

2014-15

*St. Margaret Mary  
Alacoque Parish*

*We are Catholic  
Christians striving  
to love beyond all  
boundaries and to  
continue the mission  
of Christ.*

# *Faith Formation*

**Teaching about God's Gift of Forgiveness**



**English Program**

# **Family Handbook**

25511 Eshelman Avenue, Lomita, CA 90717

Phone: (310) 326-3364

**St. Margaret Mary Parish  
Faith Formation Directory  
(310) 326-3364**

**Faith Formation Staff**

**Faith Formation Director:**

Joseph Voigt Ext. 17  
jvoigt@la-archdiocese.org

**Spanish Coordinator:**

Teresa Carbajal Ext. 16  
Director of Hispanic Ministry

**Office Staff:**

M. Pilar Manzanares Ext. 28

**Program Coordinators**

**Elementary: Ext 14**

Kelli Meier (Saturdays)  
Rosemary Hart (Sundays)

**Jr. High:**

Kim Muise Ext. 13  
mommymuise@alumni.ucla.edu

**Confirmation:**

Joseph Voigt Ext. 17

**Special Education:**

Angela Taylor  
(310) 539-4134

**RCIA and RICA:**

Sue Ballotti (RCIA)  
Carmen Soria (RICA)

**RCIA for Children (RCIC)**

Deacon Rick & Maureen Soria

**Children's Liturgy of The Word**

Elaine Holcomb

**Youth Ministry:**

Cheyenne Vasquez Ext. 13

Dear Families:



The Faith Formation Staff of St. Margaret Mary Parish welcomes you to our Religious Education (RE) programs. We are very pleased to have your children registered in our Parish Faith Formation program, and we look forward to working closely with you and your children during this year. To serve with love - our religious education programs live out our goals to welcome, provide spiritual nourishment, foster peace and justice, and encourage service to others.

Our mission is to deepen the students' relationship with our loving, just and merciful God, to increase their knowledge of Faith and Church, to enrich their prayer practices and provide opportunities to serve the community. This is done primarily through classes, taught by Catechists, who are assisted by aides and parent volunteers. As your partners in the religious formation of your children, we strive to provide a welcoming, loving environment in which we can supplement what you are already teaching by your example.

It is our desire to assist you in the spiritual, as well as the educational growth of your child, and ultimately your entire family. It is through prayer and active participation in the sacramental life of the Church that we can grow together and ensure that our children learn what it is to know and live the gospel message of Jesus Christ.

We look forward to getting to know you better and we invite you to be an active participant in RE programs as well as in the St. Margaret Mary Catholic Community. We hope this "Parent Handbook" helps you become familiar with our program. **Please! Read it carefully** and call me anytime regarding your child's Faith Formation. On behalf of St. Margaret Mary Alocoque Parish, it is our pleasure to serve the families of our Parish.

Yours in Christ,

Joseph Voigt  
Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry



**SAFE GUARD THE CHILDREN—Teaching, Touching Safety (TTS)**

The Archdiocese of Los Angeles is committed to compliance with the U.S. Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. Article 12 of the Charter mandates that, "each diocese establish and maintain a Safe Environment Program for children and youth." In light of this, the - VIRTUS Teaching Touching Safety Program for Children- was adopted by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in September, 2006. This program was implemented beginning January 2007, in parish Religious Education programs.

The children in St. Margaret Mary Parish Faith Formation Programs will participate in these lessons during the 2014-15 program year. Check the program schedule for the date and time of your child (ren)'s training. Parent and guardians have an opportunity to review the program and materials at our Parent Commitment meeting.

All staff members, volunteers, and occasional helpers/chaperones whose duties require direct contact and supervision of young persons shall sign an agreement to follow the Guidelines for Adults Interacting with Young Persons at Parish Activities or Events (hereafter called Guidelines). Staff members, volunteers, and occasional helpers/chaperones may not interact with young persons on behalf of the parish until this agreement is signed.

All staff members and volunteers whose duties require direct contact and supervision of young persons shall complete the VIRTUS training, *Protecting God's Children*, within four (4) months of beginning their ministry. Staff members and volunteers who have not yet completed this training may interact with young persons on behalf of the parish if a VIRTUS trained adult staff member or volunteer is present. The ratio of untrained to trained staff members/volunteers shall not exceed 2 to 1 in any group setting.

Any ministry that requires direct contact and supervision of young persons shall be responsible for following these program requirements. These ministries include, but are not limited to, Children's Faith Formation, Choir, Altar Servers, and Scouts.





# Religious Education Programs Class Times & Locations

St. Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish Faith Formation **welcomes all children**, ages preschool through adult. The Religious Education Program consists of Sacramental Preparation and On-Going Faith Formation. Additionally, we also provide adult and parent faith formation classes and family retreats.

We offer classes for adults & children aged 1st through 8th grade and confirmation classes for High School aged teens. We also offer sacramental preparation classes for those youth who were not able to receive their sacraments at the regular grade level.

Classes for youth meet on a weekly or bi-weekly basis, depending on the program; and on the first day of class you will receive a calendar that lists class dates and special events offered at the parish.

The staff and volunteer catechists (teachers) are happy to do anything they can to help your child/ren to have a successful year. We look forward to getting to know you better and we invite you to be an active participant in the RE program as well as the St. Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish Community.



