



PARISH NEWSLETTER

AUGUST

WHAT'S INSIDE

- 2 Fall Discipleship
- 4 Young Adult Pilgrimage
- 6 Faith Opportunities
- 7 Music Ministry

Join us for
Mass, August 15 at 7 pm
for

The Assumption Of the Blessed Virgin Mary

What lessons should I learn from the Assumption of Mary? Growing in holiness is similar to training in a sport. We need someone to show us how we can live our faith well. Mary is a model of sanctity. She shows us how to be faithful to God's will, living each day with confidence in God's mercy and love. At the Nativity, in Jesus' public ministry, and at the Crucifixion, we see her steadfast trust. She allows the Lord to use her life to accomplish his plan for her and for all of us. In the Preface of the Mass for the Assumption of Mary, we pray: "For today the Virgin Mother of God was assumed into heaven as the beginning and image of your Church's coming to perfection and a sign of sure hope and comfort to your pilgrim people."

It is this image of holiness that we strive to imitate. In the office, at home, or in our community, we look for signs of God's grace that call us to an even greater love of Him and each other. A greater awareness of God is a sign of our conversion of heart that lives, the lessons Mary teaches.

Sign up for Fall Discipleship



ATTENTION KINDERGARTEN THROUGH

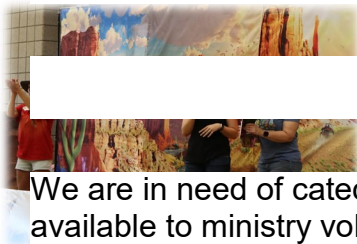
This is our last call to register for Discipleship classes (religious education)

All registration is done online. Please visit our parish website at www.holyfamily.org and click on the discipleship drop down menu for the direct links to register your child/children.

- Classes begin on Monday, October 3rd and Wednesday, October 5th
-

- Monday class time: 4:30-5:45
-
- Wednesday class time: 6:15-7:30
-

Please register as soon as possible so we know how many children to expect.



We are in need of catechists, aides, and security volunteers who are available to ministry volunteers. Curriculum and plans are available as possible.



IS GOD CALLING YOU?



Consider joining our ministry team!



Please contact Diane Rodolfo at the Parish Office or email diane@holyfamily.org



Eucharistic Revival

HIGH GRADE 6 FAMILIES!

ation).

holyfamilycaledonia.org and click on the Dis-
children for classes.

5th.

many classes and volunteers we will need.

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CALLING YOU?

our Discipleship Team!

unteers for our discipleship classes. Tuition discounts are
are provided to help lesson planning be as smooth and easy

mail at elemcff@holyfamilycaledonia.org.



MISSION

To renew the Church by enkindling a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist.

VISION

To inspire a movement of Catholics across the United States who are **healed, converted, formed, and unified** by an encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist—and who are then sent out on mission “for the life of the world.”

What is the National Eucharistic Revival?

The National Eucharistic Revival is a three-year initiative sponsored by the Bishops of the United States to inspire and prepare the People of God to be formed, healed, converted, united, and sent out to a hurting and hungry world through a renewed encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist – the source and summit of our Catholic faith. This eucharistic movement seeks to bring together clergy, religious, laity, apostolates, movements, and parish and diocesan leaders to spur momentum, collaboration, and lasting impact for the renewal of the Catholic Church in the U.S. over the next three years. Each year will have a



2022 Young Adult Pilgrimage



Our four-day pilgrimage travels took us to the state of Wisconsin to explore many holy places of worship and to encounter our God. Day one, we toured the Basilica of St. Josaphat in Milwaukee which is a wonderful testament to the faith of the Polish immigrants that built this amazing structure. Additionally, there were 100's of rare 1st-3rd class relics we learned about including one from the Blessed Mother, as well as all the disciples.

