

## “Come and See”

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Passing on the Catholic faith is so much more than giving information. It is about inviting others into a lifelong relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. It is much more like an apprenticeship than “classes.” The Church exists to make saints—our goal is to introduce others to the beauty, truth and goodness of the faith so that they can become citizens of heaven.

Religious Education at St. Mary Catholic Church strives to welcome, introduce and encourage young Catholics to grow in their love and knowledge of Jesus Christ. Young Catholics are not just the future of the Church, they belong *right now* to the Church—and we need them active, engaged, and eager to share their talents. We hope you “Come and See” what our meetings are like and join in our journey of faith.



**“Yes, dear friends, God loves us.**

**This is the great truth of our life; it is what makes everything else meaningful. ... To abide in his love, then, means living a life rooted in faith, since faith is more than the mere acceptance of certain abstract truths: it is an intimate relationship with Christ.”**

*Pope Benedict XVI  
World Youth Day, 8/21/11*



St. Mary Catholic Church

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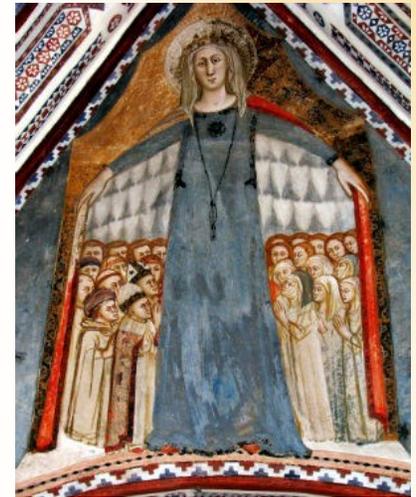
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St. Mary Catholic Church

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## Middle School and High School Religious Education

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*Religious Education strives to form young disciples who will live the Gospel, strengthen their spirituality, and celebrate the Sacraments.--enriching their families and our Parish family.*



## Religious Education for Middle-School and High-School Youth

“Youth Ministry seeks to empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ, to draw them into responsible participation in the life and mission of the Church, and to foster their personal and spiritual growth.” (National Directory for Catechesis, #3)

Our bishops encourage parish programs to focus on: (1) teaching the core content of our faith and (2) exploring how our Catholic faith helps us address specific issues and experiences. Our core content can be organized into four main categories: profession of faith, celebration of the Sacraments, living the faith (morality) and Christian prayer. Our Religious Education program will strive to cover these areas in an engaging, clear and orthodox manner.

## Who can Attend?

Middle school youth in grades 6-8 and High school youth in grades 9-12 are invited to attend. Our goal is to serve all the youth of our parish. Content and topics will provide youth that attend non-Catholic schools with a clear presentation of the faith. Youth that attend Catholic schools are also welcome—and will find that they can always learn more!

## What about “catching up” on Sacraments?

If you missed the Sacraments of Initiation in grade school, or if you moved from a diocese that celebrates confirmation in Middle School or High School, we can provide Sacramental Preparation on an individual or small-group basis. Please contact Marie Bricher with these needs: 509-928-3210 (ext. 111) or [mbricher@spokanediocese.org](mailto:mbricher@spokanediocese.org).

## How Can I Help?

Youth Ministry isn't one person's job—it is the mission of the entire parish community. Marie Bricher is responsible for coordinating ministry to youth and equipping those who wish to serve in this critical ministry. Please call or email Marie if you wish to help. You will be invited to fill out a volunteer information form and meet with Marie. Many different tasks and levels of involvement are needed—please pray about it and help serve the young Church today!

## Schedule of Meetings

*Meetings take place on Thursday evenings, 7:00-8:30pm We gather as a community to pray and introduce our topic, then we will split into middle-school and high-school groups.*

**September 27, Kick-Off!**

**October 4**

**October 11**

**October 18**

**October 25 Family Faith Night: Saints**

*No Meeting Nov 1 (All Saints)*

**November 8**

**November 15**

*No Meeting Nov 22*

**November 29 Family Faith Night: Advent**

**December 6**

**December 13**

*No Meetings Dec 20, 27, Jan 3*

**January 10**

**January 17**

**January 24**

**Wed Jan 30: Family Faith Night: The Bible**

**February 7**

*No Meeting February 14*

**February 21**

**February 28 Family Faith Night: Lent**

**March 7**

**March 14**

**March 21**

**March 28**

*No Meeting April 4 (Spring Break)*

**April 11 Family Faith Night: Holy Week**

*No Meeting April 19 (Holy Thursday)*

**April 25**

**May 2**

**May 9**

**Wed May 15 (All Grades Closing Celebration)**

As the year progresses, we will “fine tune” our schedule and include retreats, evenings of adoration/praise, and special speakers. All changes to the schedule will be communicated through the bulletin, flocknote and contacts with families.

**Please cut out and post this page at home!**