St. Patrick Parish

Faith Formation Ministry

140 Church St.

Portland, MI 48875

517-647-6505 Ext. 419

**MondayNightFaithFormation**

**September 2023**

Month of Seven Sorrows of Mary

September is traditionally dedicated to the Seven Sorrows (or Dolours) of Mary, and the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows falls in September. The Sorrows are the Prophecy of Simeon, the flight into Egypt, the loss of the Holy Child at Jerusalem for three days, meeting Jesus on his way to calvary, standing at the foot of the Cross, Jesus being taken from the Cross, and burial of Christ. This month I challenge the students to bring in something the represents any of the Seven Sorrows. Any student that participates will be rewarded. Students are to come find me before class begins each night for their reward.



Right Judgement

“One’s ability to make good decisions and follow the Ten Commandments.” Parents are to teach and challenge their children this throughout the month. However you choose to reward them for practicing this is up to you. If you can “catch them in the act” displaying this or a Catechist “catches in the act” in class, they will be rewarded.

**Service Project for September**

****This month’s service project will be for students to do something nice for a friend. Being back in school and seeing friends is a great feeling. Send your friend a card or flowers, give them their favorite drink or candy, help them with homework, take them for ice cream, etc. Bring in a picture of you and your friend and you both will be rewarded with free Slushie cards. A new year brings a lot more Slushie cards.





Faith Formation Open House

This will take place on **Tuesday, September 12th beginning with Mass at 6:00pm.** Please remain in the church after Mass for this year’s information. Then Catechists will be in their classrooms to meet and answer any questions you may have. Grades DK-5 will be located on the first floor. Sixth grade will be located on the second floor. All rooms will be labeled and have a list of student names posted. Handbooks, medical release forms, and other information will be available for pick up.

Faith Formation Classes

We will meet on Monday evenings in St. Patrick classrooms 6:30-8:00pm. Registration forms are available on the children’s webpage, in the back of the church, and at the office. Forms and tuition fees are due by September 8th. Throughout the year you will receive these newsletters and other information regarding service projects, Masses, and other meetings we may need to schedule. **The first night of classes is Monday, September 18th.**

Adoration

As you can see on the calendar, we have added Adoration this year. The students will be grouped by grade level and spend some time in the quiet presence of Jesus. Nikki Brown, Youth Minister, will be here on these nights walking and teaching the students through this. These will take place usually on the first Monday of the month right at 6:30pm. Students are to meet the Catechist in the church on these evenings. Parents are welcome and highly encouraged to join the students on these nights.

***“Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.”* (Sirach 36:18)**

Sacramental Information

For the Sacramental grade (2nd), there are different programs that will provide this formation. This program will begin later in the year. There is no extra cost for these programs. The second graders will use the online *“Signs of Grace”* program. This program has two parts to it; *“You Are Forgiven”* (Reconciliation) and *“You Are Loved”* (Communion). *“You Are* *Forgiven”* will begin in October, *“You Are Loved”* will begin next year (2024). Students will receive their First Reconciliation in early 2024. Students will receive their First Communion in the spring of 2024. I will be working closely with Youth Minister, Nikki Brown, for Confirmation with the eighth graders. There are outlines for each program to help keep students on track. More information will come in plenty of time for you to prepare.

September Birthdays to Celebrate

7th- William Zimmer 17th- Jenna Pluff

 9th- Alaina Simon 20th- Mackenzie Lanz

11th- Evan Keilen 23rd- Blake Weber

11th- Cassie Detzler 23rd- Isadora Robydek

11th- Drew Swanson 29th- Carson Simon

17th- Sadie Gage