

Youth & Family Religious Formation Plan, 2024-2025



Alyssa Salazar, Director of Youth & Family Religious Formation

Table of Contents:

Mission and Vision Statement.....	3
Who We Will Serve In 2024-2025.....	4
1. Youth Pre-k to 5 th grades (Fatima’s Little Flock).....	5
2. Youth 6 th – 8 th grades (Fatima’s LaMS).....	10
3. Youth 9 th – 12 th (Fatima’s Young Shepherds).....	15
4. Adult Men and Women.....	20
Fatima Youth and Family Religious Formation Calendar ALL 2024-2025.....	22

Mission and Vision Statement:

The *Mission* of the Office of the Director of Youth & Family Religious Formation at Our Lady of Fatima Roman Catholic Church: To enrich the Catholic faith of the youth and adults of our parish and school by providing them with well-developed faith formation programs that include but are not limited to communal prayer, regularly scheduled meetings, social events, spiritual retreats, catechesis, and to provide an ample amount of opportunities for both the youth and adults to get involved at the parish. **Please remember to be patient as this will all take time to develop and come to fruition.*

The *Vision* of the Office of the Director of Youth & Family Religious Formation at Our Lady of Fatima Roman Catholic Church: To build up, empower, and share the love of Christ with the current and next generations of Catholic's by always keeping close to heart the simple but all-important message of Our Lady of Fatima – that we must see ourselves as partners of God as we create the future.

Who We Will Serve In 2024-2025:

The Sheepfold:

A sheepfold is a walled enclosure created to shelter and protect a flock of sheep against predators and thieves, particularly at night. This is what our **Youth and Family Religious Formation Groups** will also do. We will create spaces for our youth and their families where they can come to find the rest, shelter, and the nourishment they need to live in this world as disciples of Christ without being overcome by discouragement or indifference.

Our Sheepfold:

1. Youth Pre-k to 5th grades (Fatima's Little Flock)
2. Youth 6th – 8th grades (Fatima's LaMS)
3. Youth 9th – 12th (Fatima's Young Shepherds)
4. Adult Men and Women Formation

The prayer is that each year we will add to Our Sheepfold important groups of people that also need to be ministered to such as Married Couples, Young Adult Professionals, Elderly, Parents of Special Need Children, etc.

1. Fatima's Little Flock (Pre-k - 5th grades)

What does “Fatima’s Little Flock” do?

The “Fatima’s Little Flock” will provide religious formation programs, resources, events, and activities that are designed to engage the youth in our parish and school community in grades Pre-k – 5th.

2024-2025 Religious Formation Program:

Pflaum Gospel Weeklies

The BEST and ONLY alternative to bulky, expensive textbooks, the Pflaum Gospel Weeklies Faith Formation Program combines a complete doctrinal catechesis with the liturgical life of the Church.

The content of the program flows from each Sunday’s Gospel, and students learn their faith within the rhythms and seasons of the liturgical year. Every lesson goes home to involve parents (who hear the same Gospel on Sunday) making it easier for them to discuss topics with their children. The children gather for prayer, song, and an activity that taps into something they already know or have experienced and introduces the Sunday Gospel theme. They proclaim the Gospel together and then learn the related Church teaching and doctrine. Games, discussion questions, and activities reinforce the Scripture, doctrine, and life application.

This program will allow for children be more engaged in the mass because of what they learned at Gospel Weeklies. Thus, allowing their parents to enter into Mass more fully themselves. Gospel Weeklies involves the entire family and gives parents agency to bring their children up in the faith and in our Church each weekend at Our Lady of Fatima.

Meetings:

Meetings will be held once a month, for the first year, from 10am–11am, giving the youth and their families the chance to go to the 9am or 11am mass.

In between meetings, we will provide families with lessons to do together at home. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that “parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children;” and “through the grace of the sacrament of marriage, parents receive the responsibility and privilege of evangelizing their children.”

Meetings Overview:

10:00-10:10am – Sign in and welcome children.

10:10- 10:20am – Present topic of the day, fun activity/game/songs.

10:20am-10:45am – Break into age groups, group lesson/discussion/activity.

10:45-10:50am – Wrap up lesson and close with a prayer/song.

10:50am-11:00 – Sign out and goodbyes until next weekend!

