

NORTH ALLEGAN CATHOLIC COLLABORATIVE

F a i t h F o r m a t i o n

Greetings in Jesus Christ. It may be the optimist in me, but as some look at the world and get discouraged, I get excited about what the Lord is doing and will continue to do in all of our lives. We are living in a time where more than ever, we have to trust in God and his healing and mercy. We have been faced with a situation that has forced us to slow down and remember the most important parts of our lives, including family and faith.

Generations are judged not by run-of-the-mill actions, but by how they face difficult circumstances and rise above them. I believe we are in such a time as a Church. Are we going to allow the next six months to be a time where we become lax in our relationship with God or will we come out of this as the saints we are called to be? I have been asking myself this question a lot lately and I have decided I want to be a saint, are you with me?

As St. John Paul II once said, "Do not be afraid. Do not be satisfied with mediocrity. Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." I am ready to put out into the deep. I am beyond blessed to be in this role to help all of our families put out into the deep as well. Since Jesus founded our beautiful faith, we have always believed that faith starts, grows, and is set aflame in the family. We believe this so much that the Church calls the family the domestic church. I think the specific circumstances we find ourselves in open a perfect opportunity for us to reinvigorate our love for God through our families, with the Church as the source of the Sacraments and a wealth of deeper learning.

I am overjoyed to be a resource to all of you during this time to help you grow in faith both individually and as a family, and of course under the direction of Father Derda, Father Steve, Deacon Ed, and Deacon Russ. I wanted to introduce you all to some of our plans for the upcoming months. These will look a little different than normal, but God can work in all circumstances.

Take a look through what we will be offering for the next few months. at smvchurch.org/faith-formation or ststanschurch.net/faith-formation. Please register for our offerings by September 13th and I will be in touch with more information. My new email for all faith formation is naccparishes@gmail.com. Feel free to reach out to me with any questions. I will be in touch with more communications soon. May God continue to bless you and keep you all safe.

*In Christ through Mary,
Tommy Shultz*