**Elementary Classes** are for 1st Grade prep (NFC), 1st year reconciliation prep (FR), 2nd year communion prep (FC) and continuing education (CE) and are held in the parish school building. Families have a choice of attending one of two class times:

- **Saturday morning (1-6 Grades) from 9–10:30 AM**
- **Sunday morning (1-6 Grades) from 8:30–9:30 AM** Plus attendance at the 9:30am Mass



**Junior High Classes** are for 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students 1st year reconciliation prep (FR), 2nd year communion prep (FC) and continuing education (CE) and are held in the parish school building or Hegarty Hall on **Wednesday evenings from 6–7:30 PM.**



**HIGH SCHOOL CONFIRMATION** for Grades 9-12 and college students up to 21 years old. Level 1 and Level 2 are held on alternating Sunday afternoons from 2:45 – 6:15 PM. (This includes attendance at the 5pm mass) Please contact the Confirmation Coordinator for more information. All workshops meet in Hegarty Hall.



**SPECIAL NEEDS FAITH FORMATION:** We are blessed at SMM to have a faith formation program for those with special needs: mentally or physically challenged children and adults. Classes are held weekly on Saturday morning at 10 AM and are held in the St. Joseph Center. Please contact the Special Ed Coordinator for information and to register.



**BAPTISM FORMATION:** The sacrament of Baptism is a wonderful beginning for the spiritual life of your child. Classes focus on the reasons you have chosen Baptism for your child and how you can raise your child in a Christ-centered family. Please contact the Parish Office for time and location of classes.



**RCIA/RCIC:** This is a sacramental process by which inquiries are welcomed into the Catholic Faith community through Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist. Adults, Teens, and children are welcomed. Please contact the RCIA coordinator for times and location of classes. Also, if you are a parent of an older child in need of Baptism (6 years or older), please contact the RCIA for Children (RCIC) Coordinator.



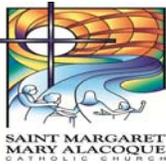
**ADULT CONFIRMATION:** A Confirmation course is offered once a year in the spring for adults seeking the Sacrament of Confirmation. (Adults 21 and older only - no high school students.) Please contact the Parish Office for class dates and to register.

## Parent Commitment

We understand that certain responsibilities require our continuous support if our children and the faith community are to grow in faith. We agree, therefore:

- A. to regular Mass attendance to help our children develop a strong faith commitment.
- B. to adhere to all rules & regulations regarding timeliness, attendance, safety & traffic and to drop-off and pick-up child(ren) on time.
- C. to attend all required meetings.
- D. to active involvement in our child's faith formation (praying w/them, home & bible study, faith sharing.)
- E. to make a diligent effort to meet your tuition obligation





# St. Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish History (1937-2014)



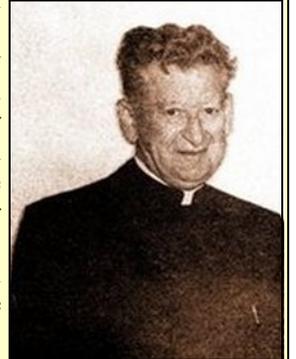
**Bishop Timothy Manning (Later Cardinal) processing out of old church after a confirmation mass in 1948**

In 1922, the distance between Harbor City and Saints Peter and Paul Church in Wilmington seemed too great. So thought two Harbor City women, Mrs. Myerscough and Mrs. Crossfield. The two had met at a PTA meeting and recognized each other from church. They decided to petition Bishop John Cantwell if a new church could be built west of Figueroa Street to serve the growing Catholic community. They found other parents who shared the feeling that traveling to Wilmington for Mass, Confession and religious education was too far a journey from their Harbor City homes.

With several dozen signatures collected representing Harbor City Catholics, they made their way to the diocesan headquarters, located at the time on 2nd and Main Streets, across from St. Vibiana Cathedral. While cordial, the bishop denied their request due to such few names. For the time being, their parish church remained Saints Peter and Paul. Respectfully defiant, they kept alive the dream of a new place to worship. In 1925, Bishop Cantwell recommended that the ladies compile another petition, and this time include the nearby city of Lomita to their signature drive. Their list dramatically grew to over one hundred names. Their efforts were met with success, as Bishop Cantwell established a mission church to be opened, under the parochial watch of the priests from Saints Peter and Paul Church.

As one hurdle was accomplished, now came the next challenge - where to have Mass? The center of Harbor City social life was the second story of the California Cleaners Building which housed a meeting hall. The building was located on Pacific Coast Highway (then called Anaheim Street). The hall's restrooms served as the confessionals.

In the late 1920's a small parcel of property was donated by a parishioner on Lomita Boulevard. A small wooden frame church was built at a cost of \$4,500.00, surrounded by acres of celery fields. The community finally had a home. The years of make-shift facilities were finally behind them.



**Father Timothy Lynch  
Pastor (1937)**

As Harbor City and Lomita continued to grow in population, membership of the mission church community increased. In 1937, now numbering well over one hundred families, the church leaders returned to pay a visit to Bishop Cantwell. Impressed by the growth of this local Catholic community, he agreed to formally establish a new parish with its own resident pastor. He appointed Father Timothy Lynch as the founding pastor, and dedicated the parish to the patronage of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, a 16th century Visitation nun who promoted devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.



**Father John Hegarty  
Pastor (1945-71)**

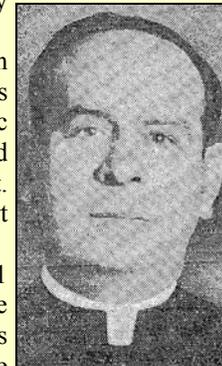
Father Lynch rented a home which became the first rectory at 25311 Cypress Street. In 1938, the parish community raised funds to purchase property on 253rd Place near Narbonne Avenue where the church was moved and remodeled. A rectory was then built at 25328 Narbonne Avenue.

