**Sacred Heart Catholic Church**

***Youth Ministry Calendar 2024-25***

***If you have any questions, call Sacred Heart’s Coordinator of Youth Ministry Marilyn Trumper-Samra at 313 719-3226.***

***Sunday, Sept. 15, Youth Formation Parent Meeting, after the 9 a.m. Mass* in the Family Center, for Grades 1-12.**

***Sunday, Sept. 22,* in the Library after the 9 a.m. Mass, *“How to Keep Your Locker Catholic!”* It’s your space in school – a place that can very much be made sacred space – in a very *public* building. It can be your refuge – a reminder that you are Catholic! A reminder that you are loved! A reminder of how you are called to live! It can be a place to find good and holy images, good and holy wisdom, a place where you can be prompted to remember to pray, to seek the good, to BE good! Come and learn how to turn your locker into a holy ground – and receive the things that can help you get started! Great food and snacks! Friends are always welcome, and they don’t have to be Catholic!**

***Sunday, Sept. 29,* in the Library after the 9 a.m. Mass, *“The Old & The New.”*  Saints are not just “those people who lived a long time ago.” They are today! And saints – old and new *– have been young!* Have you ever considered the Blessed Mother as a teenager? Theologians and scholars believe she was 13 or 14 when the Angel Gabriel appeared to her, telling Mary she was going to give birth to a child – “…He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High…” *– Luke 1:32.* Her obedience, her “yes” to God – made a way for the Divine to enter into our human world and live among us, ultimately dying on the cross for *our* sins, which made it possible for us to spend eternity with God! *The Blessed Mother as a teenager – changed the course of history.* As a young mother, what was her life like? We’ll look at the times she was filled with joy through the Joyful Mysteries of the rosary – and where this teenager recognized God, active in her life. Then we’ll look at 15-year-old video game-playing Italian Carlo Acutis, slated to become the Catholic Church’s first millennial saint, probably in 2025. Carlo died at the age of 15 in 2006 after a battle with leukemia. He used his technology skills to document on a website, reports of miracles around the world, and was known for his outreach to the poor on the streets of Milan. Great snacks and food! Friends are always welcome, and they don’t have to be Catholic!**

***Sunday, Oct. 6, in the library, after the 9 a.m. Mass, “What’s in a Lie?”*  Is there ever a right time to lie? Is it *ALWAYS* wrong to lie, and if so, why? What makes a lie, a lie? How do we know? What kind of trouble do lies cause, anyway? Who does a “gray” or “white” lie hurt? What does the Catholic Church teach and believe about lying and why is it important to know? Simply put – what difference does it make? Great snacks and food! Friends are always welcome, and they don’t have to be Catholic!**

***Sunday, Oct. 13, in the library, after the 9 a.m. Mass, “Through the Lens of Faith.”* All day long we make decisions. What to wear to school today? Who to sit with on the bus? Who to eat lunch with? What to do after school? What to do this weekend. When should I study? How to be helpful around the house? What sports should I try out for? How do we make decisions through the lends of faith - and when we do – is there a clarity and peace not found in decisions made other ways? Great snacks and food! Friends are always welcome, and they don’t have to be Catholic!**

***Sunday, Oct. 20, in the library, after the 9 a.m. Mass, in the library, “Where is Christ on the Playing Field?* Pushing. Tripping. Name-calling. Hazing. Intimidation. Humiliation. Threats. What ever happened to just playing the game to have fun? What ever happened to good sportsmanship? Athletics can be a mine field of trouble. Who can I go to for help? How can I bring my faith onto the field and into the game? Am I setting an example for good? Great snacks and food! Friends are always welcome, and they don’t have to be Catholic!**

***Marilyn and George will be on holy pilgrimage from Oct. 22-Dec. 3, walking the Portuguese Camino, and seeing the holy sites in Rome. Please keep us in your prayers and know you will be in ours! You will be in good hands with those who will be in place of me - a special guests each week!***

***Sunday, Oct. 27, in the library after the 9 a.m. Mass,* gather in the library with retired youth minister Jackie Welles to eat a donut, pray, then head out the Catholic Cemetery off River Road. In preparation for the Feast of All Souls, we’ll talk about the Catholic obligation to pray for the dead – and why and when? We may pick up sticks and fallen branches in a section of the cemetery near the oldest graves and learn why that’s important. We’ll pray for the dead and all the souls in purgatory. If you like, bring a photo of someone in your family or a friend who has died, and is dear to you. We’ll make an etching of a headstone! Permission slips/medical forms/media forms a must. Dress for the weather – we visit rain or shine. Families are welcome and invited to attend – as are all parishioners! We will return to church by 11:15 a.m. Parent drivers will be needed for this – any volunteers?**

***Sunday, Nov. 3 after the 9 a.m. Mass,* gather together with Mary Jo Samotis for a quick prayer to set the tone. Then start serving the people with whom you share the pews! Help seniors or a Mom with her hands full carry coffee and/or donuts to the table, ask if you can get them a refill, anticipate a Mom who needs a napkin and run one over, carry dirty coffee cups to the kitchen and wash down the tables for the Hospitality Staff. The Hospitality Staff works tirelessly each week to create a warm and welcoming space to gather for Coffee & Donuts. Show them what you’ve learned! Jesus was very warm and welcoming. Mirror him – and the Hospitality Staff who’s mirroring him, and make a difference in your faith community, in Jesus’ name! We eat AFTER everyone else has been through the line. Why? Friends are always welcome and they don’t have to be Catholic!**

