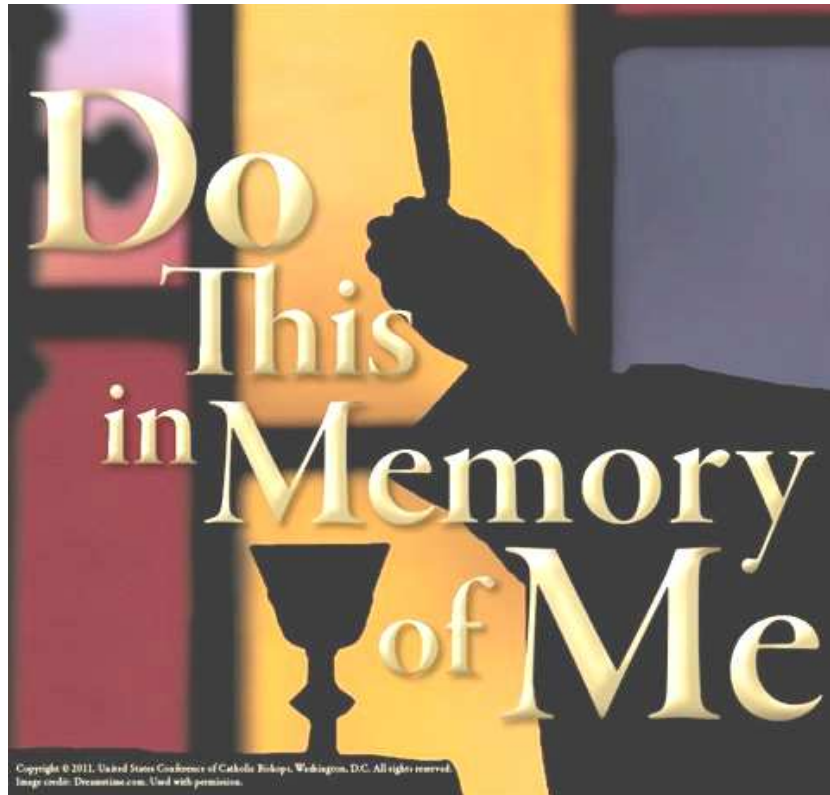


Faith Formation Calendar for
Elementary, Youth Ministry, Sacraments & RCIA
2011-2012



A Prayer for Family Commitment

Loving God, you have called all Christian families
to be a sign of your love to the world.

Help us to be generous with the gifts of life
and love that you have showered on our family.

May we share them so that our homes become true signs of unitive and fruitful love.

Let us never forget to thank you each day for all that sustains us
and to look to Christ, who comes to us in the events of family life, in
the sacraments of the Church, in the Mass, and in service to the poor.

In all of this, our family becomes a living expression of your Church, a hallowed home of
life and love. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may all of us—spouses, parents, and
children—share, as members of his Body, in Jesus' mission to build a civilization of love.

Father, we ask this in Jesus' name in union with the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Elementary Faith Formation: Maria Christie
Youth Ministry Faith Formation: Sr. Mary Lou Owczarzak
Sacraments: Betty Zeestraten

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

3516 E. Monroe Road, Midland, MI 48642
(989) 835-3133

FAITH FORMATION — ELEMENTARY — SUNDAYS 8:20 & 10:45 AM

September

Sept. 11 *EFF Open House for*
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
Church Picnic
Sept. 18 **EFF Begins**
Parent Meeting
Catechetical Sunday
Children's Liturgy begins at 9:30 Mass
Sept. 25 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd begins
EFF meets

October

Oct. 2, 9, 23 EFF meets
Oct. 16 *No EFF*
Oct. 30 All Saints Celebration after 9:30 Mass
No 8:20 session