Father Lynch was succeeded rather quickly by Fathers William Mulvihill (1937-39) and Thomas Barry (1939-45). Then the unprecedented growth of the entire Catholic Church in Los Angeles saw the need for these priests to serve elsewhere. The parish's fourth pastor was Father John Hegarty, who arrived in 1945. His incredible twenty five year pastorate, the longest of any pastor in the parish's history, marked a period of unprecedented growth and established a solid foundation for future generations of parishioners.

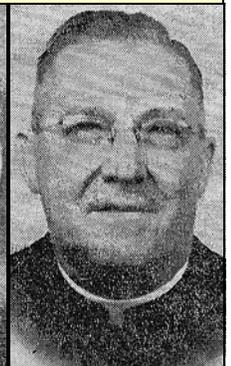
By 1948, Father Hegarty set his eyes on a celery field at the corner of 255th Street and Eshelman Avenue. As he viewed the property, he envisioned a church, school, convent, rectory and parish hall. Yet Father Hegarty needed the assistance of two lay men to broker the deal. These men,

James Visceglia and Edwin Sandison, were not parishioners. In fact, Mr. Sandison wasn't even Catholic. Father Hegarty sent a delegation led by Mr. Visceglia to persuade the landowner to sell. Unfortunately, the landowner did not want to sell to the church. In a creative land acquisition, Mr. Visceglia solicited the assistance of his Protestant friend and real estate broker, Mr. Sandison, who purchased the property from the landowner, who in turn sold it to the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

Father Hegarty sent a delegation led by Mr. Visceglia to persuade the landowner to sell. Unfortunately, the landowner did not want to sell to the church. In a creative land acquisition, Mr. Visceglia solicited the assistance of his Protestant friend and real estate broker, Mr. Sandison, who purchased the property from the landowner, who in turn sold it to the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.



**Father William  
Mukvihill  
Pastor (1937-39)**



**Father Thomas  
Berry  
Pastor (1939-45)**





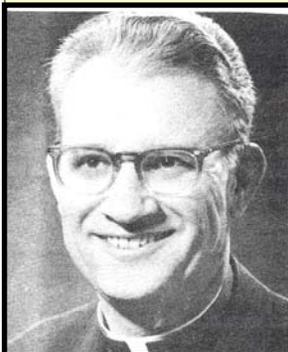
Now that the property was purchased, the parish was eager to build a new church and school. In September of 1950 all was ready for the opening of the new school - except for the school itself. Construction was not quite finished and therefore, like the founding of the church itself twenty six years earlier, the students and their teachers had to look for make-shift accommodations until the building was ready. The rectory garage became a classroom. Backyards of parishioners served as an educational space. Even the old church itself housed two classes. Finally in January of 1951,



**Bishop Joseph McGucken (Later Archbishop of San Francisco) about 1954**

Bishop Timothy Manning blessed the structure and declared the school open.

The parish quickly turned its attention to the next project - a new church. Construction of a new mission-style church began in 1953. In record time, the parish raised the money, an astronomical \$200,000, to construct the church, which was ready for Easter Sunday, 1954.



**Father Harold Cremins  
Pastor (1971-78)**

A convent was built in 1956, followed by a new rectory in 1960. Finally in 1967 a new parish hall complex was completed. Later that year, the beloved building which served as a one-time church and later hall was torn down.

Plagued by strokes and failing health, Father Hegarty returned to Ireland to visit family and died there in January of 1971. Leadership of the parish fell into the capable hands of the parish's fifth pastor, Father Harold Cremins.

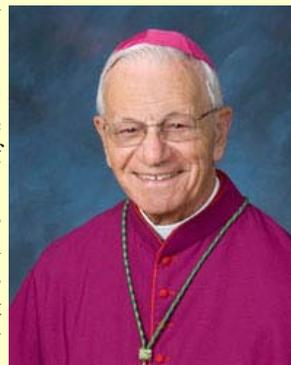
Father Cremins first task was to remodel the church building to adapt post-Vatican II liturgy. The altar was moved forward and appointments were simplified. He officially recognized and empowered the Spanish speaking community and instituted a weekly Spanish Mass. His short pastorate ended upon his retirement in 1978. He will long be remembered as a wonderful spiritual father who tirelessly empowered his parish to new levels of involvement and leadership. He died in 1998.



In October of 1978 the parish welcomed its sixth pastor, Joseph Sartoris. Father Sartoris' priestly ministry was almost entirely dedicated to parish life. In 1980, Father Joe led the renovation of the church building. Sixteen stained glass windows depicting the life of Christ, each donated by a family in the parish, were installed. In 1983 and again in 1987, new meetings spaces were constructed. The Saint Joseph Center, with its large meeting room, youth center, storage area and three offices, was built. The convent was completely remodeled and re-established as the Parish Center, moving the parish office out of the rectory. In 1982, Father Joe empowered a small group of parishioners to begin new tradition the annual Lomita Fair.



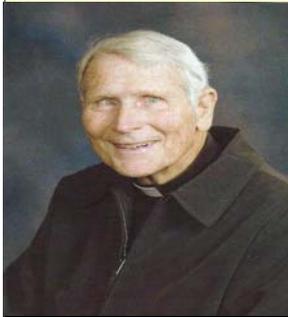
In early 1994, the parish rejoiced with the announcement that their long-time pastor was to be ordained a bishop. Bishop Joseph Sartoris was ordained on March 19, 1994 and soon thereafter left the parish. In May of 1994, Monsignor Patrick Thompson was appointed as the parish's seventh pastor. The parish welcomed Father Pat in July of that year. Father Pat brought his remarkable 34 year priestly career to the service of his new flock. A pastor, chaplain, seminary and college professor, Father Pat's enthusiasm was quickly contagious.