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)

Monday, July 22- Friday, July 26 – Vacation Bible School (grades 1st – 5th)

2024 Fall Semester

Sunday, August 4th – **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 11th – Core Team specific leader training TBA

Sunday August 18th – Core Team specific leader training TBA

Sunday August 25th - Core Team specific leader training TBA

Sunday September 8th – Core Team specific leader training TBA

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

1. Sunday, September 22nd – FIRST Meeting, 10am – 11am

*At home lessons will be provided for families between sessions.

2. Sunday, October 20th – Meeting, 10am – 11am

*At home lessons will be provided for families between sessions.

3. Sunday, November 17th – Meeting, 10am – 11am

* At home lessons will be provided for families between sessions.

Sunday, November 24th – **Family Event** Christ the King Procession and Picnic

4. Sunday, December 1st – LAST Meeting 10am – 11am

*We will provide at home lessons for families to do together during the break.

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

2025 Spring Semester

Sunday, January 5th - Registration for NEW participants

Sunday, January 12th– Registration for NEW participants

1. Sunday, January 19th – FIRST Meeting, 10am – 11am

*At home lessons will be provided for families between sessions.

2. Sunday, February 16th – Meeting, 10am – 11am

*At home lessons will be provided for families between sessions.

3. Sunday, March 23rd – Meeting, 10am – 11am

*At home lessons will be provided for families between sessions.

4. Sunday, April 13th – Meeting, 10am – 11am

*At home lessons will be provided for families between sessions.

5. Sunday, May 11th – LAST Meeting 10am – 11am

Sunday, May 18th – **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)

Vacation Bible School (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 Little Flock:
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 (21 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 Fatima's Sunday liturgy.

Fatima's Little Flock Core Team Positions for the 2024-2025 School Year:

Welcoming Leader (2-4 adults) – Welcoming Leader will welcome children 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. Can also serve as a Co-Catechist Leader.

Activity Leader (2-4 adults) – Activity Leaders will welcome and have an activity waiting for the children on their tables as they enter. Activity Leaders will lead children in a song or game in the beginning and end of each meeting. Can also serve as a Co-Catechist Leader.

Pre-K-1st Grade Catechist Leader (1 adult) – Catechist Leaders will be provided with the teaching guide needed to prepare for monthly lessons. During meetings Catechist Leaders will work with their Co-Catechist Leader and instruct them on ways they can help and assist the children. *Catechist Leaders must attend the mandatory training session!*

Pre-K-1st Grade Co-Catechist Leader (2-4 adults) – Co-Catechist Leaders will help Catechist Leaders by being ready to help in whatever way they may need. For example, helping children turn to the correct page in their books, asking children to be quiet while the Catechist Leader is talking, and everything in between. *Co-Catechist Leaders must attend the mandatory training session!*

2nd – 3rd Grade Catechist Leader (1 adult) – Catechist Leaders will be provided with the teaching guide needed to prepare for monthly lessons. During meetings Catechist Leaders will work with their Co-Catechist Leader and instruct them on ways they can help and assist the children. *Catechist Leaders must attend the mandatory training session!*

2nd – 3rd Grade Co-Catechist Leader (2-4 adults) - Co-Catechist Leaders will help Catechist Leaders by being ready to help in whatever way they may need. For example, helping children turn to the correct page in their books, asking children to be quiet while the Catechist Leader is talking, and everything in between. *Co-Catechist Leaders must attend the mandatory training session!*

4th – 5th Grade Catechist Leader (1 adults) – Catechist Leaders will be provided with the teaching guide needed to prepare for monthly lessons. During meetings Catechist Leaders will work with their Co-Catechist Leader and instruct them on ways they can help and assist the children. *Catechist Leaders must attend the mandatory training session!*

4th – 5th Grade Co-Catechist Leader (2-4 adults) - Co-Catechist Leaders will help Catechist Leaders by being ready to help in whatever way they may need. For example, helping children turn to the correct page in their books, asking children to be quiet while the Catechist Leader is talking, and everything in between. *Co-Catechist Leaders must attend the mandatory training session!*

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 Little Flock:
youth-family@fatimalafayette.org

2. Fatima's LaMS (6th -8th 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 6th – 8th.

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 4th – **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 11th – Core Team specific leader training TBA

Sunday August 18th – Core Team specific leader training TBA

Sunday August 25th - Core Team specific leader training TBA

Sunday September 8th – Core Team specific leader training TBA

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

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

4. Sunday, November 3rd – Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm
5. Sunday, November 17th – Meeting 3:30pm – 5pm

Sunday, November 24th – **Family Event** Christ the King Procession and Picnic

6. Sunday, December 1st – LAST Meeting 3:30pm – 5pm

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

2025 Spring Semester

Sunday, January 5th - Registration for NEW participants

Sunday, January 12th – Registration for NEW participants

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

Mardi Gras Break!

