

FROM THE DESK OF

# Trevor Pullinger

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Family Formation & Youth Ministry Families,

What do you believe? We have all heard many competing voices for truth over the past few years. In many ways this has brought a kind of restlessness and a lack of peace. Real peace comes by knowing God. So this year we are beginning with a question. How have you come to know God? This year we'll find rest in knowing Jesus as we understand who he is in our lives.

## WHAT ABOUT COVID-19?

This year, we will be beginning 100% in-person. We will be operating cautiously asking all participants to wear masks in accordance with CDC recommendations. Family Formation will also at least for the first several sessions be on a tighter timeline with no meal due to the high transmission risk of the delta variant.

## WHEN DO WE START?

Our first **Family Formation** session will be Wednesday September 1st, 2021 6:30 pm at St. Vincent School. Family Formation will meet the first Wednesday of the month until May, in the middle of the month we will have check-in's with a sponsor family.

**Youth Ministry** starts Wednesday, September 8th 7:00 pm at St. Vincent School for grades 6-12 at our initial meeting. Youth Ministry will generally gather on a weekly basis except the first Wednesdays of the Month. We will explore the possibility of two separate meeting times, one for Middle School and the other for High School.

## HOW DO WE REGISTER?

Registration is simple, each family registers with one registration form, one liability form, and one simple fee which applies to all in-parish Formation & Youth Ministry programming. Completed registration form and payment may be mailed or dropped off in our safe deposit box on the front porch of the Rectory OR simply bring your forms to your first session.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate in contacting me. I am your resource. I know there is a lot of stress both on students and parents. If there is any way I can be of assistance please do let me know.

Peace & all good things,

  
Trevor Pullinger

# What are we learning this year?

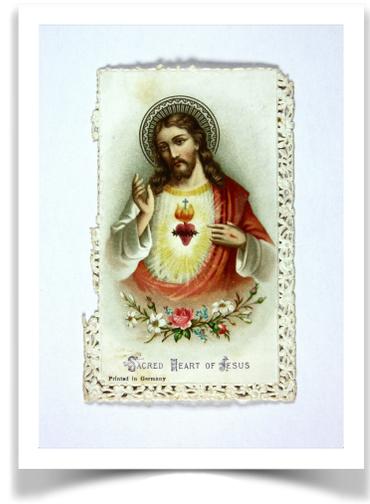
WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE? WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BELIEVE? HOW DOES ONE HAVE FAITH? WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO DESIRE GOD?

## THE FOUR PILLARS

Christianity is split into four inter-connected pillars or critical elements from which youth and adults need to understand the faith, they are: Creed, Sacraments, Christian Life, and Christian Prayer. Last year our focus was Christian Prayer. This year our focus will be the Profession of Faith or Creed.

## CREED

Let's ask an important question. In what ways have you experienced God? How has that formed what you believe about God? This year we are looking in-depth at what it means to believe, how God reveals himself to us, and what that means for our faith. We also this year will be focusing on not only learning the Apostles Creed but also to understand it. Why is it called the Apostles Creed? It is called the Apostles Creed because those who lived closest with Jesus handed on their faith by summarizing everything they learned into a statement of faith and belief. As Christians today we share the same faith of the Apostles in Jesus Christ our King! Let us all come to believe!



## HOW ARE WE DOING IT?

When was the last time you encountered Jesus? I mean really entered into a personal relationship and felt Jesus presence in your life? I'll venture to say that some of us may have a challenge with this question, I know I struggled for a long time with finding Jesus myself.

In the Gospel of Luke there is a story about two Disciples on their way to a town called Emmaus. They were so dejected and beaten down after watching Jesus die on the cross that they were running away from Jerusalem. Jesus came to them asking what they were up to, the disciples didn't even recognize Jesus! Jesus proceeded to explain all of the scriptures as related to himself and the cross. As Jesus looked to go on once they reached their destination, the disciples stopped him and invited him in with them. Jesus joined them, he broke bread with them, celebrating Mass. It was in the breaking of the bread that they opened their eyes and saw Jesus truly in their midst.

We see so many messages about who God is on social media and elsewhere, but it is until we open our hearts to his presence in our lives and in the mysteries of the Sacraments that we come to believe. This year we are focusing both on learning about Jesus, but also striving to encounter him personally as well as mystically in the Sacraments.

# All Saints Formation Program

## Family Formation & Youth Ministry Registration for 2021 - 2022

### Believe...

What do you *believe*? So much today we are either told what to believe or we are belittled for questions on matters of faith or morals. This year as we take a look at the Profession of Faith we approach the topic with a question: What does it mean, in your experience, to desire God?



### What is Family Formation & Youth Ministry?

**Family Formation** is an inter-generational program for anyone who wishes to be in community, learning the beauty of the Christian faith, and open to sharing their own journey. This program is for anyone of any age, family composition, or faith knowledge. Meeting first Wednesdays.

**Youth Ministry** is a specially designed program for grades 6 through 12 which follows a similar but adapted curriculum for pre-teens & teens. Adolescent development requires a unique youth community life & culture, therefore they enjoy an integral part of Family Formation. Meeting Wednesdays *except* the First Wednesday of the month.



### When do we start?

This year we are cautiously meeting in-person at St. Vincent School (2981 Plank Rd., Keokuk). Participants will be asked and encouraged to wear masks.

**Family Formation** will kick-off September 1st @ 6:30 pm (no meal-shortened session)

**Youth Ministry** will kick-off September 8th @ 7:00 pm

### Cost & Registration

Registration Fee per family (household) is \$75 which covers all parish based Faith Formation / Youth Ministry activities.

Checks are to be made out to "All Saints." Registrations may be mailed / dropped off in black mail drop-box: Church of All Saints, 310 S. 9th St., Keokuk, IA 52632 **OR** registrations may be brought to your first session.

If you cannot pay right now there are plenty of options and scholarships available. We will not turn anyone away, just call: 319.524.8334

## Initial introduction

By completing this section you are designating yourself as the primary contact person for your family unit / household. We will use phone calls, text, email, Zoom/FaceTime, and standard mail to communicate. Join our Facebook community "Youth & Family Formation" attached to our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/allsaintskeokuk](http://www.facebook.com/allsaintskeokuk)

Person Completing this form: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Trusted Adults

Trusted Adult / Parent / Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse / Partner: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have access to internet at home & operable devices? (Circle one) Yes No

## Children

Please list all children in your family who are under 18 years of age.

Child's Name	Birthdate	Age Today	Grade	Special needs?

## Notes

Is there anything we should know about you or your family so that we can do everything we can to accommodate your needs?

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Office use only below this line

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Registration Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Release forms sent: \_\_\_\_\_ Release forms complete: \_\_\_\_\_