**Bishop Joseph Sartoris  
Pastor (1978-94)**

In June of 2010, Father Pat retired and the parish welcomed its eighth pastor, Monsignor Marc Trudeau, in July of that year. Monsignor Marc quickly started to organize the parish 75 Anniversary Celebration and install improvements, like the Sacred Heart Courtyard, to the whole parish facility. Fr. Paul O'Donnell was named administer pro tem in August 2013 as Fr. Marc was named vice rector of St. John's Seminary in Camarillo.

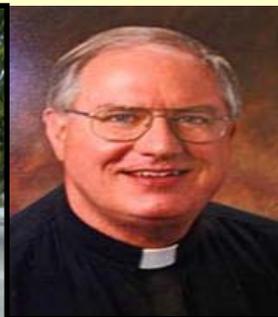
The story of Saint Margaret Mary Parish is the story of a parishioners. Begun by two women ninety-two years ago, the community now numbers close to 5,000 families. As it celebrates seventy-seven years, it can give thanks for the wisdom and perseverance of past members, the loving dedication of its current membership and the bright promise of future generations.



**Msgr. Patrick Thompson  
Pastor (1994-2010)**



**Msgr. Marc Trudeau  
Pastor (2010-13)**



**Father Paul O'Donnell  
Pastor (2013-Present)**



# FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM POLICIES



**FAMILY ATTENDANCE AT SUNDAY MASS:** Parents have the responsibility of sharing their faith with their children and to bring them to Mass every Sunday in order to show them the importance of having God in their lives. Coming together as a family to Mass every Sunday is a faith obligation for all Catholic families.

**CLASS ATTENDANCE & ABSENCES:** It is very important that your child attends his/her class every week. If a child arrives later than 15 minutes after the class start time, he/she should proceed first to the school office area for a tardy slip and then to the classroom. *If a child is marked tardy three times, it will count as one absence.*

Students are allowed only FIVE (5) absences for the Elementary and Jr. High programs. If more than 5 classes are missed, the year will not count towards sacramental preparation. Please inform the RE office of any prolonged absence. We are always here to help. For Confirmation students please refer to the Confirmation Parent Handbook.

If a child leaves the school without permission, the parents/guardians will be contacted and the police may be notified.

If a child needs to be dismissed early, the parent should write a note to the teacher indicating the time of release. Parent, or parent designee, will pick up and sign the child out in the office area at the designated time.

**COMMUNICATION:** Each registered family will receive a monthly newsletter. All notices from our office will be sent home through the children's teacher in the COMMUNICATION folder. Please read all information. Always ask your children if they were given any papers that you need to read. ***THEY MUST BRING THEIR COMMUNICATION FOLDER TO CLASS EVERY WEEK!***

**VOLUNTEERS :** All your children's teachers are volunteers. Please keep them in your prayers and treat them as the precious gifts that they are to your Parish. We always need more aides in the classrooms. If you want to help, please call our Religious Education Office.

**VISITORS:** We enjoy visitors in the classroom. However, in the interest of safety during possible catastrophies or emergencies, we NEED TO KNOW IN ADVANCE! A "minor" (in age) friend of your son or daughter must bring a parent's note with an emergency phone number. We take responsibility for every student in the program.

**BEHAVIOR:** See Behavior Guidelines on page 7

**ACCIDENTS:** If a child is injured, a First Aid certified staff member or teacher will immediately attend to the student, administering First aid as needed and parents will be notified. If the injuries or condition of the student appears to be even remotely serious, 911 will be immediately called and parents will be notified.

**REGISTRATION:** All Parents wishing to register their children in the SMM Faith Formation Program must attend a PARENT COMMITMENT MTG prior to start of program. All RE programs begin in late September or early October. Open registration for all classes begins May 1. This gives the RE Office an opportunity to plan appropriately for the Fall. PLEASE NOTE: Confirmation classes fill up very fast. Please register early for Confirmation.

**TUITION:** Using the principles of Stewardship, we depend on Time, Talent and Treasure to provide for the Religious Education of our parish families. Tuition fees are the Treasure commitment we each make to Religious Education. At St. Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish we have adopted a Tuition program (**\$80 fee for Sacrament Prep (SP)** and **\$40 fee for Continuing Education (CE)** per student).\* For Confirmation fees, see confirmation parent handbook.

Deposit at registration: (SP - \$45/CE - \$25)\*

2nd payment due by November 1, 2014: (SP - \$20/CE - \$10)\*

3rd and final payment due by February 1, 2015: (SP - \$15/CE - \$10)\*

\* For registrations before July 1, 2014 there is a \$5 discount applied to the third payment .For registrations after September 15, 2014 the is an additional \$5 fee applied to the second and third payments. A \$5 fee will be applied to all late payments. \$25 NSF fee for all returned checks. Failure to pay account in full by February 1, 2015 will require full payment at registration for future years for any Faith Formation Program.

As of July 1, 2014, all Payments must be made with cash or check, no credit or debit cards will be accepted. Please bring exact change. Any change to be return at payment may be applied to any outstanding balance at the RE Office's discretion.

For what does my tuition pay? It represents the cost of textbooks, catechist training, manuals and materials, sacramental preparation, communication costs, volunteer appreciation, family and special programs, curriculum development, and general office operation...**No Salaries or benefits.**



# St. Margaret Mary Faith Formation Behavior Guidelines for Students

The following are behavior guidelines for students. Please read these with your children and encourage their compliance. Together, we can teach our children the importance of living the words of Jesus.

