St. Patrick Parish

Faith Formation Ministry

140 Church St.

Portland, MI 48875

517-647-6505 Ext. 419

**MondayNightFaithFormation**

**October 2020**

Do You Have 2020 Vision?

I used to think I did. Boy did this change in March. A virus broke out, school doors were closed, Mass was canceled, families were in lockdown, and Faith Formation classes were abruptly ended. We did not get a chance to say good-bye to each other, have a good summer, or see you next year. Well, the next year is here and not much has changed. Yes, there still is a virus, yes school doors are open, yes Mass is taking place, no families are not in lockdown, yes Faith Formation classes have begun, but we still can’t say hello to each other, have a good year, or see you next week.

This is not how I envisioned 2020 to look like, like most of us would say. Even though things may look different, our faith is still the same, hopefully stronger. We must be here and stronger for each other to get us through.

Parents are their children’s first teachers in many aspects of their lives. The Catholic faith is no different. This is where the children should learn from their parents the most. Since the teaching of our Catholic faith will be left up to parents this year, I am most confident that they will come through in teaching their children what it means to be a good Christian and a valuable person of society.

So, this is my vision for 2020, God will provide all that you need to teach your children how to live out a Christian life, be disciples for peers, be servants for those who need it, and spread God’s love wherever they go and to whomever they meet.

Things will still look different this year, but some things will look the same. There are still going to be service projects, monthly virtues to practice, monthly themes to research, and family times to spend together. Monthly newsletters will still be sent out. You will be contacted regularly in case more resources are needed or just to check in.





Month of the Rosary

Since the prayers of the Rosary come from such excellent sources-from Our Lord Himself, from inspired Scripture, and from the Church-it is not surprising that the Rosary is so dear to our Blessed Mother and so powerful with heaven. I challenge families to schedule a time during each week to pray the Rosary together as a family. It does not have to be the same day, same time every week. Just set aside a time where the entire family can participate. Give each member a part to lead.

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**Self-Control**

***“Be a temperate person, with passion firmly ruled by reason and grace”*.** Parents are to teach and challenge their children this virtue throughout the month. However you choose to reward them for practicing this is up to you. If you contact me that your children were “caught in the act” displaying this, I will send them free Slushie cards.

**Service Projects for the Year**

****There will be service projects throughout the year that the students will be doing. We have done some of these in the past and some will be new ones, but simple enough that the whole family can be involved in. **October** will be the sock collection. New socks can be dropped of at PHS, PMS, SPS, or my office. These will be donated to the Homeless Angels in Lansing. We have donated several pairs in pervious years. Any questions contact me anytime. You can donate until Friday, October 30th.See [https://www.homelessangels.org](https://www.homelessangels.org/) for more information.

**PSIC-Baby Bottle Challenge**

This service project ended abruptly in March. The students donated a total of $371.03 for the three months. Second grade donated the most in January with 72.02, third grade donated the most in February with 36.60, for March the coins collected were divided between all the grades. Thank you to all who sacrificed to help change the lives of others.

*“If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.”*

(Luke 17:5-10)