We then traveled to the Basilica and National Shrine of Mary, Help of Christians often referred to as Holy Hill. The pouring rain did not stop us from enjoying the amazing views, praying at the life size outdoor Stations of the Cross, and praying in a Chapel which contained a rare statue of a youthful Virgin Mother offering her son to those who kneel before her. Nearby this rare statue were rows of crutches and other mementos left by pilgrims who sought, and received, the healing of Our Lady.

Day two we traveled to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Lacrosse, WI. This is a beautiful spiritual destination with amazing chapels, statues, garden and devotional areas. We all achieved many steps on our smart devices while at the Shrine as the entire day was spent walking either uphill or downhill on the 99-degree day. There were special opportunities to learn more about St Peregrine, St Faustina, St Therese of Lisieux, and St. Maria Goretti and venerate their relics. Additionally, we were able to attend a beautiful Holy Mass in the Shrine Church. Other highlights were a stunning votive chapel with over 500 lit candles, a Memorial to the unborn, an outdoor Rosary walk and Stations of the Cross. Most of our group felt this was an incredible day and truly felt they had an encounter with our Lord.

Our final day for visiting sites, and the highlight for most of the pilgrims, was at The National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help. This Shrine is the only approved site in the USA where the Virgin Mother appeared and identified herself as the 'Queen of Heaven who prays for the conversion of Sinners' in 1859 to Adele Brise. The day was filled with a Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage Experience, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, veneration of a St. Bernadette Relic, as well as Confession. We also spent time in the Apparition Oratory which is just below the Church and is believed to be the exact spot where the Blessed Mother appeared. How surreal it was to kneel in prayer on this Holy Land where you could almost feel the Mother Mary wrap us in her Mantle as we lifted our prayer intentions to her.

After experiencing a rental car breakdown along with a Tornado Watch which lasted for several hours, we secured a different rental car and traveled safely home on day four. Be sure to look for more pictures and highlights of our trip on the bulletin boards down by St. Mary's Hall. The Young Adult Group would like to thank our parish for their continued support and prayers for this very important ministry. We sincerely appreciate this pilgrimage opportunity and how blessed we are to belong to such an amazing church community.



Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry is ALIVE and WELL at our parish! All year-round we have our weekly Bible Studies for our middle and high school students on Wednesdays. This fall, we are looking forward to youth group gatherings on Sunday evenings, retreats, and a couple trips. Be sure to register your children online and sign up to volunteer! We can't wait to see you and welcome you back!

Our young people are SO GRATEFUL for the generosity that our parish has shown us this summer with our fundraisers! We hope you all enjoyed the cinnamon rolls, the 4th of July cookout, the Go! Board, and our car wash! You helped fund our Covecrest summer camp and our Steubenville Youth Conference trip for students!



Thank You!



**Holy Family's Annual
Mass on the Grass
&
Parish Picnic
August 21, 2022**

Dear friends and parishioners of Holy Family Parish,

It has truly been an honor and a great joy to serve as Youth Minister at Holy Family for the past 8 years. I am sadly writing to inform you all of my resignation from Holy Family

as the Youth Minister, as God has led me to begin serving at another parish. I'm grateful to have this opportunity to provide transparency about the reason that I am leaving my position and assure you all that it is entirely unrelated to any recent staffing changes, and is certainly not because of Father Mike, or the new Director of Discipleship. I have learned much from them both and it pains me to leave such a solid faith formation/discipleship team (Lori & Diane, too!). I adore my co-workers and would be heartbroken if anyone thought that I am leaving because of being at all unhappy at Holy Family. So please know that I am only doing this because the Lord has invited me to. Every summer, I have opened my hands in discernment and asked where the Lord wants me each ministry year. Every year He has invited me to stay at Holy Family, until this year when He made it quite simple and clear that He had other plans for me and for our Parish. I'm only comfortable leaving knowing that our youth ministry is going to be left in great hands, especially with the support from our Core teams. I am proud to have built a strong program here including Sunday nights, year-round weekly Bible Studies, our Confirmation program, the PIER Ministry high school leadership team, several retreats a year, trips, conferences, and more. I know that you can all keep it going while we pray and wait for your next Youth Minister to begin and I'm doing everything in my power to set them up for success so they can serve with you all well.