## **Behavior:**

1. Students should enter classrooms only if the volunteer Catechist is in the assigned classroom.
2. Communication folder and books need to be brought to class each week.
3. Students are expected to model their behavior after Jesus Christ who instituted two Great Commandments: “You shall love the Lord Your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all you strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” (Luke 11:27).
4. No food or drink or chewing gum inside the school building
5. No electronic devices (iPods, iPads, MP3 Players, video games, etc). Cell phones must be turned off and put away.
6. Behavior or language that intimidates, belittles, harasses (including harassment of a sexual nature) makes inappropriate references or physically harms oneself or others will result in disciplinary action .
7. The Faith Formation program meets in the school classrooms, therefore going inside students desks is inappropriate. Each classroom has its own supply bin.
8. The following are some guidelines for behavior based upon these simple principles:
  - A. *Students properly respect and obey adults in authority.*
  - B. *Students properly respect the personal space and personal property of others.*



**Discipline:** In the event a student engages in inappropriate behavior any or all of the following may occur:

1. Parental notification of infraction.
2. Meeting between parents and Catechist and Director of Faith Formation.
3. Parent attendance required at subsequent program classes.
4. Temporary removal of student from Religious Education program.
5. Permanent removal of student from Religious Education program.

The Director of Faith Formation is responsible for ensuring that all sanctions against students are implemented in a fair and consistent manner by the faith formation Catechists and staff.



## St. Margaret Mary Faith Formation Parent Contract

As parents or guardians you are strongly encouraged to be actively involved in your child’s religious formation. That you have chosen to enroll them in a religious education program demonstrates the importance you place on their faith formation. We understand and appreciate the responsibility you have entrusted to us. Remember, though, we can only provide a foundation that you, the family, must build upon. You are the first and primary religious educators for your children. Therefore, you have a responsibility to remain active in your child’s faith formation by implementing the following:

- **Help your child develop a living, growing faith that permeates daily life**
- **Foster a clear sense of Catholic identity with an appreciation of Catholic beliefs, values, prayers and practices**
- **Incorporate our Catholic Christian traditions in life experiences**
- **Open your child to God’s Word and respond willingly to His call as revealed in their life and our tradition.**

The most valuable gift you can give your child is both the easiest and most important: **weekly Mass attendance**. Our liturgical celebrations have great educational and formative value, and the graces bestowed cannot be duplicated in a classroom.

Finally, **SUPPORT** your child’s faith formation by taking an active participation in your child’s religious education class. You can do this in the following ways:

- ASK your child what he/she is discussing in class**
- ENCOURAGE them to apply what they are studying to their daily lives**
- ACKNOWLEDGE the seriousness of completing home assignments**
- SHOW that you believe what your child is doing is important**
- PRAY with your child everyday**

# Parent Formation



As part of our movement towards Whole Community Catechesis, St. Margaret Mary Alcoque Parish Faith Formation has implemented a parent component for all of our youth faith formation programs. What does this mean? Now, instead of just your children receiving faith formation, you, too, will meet with other parents and share faith, grow in knowledge of church traditions and values and, most importantly, foster community.

**Parent Faith Formation attendance is a requirement for all parents/guardians of children in the Elementary, Jr. High and Confirmation Faith Formation (RE) Programs.**

The parent faith formation requirement is simple—Attendance at any 5 of the following events or be an [RE Catechist](#), an Active member of the [Holy Name](#), [Knights of Columbus](#) or [Woman Society](#):

**[VIRTUS Certification Beginning Training \(counts as 3 events\)\\*\\*](#)**

English-October 26, 2014 (6:30-9:30pm) - Hegarty Hall

**[VIRTUS Recertification "Keeping the Promise Alive" Training \(counts as 2 events\)\\*\\*\\*](#)**

English-Sunday, October 19, 2014 (6:30-8pm) – St. Joseph's Hall

▪ Individual Program Parent Classes and Retreats (check program page for more information)

[Saturday Religious Education \(Grades 1-6\) 9-10:30am](#)

[Sunday Religious Education \(Grades 1-6\) 8:30-10:30am](#) Plus 9:30am Mass

[Junior High Religious Education \(Grades 6-8\) Wednesdays: 6-7:30pm](#)

[2015 High School Confirmation 2](#) - Homeless Ministry Day

▪ **Clases de Formcion para Padres**

Sabado (11am-12:30pm)

Domingo (10:45am-12:15pm)

**Breakfast with St. Nick** - December 7, 2014 (7:30-11am) - Hegarty Hall

**Safeguard the Children Committee Meetings** - November 2, 2014 - 7pm - Hegarty Hall

April 20, 2015 - 7pm - Hegart Hall

▪ **[DIVE IN](#)** (Each night counts as 1 event– check [Bulletin](#) for times) [Click for more Information](#)

▪ **Parish Seder:** April 1, 2015 @6pm in Hegarty Hall\* (Counts as 1 event)

▪ **[San Pedro Regional Congress \(Lakewood, CA\)\\*:](#)** (September 27, 2014)\* (Each workshop counts for 1 event )

▪ **[Religious Education Congress \(Anaheim, CA\)\\*:](#)** (March 13-15, 2015)\* (Each workshop counts for 1 event )

▪ Other Parish Religious Education Events\* (Check bulletin for upcoming events)

▪ **[Other Archdiocese Religious Education Events\\*](#)** (Check [Announcements](#) for upcoming events)

**Notes**

\*Separate registration and fees needed for these events

\*\* Must have not already attended the training before

\*\* Must have attended beginning training on or before November 2010





# Elementary Faith Formation Program (Grades 1 - 6)

## Saturdays (9 - 10:30am)

### PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Rosemary Hart (310) 326-3364 Ext. 14

COMMUNICATION FOLDER COLOR: Yellow

**TEACHING TOUCHING SAFETY:** The job of ensuring children's safety is a challenging undertaking. The prevention of child sexual abuse requires we give our children the tools they need to overcome the advances of someone who intends to do them harm. The *Teaching Touching Safety* program (TTS) is designed to assist parents and teachers in this important task. Saturday Faith Formation students will receive lessons [1 & 2](#) of this training on: **September 27, 2014 @ 9:00-10am in Hegarty Hall**

