

Greetings!

It's been a while since we've put out a newsletter. So much has happened!! A beautiful fall retreat, an uplifting Rainbow XXIX, a Rock-a-thon that ROCKED, the energizing National Evangelization Team, and another awesome retreat at Subiaco.

We been busy serving others, too. We rang bells for the Salvation Army, shopped for the Giving Tree, visited the All Saints Soup Kitchen, Capuchin Soup Kitchen and Gleaner's Food Pantry; led the parish in the Stations of the Cross, helped with the Confirmation retreat and shared youth ministry with the 8th graders. At the Timothy Award Event we honored nine of our outstanding young people!

What else could be in store?

We're wrapping up high school religious education and youth group and we have a couple of service projects and a few fundraisers on the calendar. But it doesn't end there.....we still have Cedar Point, our summer mission trip to Cincinnati, and we hope to send teens to the Leadership Training workshop. Plus I am really looking forward to the WORLD YOUTH DAY HOME EVENT planned for August.

So check out this newsletter; some of the deadlines for registration are fast approaching.

Remember that you are always invited to join us for whatever speaks to your heart...you don't have to do *everything*. And if funds are a little tight right now please just contact me and ask; we have scholarships for many of our activities.

In the meantime, let us know what you think about our programming, check out our survey at:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VSXWPYX>

Easter blessings,

Theresa



BLUEWATER VICARIATE YOUTH SERVICE DAY

SATURDAY APRIL 30 10AM—2PM

DEPART ST. MARY'S 9:15 AM
RETURN TO ST. MARY'S 3:30PM

LUNCH PROVIDED
Please RSVP by THURSDAY 4/28



Join teens from across the Bluewater area in sprucing up the grounds at the People's Clinic (housed at Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission) We will be planting, raking, washing, painting, picking up trash and shoveling.

Last year we painted the interior of the clinic and we are excited to return and continue helping the underinsured of St. Clair County.

ADULT HELP NEEDED! ADULT DRIVERS NEEDED!

FUNDRAISERS!!

Fundraisers help keep WYD Home, Rainbow, and our mission trip affordable for everyone. Plus, they are a great way to meet people and have fun!!

MEMORIAL FLOWER SALE

Flower prep:

Sat May 28 10am till noon Church basement
Help us prep the flowers for our sale. Pizza lunch included!. Adults and teens

Flower Sale after all Masses:

Sat May 28/Sun May 29
Help for 15 minutes after any Mass. That's all it takes!

CAR WASH

Sat June 11 11am-2pm

Sign up for either shift:

10:30-12:30 or 12:30-2:30

Sandwiches and cold drinks provided!

Adults and teens



GAS GAN FUNDRAISER

After all Masses

Sat Jun 25/Sun Jun 26

Help for 15 minutes after any Mass.

Ministry Training Day for Youth Sunday May 15

Following 11:30 mass

**You are invited to more active
participation in our worship!**

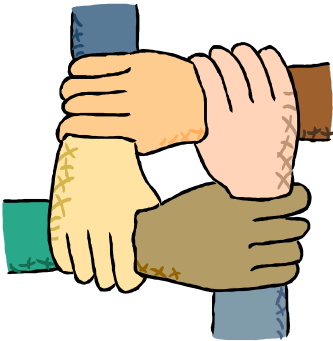
Are you ready to step forward and serve?

**Gather in church at 12:40
for a Ministry Training Session
just for teens and learn
what you need to be a
Eucharistic Minister,
Lector or Commentator**
(Session will last until approximately 1:30)

**To register contact
Margie Bernia 329-2255
Or
Theresa Barrons**

ATTENTION TEEN LEADERS:

The Archdiocese of Detroit is providing leadership training for teens this summer. This overnight program includes opportunities for leadership training and skill development. The course covers topics like communication, facilitation, planning and decision-making using group dynamics and the StrengthsFinder 2.0 resource which helps identify individual strengths.



This active and fun-filled workshop brings together teens from across the diocese and teaches skills useful in school, scouts, the workplace, and life.

The \$50 fee includes lodging and meals

St. Mary's parish will pay ½ of your registration fee for a cost to you of \$25.

June 24-25th, 2011 OR July 29-30th, 2011

Open to youth who have completed 9th grade through youth entering 12th grade.
Adult chaperones needed to participate and learn with our parish teens. Registration fee for adults is covered by the parish.

CONTACT THE YOUTH MIINISTRY OFFICE ASAP: space is limited—first come, first served

SUPER SUNDAE SUNDAY

YOUTH GROUP GATHERING



Sunday, May 15 6:30-8:30

School Activities Room

Bring your favorite topping to share...greet the class of 2015....say goodbye to our graduating seniors....sign up for Cedar Point and our other cool summer happenings... join us as we pray our "sundae prayer"! Gym will be open during fellowship.

We are looking forward to seeing YOU!

Adult helpers ("super scoopers") are needed and welcome

High School Religious Ed

End-of-the-year Mass/Session/Picnic

Sunday May 1 6:00 pm

May 1 our session will begin earlier than usual, at **6:00 with Mass** on the side lawn of the church, behind the fountain, then we'll move into grade-level groups for discussion, and end with a pot-luck picnic. The parish provides the hotdogs and drinks, everyone else brings their fave side dish to share.



