

2025 -2026 Youth 'JaM' (Youth 'Jesus and Mary') Program

for 7th – 8th Grade

1st Component: Regular weekly Sunday Mass attendance

2nd Component: Required Parent Orientation Meeting

This required orientation meeting will be held once on Sunday, September 14th, 2025, after the 10:30 am Mass. If you miss this meeting, it will have to be made up before your child can begin the program.

3rd Component: Individual Family Formation

Students are led by their parent(s) in completing weekly catechesis from the '2025-2026 Weekly Catechesis Schedule using The Faith That Marks God's People.' The catechesis should be read together with the student and topics can be further investigated using the referenced paragraph numbers from the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Any suggested scripture passages from the Bible for that week's catechesis should be proclaimed as well.

This component is designed to help designate a time that the parent(s) and student will learn about our faith together as a family.

4th Component: Group Family Formation

At the beginning of the year, during the required parent orientation meeting on Sunday, September 14th, 2025, after the 10:30 am Mass, the 7th Grade families will be made into groups of 3 families by lottery. The same will be done with the 8th Grade families. Once a month, the groups will meet on a designated date decided upon by all the families in that group for Group Family Formation. The group decides on a day and time that no other sports or family events will interfere.

This meeting could be on a weeknight after school for an hour. The meeting is either prayer focused, such as adoration of the Blessed Sacrament together, praying the rosary together, praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet together, or service focused, such as helping at a soup kitchen, helping at a food pantry, performing a service at the parish (cleaning up inside or outside, or fixing something that is broken), or other similar prayers and services.

Be creative! It could even be meeting at 10:30 am mass together and then doing adoration together after. All these different monthly Group Family Formation meetings need to be reported to Fr. Jason before and after they happen. This will help him to see how things are going, if any questions have come up that need clarification, allow him to "drop in" occasionally at a monthly meeting to possibly participate in them, and offer sacraments if needed, like the Sacrament of Penance.