program.

	Child #1	Child #2	Child #3	Child #4
First Name				
Gender				
Date of Birth				
School as of Sept. 2017				
Grade as of Sept. 2017				
Disabilities (confidential)				
Medical Conditions/Allergies (confidential)				
Additional Information you think we should know (confidential)				
Baptism Date				
Baptism Church				
Baptism Church Address				
First Communion Church				

** If your child was not baptized at St. Agatha Church, please provide A COPY of the baptismal certificate.

*Pictures of the sessions occasionally appear on the parish website and bulletin
. Please let us know, in writing, if you do not want your child's picture to appear.*

So that St. Agatha Parish may better minister to your family's needs, please let us know the following information:

Would you like to use the weekly offertory envelopes? Yes _____ No _____ Already receive them _____

Would you like to use the on-line giving option? Yes _____ No _____ Already contribute in this way _____

--- Grades 1-6 ---

SCHEDULE/ CHOICE OF DAY: Sessions for Grades 1-6 are offered on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3:45-5:00pm. Please choose **the one day** that is most convenient for your family. Due to space limitations and availability of catechists on any given afternoon, the following procedures will be followed:

- Children will be assigned to classes *in the order in which registrations are received.*
- No child will be assigned to a class until there is a catechist to teach it.
- **If you register after June 1st, we cannot guarantee that your child will be assigned to a class by the first session.**

Please circle the day you would like your child/children to attend - **choose only one day.** Tuesday Wednesday Thursday

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: We depend on our volunteers. Please indicate the ways in which you could enrich our program.

I am willing to be a **Catechist (Teacher)** for Grade _____ on Tuesday Wednesday Thursday

For catechists only, in appreciation for sharing your faith, time and talent as a catechist, the registration fee for your children in **Grades 1-8 only** is waived. **However, a donation of \$20 per child to cover the cost of materials would be appreciated. (Catechist ONLY)**

If you are unable to be a Catechist, we also need help in the following ways.

I am willing to be a substitute catechist for my child(ren)'s class. _____ for any class in which you need me. _____

I am willing to be a door/hall monitor _____ parking lot safety officer _____ office helper _____

--- GRADE 7-8 ---

SCHEDULE: Grades 7 & 8 meet in the Gathering Space in the lower church on Thursday evening from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. alternating weeks

I am willing to be a **Small Group Leader** for Grade 7 Grade 8 Both Sub

For catechists only, in appreciation for sharing your faith, time and talent as a catechist, the registration fee for your children in **Grades 1-8 only** is waived. **However, a donation of \$20 per child to cover the cost of materials would be appreciated. . (Catechist ONLY)**

---REGISTRATION FEES--- The deadline is June 1, 2017.

Before June 1st \$75 per child \$175 max per family After June 1st \$90 per child \$200 max per family

(Confirmation registration requires a different form and fee, and is not included in the family maximum)

Please make checks payable to St. Agatha Church Return this form with payment to the

St. Agatha Faith Formation Office
432 Adams Street
Milton MA 02186

For Office Use Only: Date rec'd _____ Amount _____ Check # _____ Order # _____

Catechist Registration Fee waiver _____

Catechist child Book Fee _____