



July 27, AD 2017

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your interest in our Sunday morning Christian Formation program for the 2017-18 school year. Classes start September 10. We will meet in the St. Mary's School buildings from 9:45-10:45AM. Parents are invited to join the Sunday Café which meets at the same time in Mother Teresa Hall.

We believe that you, the parents, are the primary teachers of your children, and the Christian Formation classes should complement what is taught in the home. Parents should review with their children the material that is covered each week. Your children's faith will be strengthened by conversations about the faith and about how the Lord is working in your lives. Parent resources and ideas for sharing the faith in the home will be sent home with your children throughout the year. The parish offers faith events throughout the year, especially around the Advent and Lent liturgical seasons; please read the bulletin weekly to keep abreast of these enjoyable and faith-enriching events.

Most importantly, it is vital that you take your children to Mass weekly and to confession regularly. Even if they have not yet received first confession, seeing you go to confession is a wonderful example for young children.

St. Mary's Sacramental Policy: In order to receive First Holy Communion or Confirmation, children must attend, at the very minimum, TWO FULL YEARS of Christian Formation classes. Students who miss classes regularly will not be considered to have attended a FULL YEAR and may have the sacrament reception delayed. This policy is intended to ensure that your child has the best sacramental formation possible.

All registration forms can be found on the parish website <http://www.stmarys-aiken.org>

Please note that different forms are used for K – 5th grade and 6th -12th grade.

Forms can be returned to the parish office, put it in a clearly marked envelope and placed in the Sunday basket, or mailed to St. Mary Help of Christians, PO Box 438, Aiken, SC 29802.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE FREE EVENTS

Rise, PJ Anderson Concert:

Saturday, August 12 at 7:30PM (doors open 6:30 PM) in St. Angela Hall and outside on the grounds.

Trunk 'r Treat All Saints' Day Fun: date will be announced.

Family Advent Night: Saturday, December 4 at 6:30-8:30PM in Mother Teresa Hall. We invite your family to join the St Mary's family to prepare for Advent with fun activities and a meal.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

God bless you,

Mary Ellen Jackson
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St. Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church
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Catechism of the Catholic Church 2223
Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children.