

Welcome Back!

Middle School Schedule for 2022/2023

We are Back!! The pandemic is slowly fading away and we all can get back to what we call “normal”! I want to thank all our students and families for making the 2021/22 school year successful and one to remember. It has not been easy living in a world where we are virtual and in person and sometimes both at the same time!

The 2022/23 school year will feature 8 livestreamed spotlight lessons just like last year. I had a great time doing them and I think they work for your busy lives. For the upcoming year I will continue to build on past lessons and include guest speakers and topics that are timely and relevant to your lives in middle school and the world we live in.

Our large group sessions will return to in-person events this year and will feature our famous Kahoot! Trivia segments and small group break outs lead by our Confirmation candidates and Peer Ministers. I have lined up some great in person speakers as well. We still live in a COVID world, and all sessions are subject to change based on current state and Archdiocesan regulations.

New for the 2022/23 year will be our G.A.I.M. time masses that will take place during the 12 noon masses once a month (hopefully you will like it so much we can do it more!). G.A.I.M. (Gospel Alive In Me) will be variation of our current children’s liturgy of the word but designed specifically for middle school students. This is how it will work. You come to the 12-noon mass, and after the Gospel is read, we have the students come to the altar for a blessing, and then go to the chapel for us to “decode” the scriptures and put it on your level. This idea came from our Synod listening sessions we had this year. Our students have requested a more personal approach to understanding the scriptures and that is what we plan to do!

Large Group Class times will remain the same for 2022/2023. Your attendance is required for all sessions. (Students only need to attend on the day and time you select)

Monday - Grades 5/6 from 4 to 5 pm and Grades 7/8 from 7 to 8 pm

Wednesday – Grades 7/8 from 4 to 5 pm and Grades 5/7 from 7 to 8 pm

Large Group Sessions 22/23

October

Monday, October 24 and Wednesday, October 26

November

Monday, November 14 and Wednesday, November 16

December (we are working on a speaker)

Monday, December 12 and Wednesday, December 14

January

January 22 Middle School Retreat open to all middle school students 2 to 7:30 pm (includes mass)

February

Monday, February 13 and Wednesday February 15

March – This large group will feature a guest speaker in the gym. All families are invited to attend.

Monday, March 6 and Wednesday March 8

Spotlight! Lessons 22/23

We will break open lessons on the Creed, Sunday Gospel readings and the Pillars of Catholic Social Teaching.

All lessons are interactive and will stream live on our YouTube page. If you miss the live lesson, you can watch anytime post stream. All PDFs of the lessons will be posted on the middle school page of our website after the livestream. You can access the lesson and watch the stream if you miss it live. All students are encouraged to participate in the live lesson.

Spotlight Livestream session on our YouTube page:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL3649Z9YPegSgbPCGhQ_GlybEayoOGk-v

All livestreams are on Sunday nights at 7:30 pm

September 25 – Spotlight! 1 - 7:30 pm

October 9 – Spotlight! 2 – 7:30 pm

November 20 – Spotlight! 3 - 7:30 pm

December 4 – Spotlight! 4 – 7:30 pm

January 8 – Spotlight! 5– 7:30 pm

February 6 – Spotlight 6 – 7:30 pm

March 19 – Spotlight! 7– 7:30 pm

April 16 – Spotlight! 8 – 7:30 pm

G.A.I.M. Time Masses for 22/23 at the 12-noon mass (open to all students grade 5-8 to hear and learn the Gospel message in an age-appropriate way. G.A.I.M. resources will be available each week on our website and YouTube channel so you can learn more about the Gospel each week.

Sunday, October 2 – 12 pm

Sunday, November 20 – 12 pm

Sunday, December 18 – 12 pm

Sunday, January 15 – 12 pm

Sunday, February 26 – 12 pm

Sunday, March 26 – 12 pm

Sunday, March 23 – 12 pm

Service Hours for Middle School

All grades 5 to 8 are required to serve the community and be the living Gospel to others. All students will serve for six (6) hours. You can download the service form from our website and submit it via our online portal. All 8th grade students will also be required to attend one (1) adoration night. Dates for Adoration are on our website and the form will also be on our middle school page.

Important links:

www.Sainthelen.org

<https://sainthelen.org/religious-education/grade-5-through-8/>

Any questions. Or concerns, please email me or call/text at 908-265-2169.

Michael Fusco

DRE Grades 5-10