**FAMILY SATURDAY MASS:** Family Masses are held on the second Saturday of the month at 8:15 AM in the church. All students and families are requested to attend mass with their class. These masses will be held on:

<b>October 11, 2014</b>	<b>January 10, 2015</b>	<b>March 7, 2015</b>
<b>November 8, 2014</b>	<b>February 7, 2015</b>	<b>April 11, 2015</b>
<b>December 13, 2014</b>		

**PARENT FORMATION:** As part of our movement towards Whole Community Catechists, St. Margaret Mary RE has implemented a parent component for all of our youth faith formation programs. What does this mean? Now, instead of just your children receiving faith formation, you, too, will meet with other parents and share faith, grow in knowledge of church traditions and values and, most importantly, foster community. The parent faith formation requirement is simple--Attendance at any 5 events (See Parent Formation Page for More Information). Two events will be offered during the students classes on:

**November 22, 2014 - Advent Family Retreat @ 9am in Hegarty Hall.**  
**February 21, 2015 - Lenten Family Retreat @ 9am in Hegarty Hall.**

**ARRIVAL / DISMISSAL:** Children should arrive no more than 10 minutes before class begins and remain no longer than 15 minutes after class ends. No child should enter the classroom unless the teacher is present. Children must be WALKED to their designated classroom in the SMM School building. Parents must sign their child into their classroom. NO DROP-OFFS. **FOR PICK UP PARENTS MUST PARK** and pick-up their children from the designated classroom and sign them out. NO EXCEPTIONS! Ten years ago a child was injured by running through the parking lot to meet their parent. Please be observant and careful... student safety is everyone's responsibility.

### CLASS TYPES

- NFC (1st Sacrament Year) - Grade 1
- FR (1st Reconciliation Year) - 1st Year Students Grades 2-6
- FRC (1st Reconciliation & Communion Year) - 2nd Year 2nd Grade
- FC (1st Communion Year) - 2nd Year Students Grades 3-6
- CE (Continuing Education) - Grades 2-6

**SACRAMENT PARENT MEETINGS:** We ask our parents to attend mandatory parent meetings to help prepare our youth for the sacraments of Reconciliation and 1st Communion. These meetings will be offered twice per sacrament. A \$10 fee will be charged to those parents that require a third meeting date.

### September

- 20 **First Class & Parent Orientation—Hegarty Hall**
- 27 **Teaching Touching Safety—Hegarty Hall**

### October

- 4 Class
- 11 Class
- 18 Class
- 25 Class

### November

- 1 Class
- 8 Class
- 10 (Mon) 1st Reconciliation Parent Meeting (FRC)  
Hegarty Hall (7-8pm)
- 15 Class
- 16 (Sun) 1st Rec Makeup Parent Meeting (FRC)  
St. Joseph (8:30-9:30am)
- 22 Family Advent Retreat - Hegarty Hall
- 29 **No Class - Thanksgiving**

### December

- 6 Class
- 13 Class
- 20 Class
- 27 No Class - Christmas Holiday

### January

- 3 Class
- 10 Class (NFC, FR, FC, CE)  
*1st Reconciliation Retreat (FRC)*  
Hegarty Hall (9-10:30am)
- 17 **No Class (MLK Holiday)**
- 24 **No Class (SMM School Open House)**
- 31 Class

### February

- 1 (Sun) Make up 1st Rec Retreat (FRC)  
St. Joseph (8-9:30am)
- 2 (Mon) 1st Communion Parent Meeting (FRC & FC)  
Hegarty Hall (7-8pm)
- 7 Class
- 8 (Sun) 1st Com Make-Up Parent Meeting (FRC & FC)  
St. Joseph (8:30-9:30am)
- 14 **No Class (Presidents Holiday)**
- 21 Family Lenten Retreat - Hegarty Hall
- 28 Class

### March

- 2 (Mon) 1st Reconciliation Parent Meeting (FR)  
Hegarty Hall (7-8pm)
- 7 Class
- 8 (Sun) 1st Rec Makeup Parent Meeting (FRC)  
St. Joseph (8:30-9:30am)
- 14 **No Class (RE Congress)**
- 21 Class
- 28 Class

### April

- 4 **No Class (Easter)**
- 11 Class (NFC, FR, CE)  
*1st Communion Retreat (FRC & FC)*  
Hegarty Hall (8-10:30am)
- 18 Class
- 25 Class (NFC, FRC, FC, CE)  
*1st Reconciliation Retreat (FR)*  
Hegarty Hall (9-10:30am)



# Elementary Faith Formation Program (Grades 1-6)

## Sundays (8:30- 10:30am) Plus 9:30am Mass

### PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Melissa Ellis (310) 326-3364 Ext. 14

### COMMUNICATION FOLDER COLOR: Red

**TEACHING TOUCHING SAFETY:** The job of ensuring children’s safety is a challenging undertaking. The prevention of child sexual abuse requires we give our children the tools they need to overcome the advances of someone who intends to do them harm. The Teaching Touching Safety program (TTS) is designed to assist parents and teachers in this important task. Sunday Faith Formation students will receive lessons [1 & 2](#) of this training on: **September 28, 2014 at 8:30-9:30am in Hegarty Hall**

**FAMILY SUNDAY MASS:** Family Masses are held after every class at 9:30AM in the church. All students and families are required to attend mass with their class.