So, here is my imperfect goodbye: I can't even begin to explain how much I care for my "kids" here at Holy Family and how immensely they have changed my heart. The closest example I have is as a parent loves their child, I have loved and prayed for these kids. I've had the opportunity to mentor, support, teach, laugh, and pray with hundreds of HF teens throughout the years, and I remember every single one fondly. Yes, even you, if you're reading this! However, I will say that I have quite a number of gray hairs that I 100% attribute to my HF kids. Some of the most memorable moments were getting stuck on the Pennsylvania Turnpike on our way home from the March for Life in Washington, DC for 26 hours in a blizzard, our HS boys organizing and executing "fruit bowling" at all of their retreats (complete with an organized bracket, detailed scoring, many kinds of fruit, a trophy and an Instagram livestream), an unauthorized boxing match, an elevator incident, and so many more! It's a wonder that I have any brown hair left.

There were also some really difficult and painful moments: losing one of our kids during my first year, teen suicides, a number of funerals for young people in our community, going through an Annulment, scandal in the universal Church, having priests moved to other parishes, trying to do ministry during a global pandemic, watching teens' mental health drastically deteriorate while they were kept home from school, sports, and Church. This parish family has certainly suffered, but in that it has also grown closer, become more compassionate, turned to the Lord faithfully, and shown up for one another especially when things were hard.

However, the very best moments were after each retreat, hearing the kids say how much they loved Adoration & Confession, falling asleep on a mission trip to the sound of our HS girls praying the Rosary together, seeing the moments in which a teen finally encountered our loving God, hearing a teen's first testimony, answering questions about the hard stuff - the real stuff, overhearing one of my high schoolers give solid and holy advice to my middle schoolers, and so many more. I got to see 2 groups of high school students begin and end their HS careers. I got to learn from their unique faith and relationships with Christ. And I got to delight in their ridiculous humor, their hearts being opened to following God's plan for their lives and see them grow into remarkable young people. Holy Family, I am the blessed one & "thank you" will never be enough. I have all of you to thank for giving me *lots* of grace while I learned, lots of laughs as we tried (and failed) new things, and many more prayers than I'll ever be deserving of. I have been so humbled by how I've been treated at Holy Family. The staff, the Priests, and the many wonderful families have had a profound impact on me and on my faith. I came here as a young woman right out of college and was immediately supported fiercely, invested in, and prayed for. I will always be deeply grateful for my time at this wonderful place with all of YOU wonderful people.

It's such a bittersweet experience for me to say goodbye to this vibrant community, but I assure you that I am only resigning from my position, not dropping off the face of the earth. I will visit often, continue to pray fervently, and I sincerely hope that you all stay in touch. I will begin my ministry at St. Sebastian Catholic Church in Byron Center on August 15th. The Lord has called, and I trust Him entirely that this is for my ultimate good and for HF's ultimate good. The Lord has great plans for the youth ministry at Holy Family and as much as I would like to be a part of that, I will be watching with glittering eyes as the Lord blesses this community with your next youth minister.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you all *so much* for the honor it has been to serve alongside you. I

Fellas, Faith & Fellowship



ATTENTION MEN

Brewing The Faith has been a great summer addition to our men's ministries. Please plan to join us for our next gathering on Thursday, August 11th at 7:00 PM. We meet at the fire pit which is located near the barn for a relaxed opportunity to grow in our faith. Please feel free to bring a guest and your own chair. Beer/pop/water/snacks will be provided. Email Lori @ adultff@holyfamilyscaledonia.org or call 616-891-9259x229 for more information.

Events for the Ladies



LADIES HOLY HOUR

Calling all ladies! Join us Monday, August 29 and Monday, September 12 beginning at 7:00 pm for a beautiful evening in the Church for prayer and music with other women of the parish and our guests. If you are interested, bring a chair and refreshment of your choice so you can join us at the bonfire immediately afterwards for smores and refreshments.



