

# Youth & Family Religious Formation Plan for 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grades, 2024-2025



**Alyssa Salazar, Director of Youth & Family Religious Formation**

# Fatima's LaMS (6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> grade)

## What does “Fatima’s LaMS” do?

The “Fatima’s LaMS” will provide religious formation programs, resources, events, and activities that are designed to engage the youth in our parish and school community in grades 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>.

## 2024-2025 Religious Formation Program:

### **YDisciple**

YDisciple helps parishes empower volunteers and parents by training them to launch small groups and engage teens. YDisciple couples video resources with extensive training and support for leaders. YDisciple includes the highest caliber videos for young people but also leader guides to help adults facilitate meaningful discussion, participant guides to help teens grasp key concepts, and parent resources to encourage parents to stay engaged.

Why small groups? In a small group a teen can feel known, loved, and cared for. *Teens need to belong in order to believe.* A level of confidentiality can be achieved which gives teens the freedom to open up about their struggles and doubts. In a small group, there is the greater chance to catch things teens don’t understand and discuss. In addition, the small group allows the leader to know their disciples well and thus be able to customize the topics of discussion that best reach those teens.

Some of the video series for teens include: *Lectio Divina* Meditations with Sacred Art, Seeking the Moral Life, Living the Sacramental Life, Experiencing God in Daily Prayer, Never Alone Life with the Holy Spirit, Living Sainthood Today, Discover Your Vocation, Living a Chaste Life, and more!

### **LaMS Gatherings:**

Youth are invited to come to bi-weekly gatherings, for the first year, on Sunday’s from 3:30pm – 5pm, (**BRING A FRIEND!**) giving the youth, their friends, and their families the opportunity to go to the 5pm Mass together.

### **LaMS Gatherings Overview:**

3:30-3:40pm – Sign in /Social/Snacks.

3:40- 3:45pm – What’s up and What’s happening.

3:45-4:00pm – Break out!

4:00-4:15pm – Stop and Watch!

4:15-4:30pm – Break out!

4:30-4:45 – Group Activity!

4:45-4:50pm – Closin' time!

4:50pm-5:00pm - Sign out and goodbyes until next time!

## Registration:

- \$20 per child for the entire school year.
- Fees will help to cover the cost of purchasing the program and support all youth activities.

## Calendar of Events: \*Subject to change and update as needed.

### 2024 Spring

Sunday, April 14 - **Family Event** 11am Spring Fatima Family Mass

Sunday, April 14 - **Family Event** FFAA Annual Spring Picnic, the Parish Family Fundraiser

### 2024 Summer

Fridays – **Family Event** Movie Nights (Dates TBA)

### 2024 Fall Semester

Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup> – **Family Event** Booksac Blessing 11am Mass / Registration Kick-Off

\*August/September - Trying to bring in a guest speaker for families/youth before our programs begin!

Sunday August 11<sup>th</sup> – Core Team specific leader training TBA

Sunday August 18<sup>th</sup> – Core Team specific leader training TBA

Sunday August 25<sup>th</sup> - Core Team specific leader training TBA

Sunday September 8<sup>th</sup>– Core Team specific leader training TBA

Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> – PARENT Meeting/VIRTUS TRAINING for Children

1. Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> – FIRST Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm
2. Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> – Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm
3. Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup> – Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm

4. Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> – Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm
5. Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup> – Meeting 3:30pm – 5pm

Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> – **Family Event** Christ the King Procession and Picnic

6. Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> – LAST Meeting 3:30pm – 5pm

Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> set up – Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> – **Family Event** Christmas Craft Fair

### 2025 Spring Semester

Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup> - Registration for NEW participants

Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>– Registration for NEW participants

1. Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup> – FIRST Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm
2. Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> – Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm
3. Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> - Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm

Mardi Gras Break!

4. Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup> – Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm
5. Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> - Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm
6. Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> - Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm

Easter Break!

7. Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup> – Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm
8. Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup> – LAST Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm

Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> – **Family Event** Priest blessing of children, families, and volunteers at 11am Mass and reception to follow.

### Summer 2025

Fridays – **Family Event** Movie Nights (Dates TBA)

June/July – Catholic Youth Summer Camp (Dates TBA)

## **Your Participation is the Key to Our Success!**

Adult volunteers are required for the implementation and success of our youth programs. Please email the Director of Youth & Family Religious Formation, Alyssa Salazar, to sign up **TODAY** to be part of the Core Team for Fatima's LaMS:  
youth-family@fatimalafayette.org

### **What is a Core Team Member?**

Very simply, a Core Team Member's "job" is to share Jesus Christ with youth. You don't have to be an expert on Scripture, and you don't need to have a theology degree. Your responsibility is to love the youth and show them that they are loved by God.

### **Basic Core Team Member Requirements:**

A Core Team Member is an adult (18 years of age and over) who is committed to helping implement the Fatima's Youth Religious Formation Programs by serving as a leader through the giving of their time and talents for *one whole school year* for consistency. Of course, if you were not a member of the parish when we started you can join later in the year if you can commit. A Core Team Member **MUST** be Safe Environment trained, always follow diocesan rules for Safe Environment, and be up to date on Virtus training.

### **The following are qualities of a great Core Team Member:**

- A love for Christ and youth.
- A desire to minister to youth.
- A heart that longs to accompany youth on their faith journey.
- A willingness to serve as a Christian role model.
- A weekly commitment to Fatima's Sunday liturgy.

### **Fatima's LaMS Core Team Positions for the 2024-2025 School Year:**

**Welcoming Leader (2-3 adults)** – Welcoming Leader will welcome youth at each meeting as they come through the doors and sign them in by distributing name tags. The Welcoming Leader will also collect name tags and sign out children at the end of the meeting.

**Emcee Leader (2 men and 2 women)** - As an Emcee Leader, you will rotate with the other Emcee Leaders to be the one who opens and closes meetings with prayer, reading reflections, playing videos, asking large group discussion questions, transitioning youth and small group leaders in and out of small groups, and keeping track of time for small group leaders. You will be sent the session details in advance so you can successfully lead the youth through the night's activities.

**Snack Leader (2 - 4 adults)** - Will oversee contacting and reminding volunteers who signed up to bring snacks. You will be provided with the contact list and calendar so that you know who signed up for what dates to provide snacks. You will provide volunteers with important details such as what time snacks should be dropped off and the quantity needed. Snack Leaders will also set up, distribute, and clean up snack areas before and after each meeting.

**Girls Small Group Leader (6– 12 women)** - Each small group of youth will have two adult leaders that will facilitate the small group discussions. Don't worry! All small group discussion questions will be provided. *Small Group Leaders must attend the mandatory small group leader training session!* At this training session you will be equipped with tools needed to be a GREAT small group leader.

**Boys Small Group Leader (6– 12 men)** - Each small group of youth will have two adult leaders that will facilitate small group discussions. Don't worry! All small group discussion questions will be provided. *Small Group Leaders must attend the mandatory small group leader training session!* At this training session you will be equipped with tools needed to be a GREAT small group leader.

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