



## Small Faith Groups—Frequently Asked Questions

### Purpose

To help adults form deeper relationships with Christ and one another through prayer, learning, sharing, and service, leading us to deeper participation in parish life, the larger church, and its mission.

#### What is a Small Faith Group?

Groups of 8 – 12 adult parishioners who regularly gather in each other's homes to pray, learn, share, and serve together.

#### How are groups formed?

The Adult Faith Formation team facilitates formation of groups by inviting interested parishioners to form or join a group that best meets their needs (schedule, location, interests, etc). We rely heavily on parishioners and group members to invite new members to join.

#### When will groups be formed?

Invitations and events to promote and coordinate group formation will be ongoing through Sept. 1, 2018. An information session and signups will be held after all masses August 18-19, 2018. New members can join and groups can form anytime throughout the year.

#### When do groups meet?

Each group will determine the most convenient regular meeting time for its group members. We hope to have groups meeting at a variety of days and times to accommodate many parishioners.

#### How often do groups meet?

Each group will decide how often they want to meet, either weekly, twice a month, once a month, or seasonally (Advent/Lent). Each group decides if they want to break for the summer.

#### Where do groups meet?

Ideally, groups meet in each other's homes, but it's understood that not all group members can host. Groups can also agree to meet in another gathering space conducive to prayer, learning, and sharing. Groups may also decide to attend parish-hosted Adult Faith Formation series together when offered.

#### What content will groups use?

Each group will decide what content they want to study together (scripture studies, DVD series, books, online material, church documents, prayer forms, etc.). The parish will curate and offer a menu of available content, and groups are free to find and obtain their own content. Content can circulate among groups.

#### Are kids included?

Each group will determine if, how, and when they want to provide childcare at group meetings. It is important that adults be spiritually fed without distractions or responsibilities. Childcare providers are required to be in compliance with [VIRTUS Protecting God's Children training](#).

#### Are groups for adults only?

SFGs are primarily for adult faith formation, but if several families want to explore inter-generational faith development using age-appropriate materials for adults and children in the group, we can help to facilitate that.

#### How do I join or get involved?

If you are interested in forming, facilitating, or joining a group, or would like to serve on the SFG ministry team, please contact Deacon Mike McLean at 816-523-2405, ext. 3154, or [mmclean@stekc.org](mailto:mmclean@stekc.org)