***Sunday, Nov. 10 after the 9 a.m. Mass, hand out St. Hubert prayer cards and pocket snacks to the exiting Hunters* who would have just enjoyed a special blessing in Church. Then gather in the Library with retired school teacher Patti Snyder to learn about who St. Hubert was, his importance to the Church and to hunters today. Why is it a good and holy thing to ask St. Hubert’s intercession, most especially if you are a hunter? Why is it good to be reminded of God when you do anything but most especially when you are working with a firearm and trying to put food on the table? Do you think our gifts to the Hunters today was well-received? What do you think it made the Hunters think about? What about their families? Why? And why is that important? Great snacks and food! Friends are always welcome, and they don’t have to be Catholic!**

***Sunday, Nov. 17 – no class.***

***Sunday, Nov. 24 – Family Activity. Advent Wreath-making.***

***Sunday, Dec. 1 no class, a holy and blessed Thanksgiving to you and your family.***

***Friday, Dec. 6, at 7 p.m., at Marilyn and George’s house, gather to decorate the Parish’s Float for the Northern Lights Parade!* We have everything we need – and the garage is heated! Great family event! All in the parish welcome! Roll up your sleeves for Christ help create a float to celebrate our Lord’s birth! To RSVP call MTS at (313) 719-3226.**

***Saturday, Dec. 7 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Parish Social Hall,* bring the family, enjoy a lunch at $10 per person, and hear from two speakers – both experts on Venerable Bishop Baraga – both in the company of good people leading the charge for his canonization – Lenore “Len” McKeen executive director of the Bishop Baraga Association, and Deacon Curtis Chambers of Cheboygan who himself has walked in Bishop Baraga’s UP footsteps. Who was Bishop Baraga, what kind of difference did he make for our Lord? Where was his ministry? What did it look like? Who did he serve? How did he evangelize for the faith – and how was it received? Why do many believe he’s on the road to sainthood? Opportunity to venerate our Lord with Bishop Baraga’s own crucifix! Marian hymns sung by our own Deacon Thomas Anderson, accompanying himself on the guitar. Enjoy a special Bishop Baraga exhibit in fellowship, building community!**

***Saturday, Dec. 7 (I think about 5:30 p.m. for a 6 p.m. start) dress* warmly, wear battery-powered Christmas lights on your physical self and meet at Furtaw Field to walk alongside Sacred Heart’s float in the Oscoda-AuSable Chamber of Commerce’s Northern Lights Parade! We’ll hand out candy treats to kids along the way! To walk, RSVP to MTS at 313 719-3226! Remind all of Oscoda what Christmas is all about – JESUS! Be His herald! Stand up and BE Catholic!**

***Sunday, Dec. 8, 6-8 p.m., no class after Mass, instead we go, Christmas Caroling in Oscoda’s historic district starting on Pearl Street.* You’ll be notified of where to meet - and dress for the weather! As a group we go from house to house, knock on the door, and if someone answers – we sing a verse of the traditional Catholic Christmas hymns like “Joy to the World,” “We Three Kings,” etc. You know ‘em and if you don’t come anyway and you’ll pick ‘em up. Open to all in the parish! We have the song books! A great way to get into the Christmas spirit and be a herald of our Lord’s birth in this often-dark world that longs to see the light! This was a hit last year – we were so well received! Don’t miss out on the fun and making memories! If you have Santa hats, or Christmas hats and any body lights – wear them! Show Oscoda what kind of people worship at Sacred Heart! RSVP to MTS at (313) 719-3226 so she knows you are coming! No regular youth ministry this morning – we sing instead!**

***Sunday, Dec. 15, 6-8 p.m., Family Activity in the Family Center!***

***Sunday, Dec. 22, no class.* Christ is born! Glorify Him!**

***Sunday, Dec. 29, no class.* Christ is born! Glorify Him!**

***Sunday, Jan. 5, no class.* Christ is born! Glorify Him!**

***Sunday, Jan. 12, after the 9 a.m. Mass, in the library, “New Year’s Resolutions!”*  What is a resolution? About what in our lives should we be *resolved?* What does the *world* typically resolve at this time of year? What might a Catholic’s list of resolutions look like? What is the difference? Are they ever the same? Is one set of resolutions better than the other? Can the Catholic faith be worked into resolutions made in a worldly way? How? Would you say that the martyrs were resolved? And what in the Catholic faith can help us stay on track and be successful?! Friends are always welcome and they don’t have to be Catholic! Great snacks and food!**

***Sunday, Jan. 19, after the 9 a.m. Mass, in the library, today is National Sanctity of Life Day!*  What does the Catholic Church teach about the gift of life? Who is responsible for giving and taking life? Where in our lives are decisions about giving or taking life challenged, and how can we respond as Catholics? Learn how to use wisdom and truth to hold up in love, what the Church believes. Friends are always welcome, and they don’t have to be Catholic! Great snacks and food!**