Don't forget your lawn chair!!

Eighth graders are invited to join us and try out the program

*Adult help is needed and welcome,
please call in advance to volunteer.*

World Youth Day/Home

August 20-21

Let us connect with the world as we celebrate!

Our WYD Pilgrimage begins at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Detroit...we will travel by bus to St. Peter/Mt. Clemens...walk to St. Louis/Clinton Twp, and conclude our journey at St. Hubert/Harrison Twp. The celebration will include an evening festival, midnight Mass, and morning prayer at Metro Beach. We will sleep under the stars in solidarity with fellow pilgrims in Madrid, Spain. There will be speakers to inspire us, musicians to enliven us, and service to enrich our hearts. The papal address will be broadcast from Madrid to give a glimpse of millions of young people in celebration with our pope!

We invite high school teens and young adults to age 35. (Young adults will have their own breakout sessions and separate sleeping accommodations.)

\$50/person includes transportation,
meals, and all event activities.
(scholarships available)

Won't you join us for the event of the year?

Information meeting!
Sunday May 15 at 6:30
before our Super Sundaes youth gathering
Or contact Theresa Barrons for registration details.

REGISTRATION for teens ENDS JUNE 12

Note: much adult help will be needed! We need at least one female and one male chaperone. If you feel called to join us for this amazing event please let me know.

"Planted and built up in Jesus Christ, firm in the faith." (Col 2)
www.madrid11.com



St. Mary's Youth Ministry
St. Clair, Michigan

Cedar Point!

TUESDAY June 21

TOTAL COST: \$60.00/person

(Includes charter bus & park admission)



TO REGISTER: Contact the Youth Ministry Office ASAP to register

Theresa Barrons, Coordinator: 329-0952 or tbarrons@stmarysstclair.org

Payment and signed permission slip due by May 31

Medical Release form 10/11 must be on file, or new form 11/12

All forms available on the parish website or youth ministry bulletin board

Some general rules.....

- The bus leaves St. Mary's promptly at 6:30AM
- Everyone must sign up with a buddy, and **NO ONE** should be left alone, *ever!*
- We leave the park at 8:00 PM, return to St. Mary's 12:00 AM
- Remember our youth group dress code? It applies even at Cedar Point.
Dress appropriately— no swimwear unless covered with a t-shirt.



What to bring.....

Spending money (stopping at McDonalds)

Reading material, munchies, cards for the bus

Please don't bring dvd's unless approved by Theresa

RADIOS WITH HEADPHONES ONLY

Items may be left on the locked bus during the day but the bus company cannot be responsible for your valuables

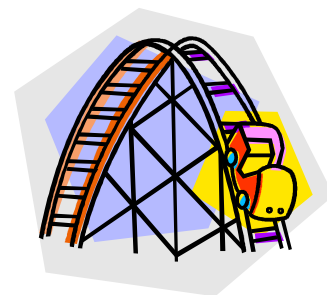
Again this year!!



Lunch and Rideshare at 2:00

You may pack a lunch to put in my cooler or plan on buying food in the park. We will meet at the picnic pavilion at 2:00 and after sharing lunch as a group, we will share one ride as a group—Theresa's choice :o)
Then you can finish out the day in your small groups!

******* This is not optional *******



NOTE TO PARENTS:

Your teen will be "on their own" in the park.

They will be expected to:

follow our buddy system guidelines

join us on time for lunch/rideshare

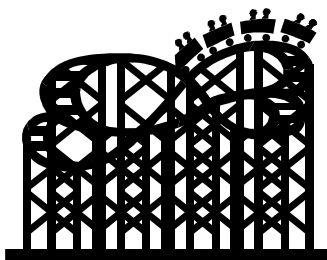
not keep the bus waiting at departure

Adult chaperones will check at the first aid stations throughout the day

EMERGENCY PHONE # 810-394-0753

—ADULT CHAPERONES NEEDED—

Younger siblings welcome if accompanied by a parent



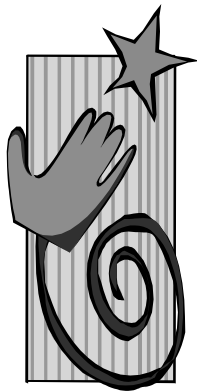
Called to Serve

Once you are in high school, if you want to volunteer at St. Mary's you must be CTS-certified through "Called to Serve."

This workshop is required by our Archdiocese for high school teens who serve their community through participation in the following parish activities: catechist/aide in Religious Ed or VBS; choir; altar server; Eucharistic minister; lector; usher; festival volunteer; service project or mission trip volunteer; Catholic grade school tutor or sports coach/assistant; junior high mentor; and any high school teen who is employed by the parish.

If you wish to participate in any youth ministry service project or event that includes children or the vulnerable, ***YOU MUST ATTEND A CTS WORKSHOP.***

If you are an altar server or choir member and you wish to continue in these ministries after 8th grade, ***you need to complete a CTS workshop*** within six months.