Mercy for All

Scripture Study and RCIA



WANT TO GET MORE OUT OF MASS? CURIOUS HOW TO PREPARE FOR MASS?

What does that mean and how do you do that, you might wonder. One way is

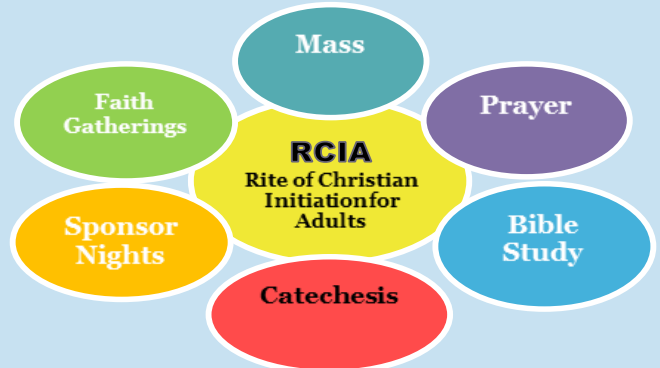
by reading the Scriptures in advance of attending Mass. Many of us do not even know which readings will be read before they enter Church on Saturday or Sunday and even more of us do not know where to find the readings in their dusty Bible. No need to blush or wiggle in your chair if this describes you because not too long ago it was me. Thanks to **Scripture Study**, I not only recognize the readings each weekend, but look forward to hearing how Father brings the Word of God alive and ties the scriptures into our daily lives. I invite you to join us in our weekly Scripture Study on Wednesday mornings at **10:00 am in St. Mary's Hall**. Each week we read the scripture verses for the upcoming Mass and discuss what is speaking to our hearts. No prior experience with the Bible is necessary and because the readings change each week, no worries if you can only attend occasionally. Come join our multi-generational group and see what insights you can gain and potentially share with others. (Important: participation is NOT required to attend. Many prefer to only listen.)

Curious about becoming Catholic?

Join us to have your questions about the Catholic Faith answered and to learn more about how to become Catholic.

We are planning a two-part RCIA inquiry session on Wednesday September 14 and Wednesday September 21 From 6:30-8:00 pm in the parish library.

For more information contact Lori @ 616-891-9259 or email adultff@holyfamilyscaledonia.org



Share your Musical Gifts, Interests, & Passions

MICHIGAN CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

FOR SUCH A *time as this* Ezther 4:14

"Perhaps you have come to your royal dignity for just such a time as this."

SATURDAY OCTOBER 15, 2022
9am-5pm
LANSING CENTER • LANSING, MI

Register: WWW.MICHIGANCWC.ORG

ARCHDIOCESE OF DETROIT • DIOCESE OF GAYLORD
DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS • DIOCESE OF LANSING • DIOCESE OF SAGINAW
DIOCESE OF KALAMAZOO • DIOCESE OF MARQUETTE

THE SECOND ANNUAL MICHIGAN CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Women from across Michigan are invited to come together to focus on their faith and experience the fellowship of sisterhood in Christ Jesus. Throughout the day, women will be encouraged and inspired to ignite their spirits and grow their faith by hearing from Catholic speakers, engaging in praise and worship music, and celebrating holy Mass with our bishops. The conference will be held at the Lansing Center in Lansing, Michigan on October 15, 2022.



Holy Family's Annual
Mass on the Grass & Parish Picnic
August 21, 2022
(Mass outside at 11am)

Have you started your
checklist to get ready for

- ☒ Mark the date on your calendar
- ☒ Dish to pass-Favorite recipe to make or
Pick up from store (8-10 serving size)
- ☒ Bring in a Bingo donation item
(nothing over \$10.00)
- ☒ Check the board at church to
see where I can help

ALL ARE WELCOME!

**PARISH
PICNIC**

Food, Fun, &
Fellowship for the
Whole Family!