



OUR MISSION

God's Family began as a diocesan supported program sixteen years ago. It was created to serve families who have members with special needs. It provides a welcoming, faith filled community. This program received the 2012 National Conference for Catechetical Leaders New Wineskins Award and the 2009 Edward Shaughnessy III Inclusion Award. This program is held on **the third Saturday of the month from 12:00 to 2:30pm at St. Philip the Apostle Parish in Cheektowaga. Contact** Elaine at 553-2618.

An additional **God's Family** began three years ago at **Saint Bernadette Parish in Orchard Park**. It utilizes the original program's format. We provide access to families in the South Towns. Our hope is to provide opportunities for all to grow in their faith and in community. The program offers support to parents and siblings. Our buildings are all connected and accessible including restrooms.

What people have said about God's Family

We love the day. Everyone is made to feel welcomed and valued. We are so impressed with the loving care and attention to detail that is evident in every one of our meetings.

I have had more meaningful conversations with my son about God and the Church than I have had with adults. I feel like my prayers were answered when we found this program. God Bless all of God's Family.

We look forward very much to our gatherings; they renew for us in a very vivid way the essence of Christianity.

We enjoy the lasting friendships we have made with Christ as the center of our prayer.

Sponsored by: Saint Bernadette Parish Faith Formation

For more information,
contact Sharon Urbaniak
at (716) 649-1720 ext. 3 or
sharonu@saintbopny.org

God's Family

Faith Formation Supporting Persons with Disabilities and their Families Including Group Home Families



**Saint Bernadette Parish
Parish Ministry Center
5930 South Abbott Road
Orchard Park, NY 14127**

**Monthly Gatherings are
on the second
Saturday from
9am until 11am**



All are welcome.



When we are baptized, we are initiated into the family of God. God created us and is present in each of us. This program was created to welcome people of all abilities to learn and grow in their faith. We welcome all kinds of families— single people, one or two parent families, foster families and group home families. We welcome all age people. Our door is open for you to become part of this program and part of our parish family at Saint Bernadette. We will provide preparation to receive Sacraments as needed. People from other parishes are welcome to attend.

A God's Family Session



MASS

Mass is held each Saturday morning at 9am. We welcome families with members who can benefit from a small, shorter, music free celebration. We do have a sensory room in the back of the church.



GATHERING

We welcome one another, do crafts and sing a song with actions



SHARE OUR FAITH

We learn about the Catholic faith together in interactive ways to keep all engaged.



PRAYER TIME

We gather in prayer with our theme song, *God has Made Us a Family* and an opening prayer. We sing and sign the Gospel acclamation. The gospel is proclaimed through word or video. We discuss what Jesus is calling us to do. Petitions of prayer are offered with our sung response. We end with our theme song for the year.

2021-2022 Gatherings

Jesus is the Way
is our theme for this year.

October 9, 2021

You are precious in Jesus' eyes

November 13, 2021

Jesus is the way to joy

December 11, 2021

Jesus is the way to sharing
Jesus is the way to the crib

Monday, December 27, 2021

6pm Confession

**7pm Inclusive Christmas Mass
Reception Parish Ministry Center**

January 8, 2022

Jesus is the way of unity

February 12, 2022

Jesus is the way to forgiveness

March 12, 2022

Jesus is the way of the beauty of our
cultures

April 9, 2022

Jesus is the way to service

Tuesday, April 19, 2022

**7pm Inclusive Easter Mass
Reception Parish Ministry Center**

May 7, 2022

**5pm Mass
6pm May Crowning**

June 11, 2022

Jesus is the way even when we rest