Next parish workshop: Called to Serve St. Mary's, St. Clair SUNDAY JUNE 12

1:00-4:00pm

Youth Room (103)

Brunch served at 12:30, pizza included during break

To register contact: **Mary Paquette 329-2255**

pre-registration REQUIRED

For a complete list of locations/dates visit

[www.aodonline.org—safe environments—attend a CTS workshop]

Register through the Contact Person for the site you choose

You must register with the parish contact person, there is no online registration for CTS.

signed permission slip REQUIRED

Bring a signed and dated permission slip with you to the workshop

Available on the youth ministry bulletin board or on the parish website www.stmarysstclair.org follow the tabs for youth ministry—called to serve. *This permission slip is valid at any location.*

The Called to Serve workshop is intended to empower teens to serve their parish and school communities. Participants will examine their service roles and learn safe and nurturing behaviors that will enable them to be positive role models.

The program also gives participants the information and guidance to:

- use their talents to serve others
- recognize and employ appropriate behavior
- understand physical, emotional and behavioral boundaries
- recognize when boundaries are threatened
- know how to respond when boundaries are broken

Participants will learn specific guidelines for working with the adults who supervise their service, the children and vulnerable they serve, and the teens who will assist them. This is an interactive workshop that uses small group discussion, video segments, and problem-solving to deal with a sensitive subject.

Facilitators have been trained and certified through the Office for Safe Environments.

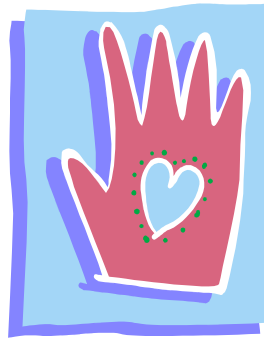
Questions?

Contact Theresa Barrons 329-0952

OR the Office for Safe Environments, Archdiocese of Detroit

Dear Parents,

As many of you know the past couple of years have been very difficult for the teens in our community. Sometimes the pain seems unbearable. How can we as parents and mentors help our teens cope with feelings of loss, anxiety, or depression?



PARENT PAGE

St. Mary's is working to help our community heal. We have a dedicated team committed to reaching out to our teens and walking them through these dark days. We are in the planning phase of a small-group project for peer support and involved in a community-wide initiative; we will use the parish bulletin, email, and facebook to keep you updated as our plans progress.

If this is something that you would like to be involved in please contact me to be added to our team. We'd love to have you. In the meantime, if you could keep us in prayer to stay focused and to find the resources and the fortitude to continue, it would be appreciated.

This parent page includes a list of resources to help you help your teenagers. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I'd be glad to hear from you.

Together in parenting,

Theresa

Websites and Resources on Grief and Loss in Teens

<http://www.americanhospice.org/griefzone/articles/grievingteen>
Articles on teen grief and bereavement

<http://www.bcchildrens.ca/yourvisit/familyservices/griefandloss>
Children's and Women's Health Center of British Columbia

<http://wnyafn.com/teengrief>
Helping Teens Cope with Grief

<http://www.focusas.com>
Focus Adolescent Services

The Grieving Teen: A Guide for Teenager and Their Friends
Helen Fitzgerald. New York: Simon & Schuster (Fireside Books), 2000

When a Friend Dies: A Book for Teens About Grieving and Healing
Marilyn E. Gootman. Minneapolis MN: Free Spirit Publishing, 2005

Straight talk about Death for Teenagers: How to Cope with Losing Someone You Love
Earl A. Grollman. Boston: Beacon Press, 1993

Healing Your Grieving Heart for Teens
Alan D. Wolfelt. Fort Collins CO: Companion Press, 2011

Note: Amazon had an abundance of choices! Know that anything from Group Publishing or Youth Specialties would be Christian-based and reliable.

**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
YOUTH MINISTRY**

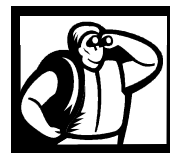
415 N. Sixth St.
St. Clair, Michigan 48079

Theresa Barrons
Youth Coordinator

810-329-0952
tbarrons@stmarysstclair.org

LOOKING AHEAD:

- April 30 Youth Service Day
- May 1 high school religious ed Mass and picnic
- May 14 Postal Workers Food Drive
- May 15 Ministry Training for Youth
- May 15 WYD Home information meeting
- May 15 Super Sundae Sunday youth group
- May 28 Flower prep
- May 28/29 Flower sale
- June 5 Cap & Gown Mass
- June 11 Carwash
- June 12 Called to Serve workshop
- June 21 Cedar Point
- June 24/25 Leadership Workshop
- June 25/26 Gas Can fundraiser
- July 17-23 mission trip to Cincinnati
- August 20-21 World Youth Day Home Event



**YOU can help us improve our youth ministry program!
Just take this simple on-line survey and tell us what you think:**

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VSXWPYX>

OR check out our website www.stmarysstclair.org and follow the tabs for Youth ministry/upcoming events/downloads and click on the survey link there.