**PARENT FORMATION:** As part of our movement towards Whole Community Catechesis, St. Margaret Mary RE has implemented a parent component for all of our youth faith formation programs. What does this mean? Now, instead of just your children receiving faith formation, you, too, will meet with other parents and share faith, grow in knowledge of church traditions and values and, most importantly, foster community. The parent faith formation requirement is simple—Attendance at any 5 events (See Parent Formation Page for More Information). Two events will be offered during the students classes on:

- November 23, 2014: Family Advent Retreat @ 8am in Hegarty Hall**
- February 22, 2015: Family Lenten Retreat @ 8am in Hegarty Hall**

**ARRIVAL / DISMISSAL:** Children should arrive no more than 10 minutes before class begins. No child should enter the classroom unless the teacher is present. Parents are required to attend mass with their student.

**DROP-OFF & PICK-UP:** Children should arrive no more than 10 minutes before class begins. No child should enter the classroom unless the teacher is present. Children must be WALKED to their designated classroom in the SMM School building. Parents must sign their child into their classroom. NO DROP-OFFS. Please be observant and careful... student safety is everyone’s responsibility. For pick up, parents must park and join their children in their class room at 9:20am. We will walk over together at a class to the church for Sunday Mass at 9:30am. Families that are not attending the 9:30am mass that Sunday must meet with the Director of Faith Formation at the start of class.

### CLASS TYPES

- NFC (1st Sacrament Year) - Grade 1
- FR (1st Reconciliation Year) - 1st Year Students Grades 2-6
- FRC (1st Reconciliation & Communion Year) - 2nd Year 2nd Grade
- FC (1st Communion Year) - 2nd Year Students Grades 2-6
- CE (Continuing Education) - Grades 2-6

**SACRAMENT PARENT MEETINGS:** We ask our parents to attend mandatory parent meetings to help prepare our youth for the sacraments of Reconciliation and 1st Communion. These meetings will be offered twice per sacrament. A \$10 fee will be charged to those parents that require a third meeting date.

### September

- 21 First Class & Parent Orientation—Hegarty Hall**
- 28 Teaching Touching Safety—Hegarty Hall**

### October

- 5 Class
- 12 Class
- 19 Class
- 26 Class

### November

- 2 Class
- 9 Class
- 10 (Mon) 1st Reconciliation Parent Meeting (FRC)  
Hegarty Hall (7-8pm)
- 16 Class**  
1st Rec Makeup Parent Meeting (FRC)  
St. Joseph (8:30-9:30am)
- 23 Family Advent Retreat - 8 am - Hegarty Hall**
- 30 NO CLASS (Thanksgiving Break)**

### December

- 7 Class
- 14 Class
- 21 NO CLASS- (Christmas Holiday)**
- 28 NO CLASS- (Christmas Holiday)**

### January

- 4 **Class**
- 10 (Sat) 1st Reconciliation Retreat (FRC)  
Hegarty Hall (9-10:30am)
- 11 Class
- 18 NO CLASS - (Martin Luther King Holiday)**
- 25 NO CLASS - (SMM School Open House)**

### February

- 1 Class  
Make up 1st Rec Retreat (FRC)  
St. Joseph (8-9:30am)
- 2 (Mon) 1st Communion Parent Meeting (FRC & FC)  
Hegarty Hall (7-8pm)
- 8 **Class**  
1st Com Make-Up Parent Meeting (FRC & FC)  
St. Joseph (8:30-9:30am)
- 15 NO CLASS - (Presidents Day)**
- 22 Family Lent Retreat - 8am - Hegarty Hall**

### March

- 1 Class
- 2 (Mon) 1st Reconciliation Parent Meeting (FR)  
Hegarty Hall (7-8pm)
- 8 Class  
1st Rec Makeup Parent Meeting (FRC)  
St. Joseph (8:30-9:30am)
- 15 No Class (Congress)**
- 22 Class
- 29 Class

### April

- 5 No Class - Easter**
- 12 Class (NFC, FR, CE)  
1st Communion Retreat (FRC & FC)  
Hegarty Hall (8-10:30am)
- 19 Class
- 26 Class (NFC, FRC, FC, CE)  
1st Reconciliation Retreat (FR)  
Hegarty Hall (8-9:30am)



# Jr. High Faith Formation Program (Grades 6- 8) Wednesdays (6- 7:30pm)

## PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Kim Muise  
(310) 326-3364 Ext. 13  
mommymuise@alumni.ucla.edu

## COMMUNICATION FOLDER COLOR: Purple

**TEACHING TOUCHING SAFETY:** The job of ensuring children’s safety is a challenging undertaking. The prevention of child sexual abuse requires we give our children the tools they need to overcome the advances of someone who intends to do them harm. The Teaching Touching Safety program (TTS) is designed to assist parents and teachers in this important task. Junior High Faith Formation students will receive lessons [1 & 2](#) of this training on:

**October 8, 2014 at 6pm in Hegarty Hall**

**PARENT FORMATION** As part of our movement toward Whole Community Catechesis, St. Margaret Mary RE has implemented a parent component for all of our youth faith formation programs. What does this mean? Now, instead of just your children receiving faith formation, you, too, will meet with other parents and share faith, grow in knowledge of church traditions and values and, most importantly, foster community. The parent faith formation requirement is simple- Attendance at any 5 events (See Parent Formation Page for More Information). Two events will be offered during the students classes:

**November 19, 2014 at 6pm in Hegarty Hall**  
**February 25, 2015 at 6pm in Hegarty Hall**

**ARRIVAL / DISMISSAL:** Children should arrive no more than 10 minutes before class begins and remain no longer than 15 minutes after class ends. No child should enter the classroom unless the teacher is present. Children must be WALKED to the designated table outside of the classroom building. **NO DROP-OFFS ON Wednesday Nights!!!** For pick up, parents must park and pick-up their children from the designated classroom only. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** Nine years ago a child was injured by running through the parking lot to meet their parent. Please be observant and careful... student safety is everyone’s responsibility.