***Sunday, Jan. 26, after the 9 a.m. Mass, in the library, “Friends.”***  **Are friends important? Why? What kind of friends are the best kind of friends? Why? Who did Jesus choose as friends? Why? Did he choose well, always? And if not – what happened? Friends are always welcome, and they don’t have to be Catholic! Great snacks and food!**

***Sunday, Feb. 2, after the 9 a.m. Mass, in the library, “Lectio Divina”* Holy Scriptures are filled with God’s word to us – rich in lessons, rules and explanations – all key to the salvation of our souls! The Bible is not just a book. When we read God’s word – we are having an encounter with our Lord. We are receiving direction. We are being loved! Learn how to read holy Scripture, discuss it, learn about it - and pull from it God’s message so you can develop a powerful conversation! If there’s always been a reading that’s stymied you – share it that day and we’ll figure it out together! Why is it helpful to read during the week, the upcoming Sunday readings? What difference does it make? Friends are always welcome, and they don’t have to be Catholic! Great snacks and food!**

***Sunday, Feb. 9, after the 9 a.m. Mass, in the library, “Good vs. Evil.”* Is evil real? What is evil? Where does it come from? What does it look like? Where do you see it in our world? How can we stand against it? Can we ever give up? Should we ever give up? In the end, will evil ultimately win? How do we know? Learn what God tells us about good vs. evil – and where the power really lies! Friends are always welcome and they don’t have to be Catholic! Great snacks and food!**

***Sunday, Feb. 16, after the 9 a.m. Mass, in the library, “What does it mean to Let Your Light Shine?”* When people look at you – do they SEE who you are as a child of God – a Baptized soul – a believer working to live the faith? And if we live like this – what does it look like? Scripture is rich with what it means to be a light that’s seen. How can we supercharge our Baptismal promises? Friends are always welcome and they don’t have to be Catholic! Great snacks and food!**

***Sunday, Feb. 23, after the 9 a.m. Mass, in the library, “Leading the Way in Lent with Your Family.”*  People who see you might think you’re just a kid. They are missing much! You are an evangelist for the faith – and you’ve got this!!! Learn how to lead the way with your family during Lent – how to keep yourself and everyone you love – on the path to holiness in the days leading up to our Lord’s resurrection! Friends are always welcome and they don’t have to be Catholic!**

***Sunday, March 2, after the 9 a.m. Mass, in the library, Family Activity.***

***Sunday, March 9, after the 9 a.m. Mass, in the library, “How to Overcome Challenges!”* Life can hard! Being a kid can be tough! You have to study harder than the guy next to you in class! You have to work harder on the playing field! You don’t pick things up as easy as that other girl seems to! The girl you like – doesn’t like you! The boy you like, doesn’t like you! How can our faith help us get by on a day-to-day basis? What difference can it make when working to understand the true challenges of life, and how to meet them? Friends are always welcome and they don’t have to be Catholic! Great snacks and food!**

***Saturday, March 15 “Anchor: Who are you holding on to.”* For 6,7 and 8th-graders. Grand Rapids, MI. A Michigan Catholic Schools Conference. Watch the bulletin and for handouts from class with the particulars like times, cost and deadline!**

***Sunday, March 16, no class because we will have attended Anchor!***

***Sunday, March 23, no class, Spring Break!***

***Sunday, March 30, no class, Spring Break!***

***Sunday, April 6, after the 9 a.m. Mass in the library,* what is a Guardian Angel? How do you get one? Where do they come from? Can I talk to my Angel? Can my Angel talk to me? What is a Guardian Angel’s role? How do we know they are real? When should I take my Guardian Angel into consideration? Why? Hear Sophia’s true story of her Grandmother’s Guardian Angel. Great snacks and food! Friends are always welcome, and they don’t have to be Catholic!**

***Sunday, April 13, no class. A holy Palm Sunday to you and your family!***

***Sunday, April 20, no class. Christ is risen! Happy Easter!***

***Sunday, April 27, after the 9 a.m. Mass, in the library,* we gather to quickly eat and pray – then head out onto the mean streets of Oscoda to perform a Random Act of Kindness – and pick up garbage! Bring a pair of work gloves and a plastic grocery bag! Permission slips/medical forms/media forms required. Parents and families are welcome! All in the parish may join! Call 313 719-3226 to RSVP! Show Oscoda how a Catholic lives! Show them what kind of people worship at Sacred Heart! Show them how you love and respect God’s creation and the community in which you live!**

***Sunday, May 4, “How to Keep Christ in Summer!”*  From that first day of school – we long for the last! Sleeping in! Camps! Vacation getaways! Fooling around and wasting time! Ahhhh! To be a kid!!!! Don’t leave Christ behind! Learn how to keep Him active and present every day of your summer vacation and how to introduce Him to others! Friends are always welcome and they don’t have to be Catholic!**

***Sunday, May 11, no class – it’s Mother’s Day! Don’t forget to thank your Mother for giving you life!***

***Sunday, May 18, 2024 – Family Activity***