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

Easter Break!

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

Sunday, May 18th – **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 (21 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.

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

3. Fatima's Young Shepherds (9th -12th grade)

What does “Fatima’s Young Shepherds” do?

The “Fatima’s Young Shepherds” will provide religious formation programs, resources, events, and activities that are designed to engage the youth in our parish and school community in grades 9th – 12th.

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!

Young Shepherds Gatherings:

Youth are invited to come to weekly gatherings, on Sunday’s from 6pm – 7:30pm, (**BRING A FRIEND!**) giving the youth, their friends, and their families the opportunity to go to the 5pm Mass together.

Young Shepherds Gatherings Overview:

6:00-6:10pm – Sign in/ Social/Snacks

6:10- 6:15pm – Introduce topic of the night.

6:15-6:30pm – Break into small groups for intros, check ins, activities.

6:30-6:45pm – Watch video 1

6:45-7:00pm – Break into small groups for discussion.

7:00-7:15 – Watch video 2 (Or enter into an extended prayer time/group activity)

7:15-7:25pm – Break into small groups for discussion and closing prayer.

7:25-7:30pm - Sign out and goodbyes until next weekend!

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 4th – **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 11th – Core Team specific leader training TBA

Sunday August 18th – Core Team specific leader training TBA

Sunday August 25th - Core Team specific leader training TBA

Sunday September 8th – Core Team specific leader training TBA

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

1. Sunday, September 22nd - Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
2. Sunday, September 29th – Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
3. Sunday, October 6th – Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

4. Sunday, October 13th – Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
5. Sunday, October 20th – Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
6. Sunday, October 27th – Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
7. Sunday, November 3rd – Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
8. Sunday, November 10th – Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
9. Sunday, November 17th – Meeting 6pm – 7:30pm

Sunday, November 24th – **Family Event** Christ the King Procession and Picnic

10. Sunday, December 1st – LAST Meeting 6pm – 7:30pm

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

2025 Spring Semester

Sunday, January 5th - Registration for NEW participants

Sunday, January 12th – Registration for NEW participants

1. Sunday, January 19th - FIRST Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
2. Sunday, January 26th – Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
3. Sunday, February 2nd – Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
4. Sunday, February 9th – Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
5. Sunday, February 16th - Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

Mardi Gras Break!

6. Sunday, February 23rd – Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
7. Sunday, March 2nd - Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
8. Sunday, March 9th – Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
9. Sunday, March 16th – Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
10. Sunday, March 23rd – Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
11. Sunday, March 30th - Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
12. Sunday, April 6th - Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

Easter Break!

13. Sunday, April 13th - Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

- 14. Sunday, April 20th – Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
- 15. Sunday, April 27th – Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
- 16. Saturday, May 4th – Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm
- 17. Sunday, May 11th – LAST Meeting, 6pm-7:30pm

Sunday, May 18th – **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 Young Shepherds: 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 (21 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 Young Shepherds 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.

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 Young Shepherds:
youth-family@fatimalafayette.org

4. Adult Men and Women Formation

2024-2025 Religious Formation:

During the liturgical seasons of Advent and Lent the parish offers women's and men religious formation studies that differ from year to year. Below are the descriptions of each study we will be utilizing during Advent 2024 and Lent 2025.

Advent 2024:

Cultivate a Rich and Lasting Prayer Life

Authored and presented by Dr. Edward Sri, *When You Pray* also features Fr. Jacques Philippe, Fr. Josh Johnson, Fr. Gregory Pine, Sister Josephine Garrett, Fr. Donald Haggerty, and Sister Maris Stella.

You know prayer is important but still find it challenging. Perhaps it's hard to find time, or you're unsure what to do when you pray. Or maybe you feel discouraged by your weaknesses and your inability to overcome them. If you have any of these feelings, you are not alone. Many of the saints struggled in prayer. They were like us. But each time they fell, they got up again and learned to rely more on God's grace. What God did in the lives of countless saints; he wants to do in the lives of ordinary people like us. And that's what this study is about: the journey of prayer God wants to take us on.

Meetings:

Seven-week study, October 30, 2024- December 18, 2024

Wednesday Day Class (Women ONLY): 1 - 2:30pm

Wednesday Evening Class (Men and Women): 5:30- 7pm.