## CLASS TYPES

- FR (1st Reconciliation Year) - 1st Year Students
- FC (1st Communion Year) - 2nd Year Students
- CE (Continuing Education)

**SACRAMENT PARENT MEETINGS:** We ask our parents to attend mandatory parent meetings to help prepare our youth for the sacraments of Reconciliation and 1st Communion. These meetings will be offered twice per sacrament. A \$10 fee will be charged to those parents that require a third meeting date.

## September

24 **First Class & Parent Orientation—Hegarty Hall**

## October

- 1 Class - School
- 8 Class - Teaching Touching Safety - Hegarty Hall
- 15 Class - School
- 22 Class - Hegarty Hall
- 29 Class

## November

- 5 Class - Hegarty Hall
- 12 Class - School
- 19 Advent Family Night - Hegarty Hall
- 26 **NO CLASS - (Thanksgiving)**

## December

- 3 Class - Hegarty Hall
- 10 Class - School
- 17 **NO CLASS- (Christmas Holiday)**
- 24 **NO CLASS- (Christmas Holiday)**
- 31 **NO CLASS- (Christmas Holiday)**

## January

- 7 Class - Hegarty Hall
- 14 Class - School
- 21 Class - Hegarty Hall
- 28 Class - School

## February

- 2 (Mon) 1st Communion Parent Meeting (FC)  
Hegarty Hall (7-8pm)
- 4 Class - Hegarty Hall
- 8 (Sun) 1st Com Make-Up Parent Meeting (FRC & FC)  
St. Joseph (8:30-9:30am)
- 11 Class - School
- 18 **NO CLASS - (Ash Wednesday)**
- 25 Lenten Family Night - Hegarty Hall

## March

- 2 (Mon) 1st Reconciliation Parent Meeting (FR)  
Hegarty Hall (7-8pm)
- 4 Class-School
- 8 (Sun) 1st Rec Makeup Parent Meeting (FRC)  
St. Joseph (8:30-9:30am)
- 11 **NO CLASS - (RE Congress)**
- 18 Class - Hegarty Hall
- 25 Class - School

## April

- 1 **NO CLASS - (Seder Dinner)**
- 8 Class - Hegarty Hall
- 15 Class - School (1st Year FR) / Hegarty (2nd Year FC Retreat)
- 22 Class - School (2nd Year FC) / Hegarty (1st Year FR Retreat)
- 29 **LAST CLASS - HEGARTY HALL**





# SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION



## PRAYER REQUIRMENTS

### SIGN OF THE CROSS

In the name of the Father, And of the Son,  
And of the Holy Spirit

### HAIL MARY

Hail Mary, full of grace!  
The Lord is with you;  
Blessed are you among women,  
And blessed is the fruit  
Of your womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
Pray for us sinners,  
Now and at the hour of our death. Amen

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father,  
Who art in heaven,  
Hallowed by thy name;  
Thy kingdom come;  
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
And forgive us our trespasses as  
we forgive those who trespass against us;  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. Amen

### GLORY BE

Glory be to the Father,  
And to the Son,  
And to the Holy Spirit.  
As it was in the beginning, is now,  
And ever shall be, world without end. Amen

## DOCTRINAL REQUIREMENTS

### A. Knowledge of:

- God as a loving Father
- Being God's Child
- Jesus as our Friend
- The Church as God's Family
- The Mass
- 7 Sacraments
- Sin
- The Ten Commandments (4th Grade & Up)

### B. Understanding of:

- Sacrament of Baptism
- Prayer
- The Two Great Commandments  
(Love God & Love Your Neighbor)
- Loving forgiveness
- Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist

### C. Foster devotional attitude towards:

- The Liturgy of the Mass
- Mary, Mother of Jesus
- Love and respect for others
- Living Our Faith

October 16

## Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque

(July 22, 1647-October 17, 1690)

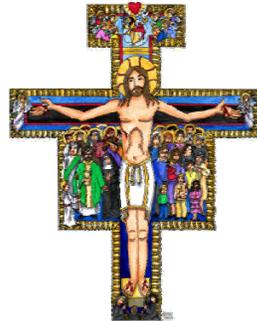


**Marguerite Marie Alacoque** or **Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque** was a French Roman Catholic nun and mystic, who promoted devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in its modern form.

"And He [Christ] showed me that it was His great desire of being loved by men and of withdrawing them from the path of ruin that made Him form the design of manifesting His Heart to men, with all the treasures of love, of mercy, of grace, of sanctification and salvation which it contains, in order that those who desire to render Him and procure Him all the honour and love possible, might themselves be abundantly enriched with those divine treasures of which His heart is the source." — from *Revelations of Our Lord to St. Mary Margaret Alacoque*

## IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

**Joe Voigt, Director of Faith Formation & Youth Ministry**



Office ~ (310) 326-3364 ext 17

Fax ~ (310) 539-1570

Email: [jvoigt@la-archdiocese.org](mailto:jvoigt@la-archdiocese.org)

**Church Address:** 25511 Eshelman Ave  
Lomita, CA 90717

### Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/SMMAPFaithFormation>

**[www.smmlomita.org](http://www.smmlomita.org)**

## Faith Formation Office Hours

Office will be closed all Parish Holidays  
Hours effective starting **September 20, 2014.**



Monday:	<b>10am-7pm</b>
Tuesday:	<b>10am-7pm (Closed for Lunch 12-1pm)</b>
Wednesday:	<b>1:30pm-7pm</b>
Thursday:	<b>Office Closed</b>
Friday:	<b>Office Closed</b>
Saturday:	<b>8am-1pm</b>