



The NECC Faith Formation Center was started in 2014 by 7 parishes who participate in the **Northeast Catholic Community (NECC)** in Baltimore City. In this collaborative we together with 6 other parishes seek to "Build up the Body of Christ in Northeast Baltimore City"; through the mutual sharing of resources they are creatively working together towards a new way of Church where we will learn, play, and pray to grow our faith and to respond to the needs of our neighborhoods, while continuing to honor the legacy of each of the seven parishes. **The Participating churches are: St. Antony of Padua – St. Dominic – Most Precious Blood; Blessed Sacrament – St. Matthew; St. Francis of Assisi; and Shrine of the Little Flower**

The **NECC Faith Formation Center** offers a joined Faith Formation program, sacramental preparation programs, youth and young adult ministries, and adult faith formation. It's mission is to offer programs of faith formation to God's children of all ages that speak to our diverse population with special attention to the culture of storytelling and intergenerational learning.

The Faith Formation Center is located in the parish center of St Dominic's parish (5302 Harford Road, Baltimore, MD 21214) and can be reached by phone (410-254-1687) and email (NECCFaith@archbalt.org or dorris.vangaal@archbalt.org)

Programs offered:

Faith Formation for grades pre-K/K through 8th grade

This program offers faith formation for our preschoolers and our grade school students. For our elementary students we use the Gospel Weeklies and focus on nurturing the relationship between the stories our lives with the stories of Jesus Christ and the stories of our Catholic Tradition. Our Middle School Students program engages our pre-teens to connect even deeper with our Holy Scriptures. This coming year (2017-2018) we will also work towards their transition into our youth ministry programs.

Family Faith Fridays

Once a month the Faith Formation program offers a Family Faith Friday, where families gather together to discover the stories that build our faith. In the past years we have journeyed through the books of Genesis and Exodus. This coming year we will walk with Jesus and learn and experience his birth, life, death and resurrection through the Gospel of Luke. Our Friday evenings are scheduled on the First Friday of the month, starting in October 2017. Please look out for the calendar and separate announcements for each Family Faith Friday!!

Youth Ministry programs

Youth ministry is a ministry for middle to high school aged children with the goal of empowering youth to live as Disciples of Christ, encourage participation in the Catholic Community, and foster personal and spiritual growth. This includes education about the teachings of the Church, social justice, praise and prayer, and social activities that promote a cohesiveness among youth as well as other members of the Church.

Youth Ministry Summer program: We are hosting many fun events throughout the Summer months. Please see announcements and flyers for a list of events and more information about them. Contact Rudy Dehaney for more details at 410-323-8564 or rudy.dehaney@archbalt.org.

Sacramental Preparation Program

First Reconciliation & First Eucharist: This program is offered for our second grade students, although older students who have missed the opportunity to celebrate their First reconciliation and Eucharist area always welcome to join us. We are using St. Mary's Press "Go, Seek, Find" program, which has been received enthusiastically this last year. It is a bible based program in which our students go on a treasure hunt through the Children's Bible while learning about the sacraments and their foundation.

The sacrament of Confirmation is offered to our High School students and will start in September. Our current program is currently under revision and we will post updates on the program and its calendar when as they come available. Our rising 9th grade students and older high school students who have not yet celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation are invited to join us.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

The process of welcoming those who wish to enter the Catholic Church, the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults is a spiritual journey that requires time, prayer, reflection and discernment. Classes are held on various Thursday evenings in the rectory beginning in the Fall until Easter.

Contact: Sr. Andre Rothschild, CMA at 410-323-1469

Pre-Cana or Marriage Preparation

The Faith Formation Center hopes to offer preparation for the Sacrament of Marriage in a joint venture with St. Francis to provide the city with more opportunities for engaged couples. Please keep an eye out for further announcements.

Young Adult Ministry

The vision of the North East Catholic Community Young Adult Ministry is to help young adults in their 20s and 30s grow in their faith, provide a social atmosphere in the ministry as well as provide service opportunities in our parish communities and in Baltimore City. The Young Adult Ministry will offer young adults in the Northeast Catholic Community an opportunity to celebrate contemporary masses, study, discuss and explore questions and topics in the Catholic faith, socialize with like-minded individuals and serve the Baltimore community.

For more information contact [Rudy Dehaney](#) and ask Rudy to join the email list so you can stay informed of all our events! (Phone: 410-323-8564 or email: rudy.dehaney@archbalt.org)

Our Lay-ministers working for faith formation for all a parishes are:

Dorris van Gaal

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Lauren Voos

Religious Ed. Coordinator St. Francis – Lauren.Voos@archbalt.org

Rudy Dehaney

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