*Men and women will watch the opening video together and then break out into men's and women's small groups for discussion.

Lent 2025

No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion

Authored and presented by Edward Sri, *No Greater Love* also features Fr. Mike Schmitz, Jeff Cavins, Jennifer Fulwiler, Curtis Martin, Teresa Tomeo, Fr. Josh Johnson, and Elizabeth Sri.

Will You Follow Jesus to Calvary? Filmed on location in the Holy Land, *No Greater Love* is a biblical pilgrimage that reveals Christ's amazing love for us. Best-selling author Edward Sri guides you through the last hours of Christ's life. You will walk step-by-step with Jesus from the garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary. Every step of the way, Old Testament

prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context shed light on the mystery of Christ's suffering and death. Experience a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable and unconditional love for you—grow closer to Jesus than you ever have before.

Meetings:

Five-week study, Wednesday March 12th, 2025 – Thursday April 10, 2025

Wednesday Day Class (Women ONLY): 1 - 2:30pm

*Last class will be held on Thursday, April 10th

Wednesday Evening Class (Men and Women): 5:30- 7pm.

*Men and women will watch the opening video together and then break out into men's and women's small groups for discussion

Registration:

- \$50 per person, per study.
- Fees will help to cover the cost of purchasing the program.

Your Participation is the Key to Our Success!

For these formation studies to be implemented and successful we need the participation of both Men and Women to help lead one or both formation studies. The leader's task is very simple. You don't have to be an expert on Scripture, and you don't need to have a theology degree. You will be helping guide the class through the study and discussion questions by reading straight off the leaders guide which will be provided for you.

Please email the Director of Youth & Family Religious Formation, Alyssa Salazar, to sign up **TODAY** to lead one or both studies: youth-family@fatimalafayette.org

Fatima Youth and Family Religious Formation Calendar ALL 2024-2025

**Subject to change and update as needed.*

Youth Ministries Color Code:

Fatima's Little Flock (Pre-k – 5th)

Fatima's LaMS(6th- 8th)

Fatima's Young Shepherds (9th -12th)

*All meetings for youth will be held in Knight Hall unless announced otherwise.

2024

JANUARY, 2024

FEBRUARY, 2024

MARCH, 2024

APRIL, 2024

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

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

VBS Volunteer Sign Up (Dates TBA)

MAY, 2024

VBS Registration OPEN (Dates TBA)

VBS Volunteer Practice (Dates TBA)

JUNE, 2024

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

VBS Volunteer Practice (Dates TBA)

JULY, 2024

Monday, July 22- Friday, 26th - VBS

AUGUST, 2024

*Pending Guest Speaker

Sunday, August 4th – **Family Event** Booksac Blessing Mass

Sunday, August 4th - Begin registration for youth programs/ Registration Kick-Off

*Throughout the month of August and the beginning of September registration for youth programs will be open.

Sunday August 11th – Core Team specific leader training TBA

Sunday August 18th – Core Team specific leader training TBA

Sunday August 25th - Core Team specific leader training TBA

SEPTEMBER, 2024

*Pending Guest Speaker

Sunday September 8th –Core Team specific leader training TBA

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

Sunday, September 22nd – FIRST **Little Flock** Meeting, 10am – 11am

Sunday, September 22nd – FIRST **LaMS** Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm

Sunday, September 22nd – FIRST **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

Sunday, September 29th – **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

OCTOBER, 2024

Sunday, October 6th – **LaMS** Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm

Sunday, October 6th – **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

Sunday, October 13th – **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

Sunday, October 20th – **Little Flock** Meeting, 10am – 11am

Sunday, October 20th – **LaMS** Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm

Sunday, October 20th – **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

Sunday, October 27th – **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

Wednesday October 30th – FIRST Women Advent Study Meeting – 1 - 2:30pm

Wednesday October 30th – FIRST Men/Women Advent Study Meeting – 5:30 - 7pm

NOVEMBER, 2024

Sunday, November 3rd – **LaMS** Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm

Sunday, November 3rd – **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

Wednesday November 6th – Women Advent Study Meeting - 1 - 2:30pm

Wednesday November 6th – Men/Women Advent Study Meeting - 5:30 - 7pm

Sunday, November 10th – **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

Wednesday November 13th – Women Advent Study Meeting - 1 - 2:30pm

Wednesday November 13th – Men/Women Advent Study Meeting - 5:30 - 7pm

Sunday, November 17th – **Little Flock** Meeting, 10am – 11am

Sunday, November 17th – **LaMS** Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm

Sunday, November 17th – **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

Wednesday November 20th – Women Advent Study Meeting - 1 - 2:30pm

Wednesday November 20th – Men/Women Advent Study Meeting - 5:30 - 7pm

Sunday, November 24th – **Family Event** Christ the King Procession and Picnic

DECEMBER, 2024

Sunday, December 1st – LAST **Little Flock** Meeting 10am – 11am

Sunday, December 1st – LAST **LaMS** Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm

Sunday, December 1st – LAST **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

Wednesday December 4th – Women Advent Study Meeting - 1 - 2:30pm

Wednesday December 4th – Men/Women Advent Study Meeting - 5:30 - 7pm

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

Wednesday December 11th – Women Advent Study Meeting - 1 - 2:30pm

Wednesday December 11th – Men/Women Advent Study Meeting - 5:30 - 7pm

Wednesday December 18th – LAST Women Advent Study Meeting - 1 - 2:30pm

Wednesday December 18th – LAST Men/Women Advent Study Meeting - 5:30 – 7pm

2025

JANUARY, 2025

Sunday, January 5th - Registration for NEW participants for youth programs

Sunday, January 12th – Registration for NEW participants for youth programs

Sunday, January 19th – FIRST **Little Flock** Meeting, 10am – 11am

Sunday, January 19th – FIRST **LaMS** Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm

Sunday, January 19th – FIRST **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

Sunday, January 26th – **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

FEBRUARY, 2025

Sunday, February 2nd – **LaMS** Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm

Sunday, February 2nd – **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

Sunday, February 9th – **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

Sunday, February 16th – **Little Flock** Meeting, 10am – 11am

Sunday, February 16th – **LaMS** Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm

Sunday, February 16th – **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

MARCH, 2025

Wednesday March 12th – FIRST Women Lenten Study Meeting - 1 - 2:30pm

Wednesday March 12th – FIRST Men/Women Lenten Study Meeting - 5:30 - 7pm

Sunday, March 16th – **LaMS** Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm

Sunday, March 16th – **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

Wednesday March 19th – Women Lenten Study Meeting - 1 - 2:30pm

Wednesday March 19th – Men/Women Lenten Study Meeting - 5:30 - 7pm

Sunday, March 23rd – **Little Flock** Meeting, 10am – 11am

Sunday, March 23rd – **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

Wednesday, March 26th – Women Lenten Study Meeting - 1 - 2:30pm

Wednesday, March 26th – Men/Women Lenten Study Meeting - 5:30 - 7pm

Sunday, March 30th – **LaMS** Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm

Sunday, March 30th – **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

APRIL, 2025

VBS Volunteer Sign Up (Dates TBA)

Core Team Member Sign Up and Training (Dates TBA)

Sunday, April 6th – **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

Wednesday, April 9th – LAST Men/Women Lenten Study Meeting - 5:30 - 7pm

Thursday, April 10th – LAST Women Lenten Study Meeting - 1 - 2:30pm

Sunday, April 13th - **Little Flock** Meeting, 10am – 11am

Sunday, April 27th – **LaMS** Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm

Sunday, April 27th – **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

MAY, 2025

VBS Registration OPEN (Dates TBA)

VBS Volunteer Practice (Dates TBA)

Sunday, May 5th – **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

Sunday, May 11th - LAST **Little Flock** Meeting, 10am – 11am

Sunday, May 11th – LAST **LaMS** Meeting, 3:30pm – 5pm

Sunday, May 11th – LAST **Young Shepherds** Meeting, 6pm – 7:30pm

Sunday, May 18th – **Family Event** Blessing of children/families/volunteers who participated in religious formation programs and reception.

JUNE, 2025

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

LaMS and **Young Shepherds** Catholic Youth Summer Camp (Dates TBA)

JULY, 2025

Little Flock VBS (Dates TBA)

YOU ARE NEEDED.

The success of Our Lady of Fatima Youth and Family Religious Formation Programs and Events relies on volunteers. Please prayerfully consider giving of your gifts and talents to help grow the Kingdom of God.

“My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way that will lead you to God.”

- Our Lady to Blessed Lúcia

Please email the Director of Youth & Family Religious Formation, Alyssa Salazar, to sign up **TODAY** if you would like to help in any way: youth-family@fatimalafayette.org