November

Nov. 6, 13, 20 EFF meets
Nov. 27 *No EFF*

December

Dec. 4, 11, 18 EFF meets
Dec. 25 *No EFF*

January

Jan. 8, 15, 29 EFF meets
Jan. 1, 22 *No EFF*

February

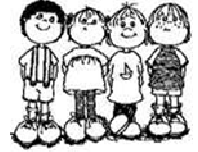
Feb. 5, 12, 26 EFF meets
Feb. 19 Elementary Catechist Meeting & Dinner
Feb. 19 *No EFF*

March

Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25 EFF meets

April

Apr. 15, 22 EFF meets
Apr. 1, 8 *No EFF*
Apr. 29 Crowning an Image of Mary
(last EFF)



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL—June 11-14, 2012
Please visit our elementary web page at www.assumptionfaith.org

FAITH FORMATION — YOUTH MINISTRY — SUNDAYS 6:30 PM

Middle School

August

Aug. 30 Kokomo's Fun, 1-4 pm

September

Sept. 11 Church Picnic
Sept. 18 Catechetical Sunday
Sept. 25 **YM Begins**
Parents/students meet for an overview

October

Oct. 2, 9, 23 YM meets
Oct. 16 *No YM*
Oct. 30 Halloween Party/Blessed Sacrament
Oct. 30 Celebrate All Saints Day after Mass

November

Nov. 6, 13, 20 YM meets
Nov. 27 *No YM*

December

Dec. 4 YM Family Gathering (6:30-8pm)
Dec. 11, 18 YM meets
Dec. 25 *No YM*

January

Jan. 8, 15, 29 YM meets
Jan. 1, 22 *No YM*
Jan. 21-24 Right to Life March, 8-12th Graders

February

Feb. 4 (Sat.) Service Blitz
Feb. 5 "Souper" Bowl Sunday (**no YM**)
Feb. 12, 26 YM meets
Feb. 19 YM Burning of the Palms/Mardi Gras Party

March

Mar. 4, 11, 25 YM meets
Mar. 18 YM Shadow Stations/St. Patrick's Party
Mar. Camp Rotary Retreat—TBA

April

Apr. 15, 22 YM meets
Apr. 1, 8 *No YM*
Apr. 29 Crowning an Image of Mary
Ice Cream Social (**last YM**)



High School

September

Sept. 11 Church Picnic
Sept. 18 Catechetical Sunday
Sept. 25 **YM Begins**
Parents/students meet for an overview

October

Oct. 2, 9, 23 YM meets
Oct. 16 *No YM*
Oct. 22 (Sat.) World Youth Day/Feed the Fire
Oct. 30 Celebrate All Saints Day after Mass

November

Nov. 6, 13 YM meets
Nov. 12/13 11th & 12th grade retreat at CMU
Nov. 17-20 NCYC in Indianapolis
Nov. 20, 27 *No YM*

December

Dec. 4 YM Family Gathering (6:30-8pm)
Dec. 11, 18 YM meets
Dec. 25 *No YM*

January

Jan. 8, 15, 29 YM meets
Jan. 1, 22 *No YM*
Jan. 21-24 Right to Life March, 8-12th Graders

February

Feb. 4 (Sat.) Service Blitz
Feb. 5 "Souper" Bowl Sunday (**no YM**)
Feb. 12, 26 YM meets
Feb. 19 YM Burning of the Palms/Mardi Gras Party

March

Mar. 4, 11, 25 YM meets
Mar. 18 YM Shadow Stations/St. Patrick's Party

April

Apr. 15, 22 YM meets
Apr. 1, 8 *No YM*
Apr. 29 Crowning an Image of Mary
Ice Cream Social (**last YM**)
Apr. 30/1 Y to Y Retreat



June 3rd - Graduation Celebration / June 8th - Cedar Point

VISION STATEMENT

The vision of the Faith Formation team at Assumption Parish is to lead people to a personal relationship with God the Father, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. Through our ongoing faith formation and participation in Liturgy, we deepen our experience of God, family and community.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Dates for Sacrament Meetings:

Individual family meeting in September is a MUST for families with children preparing for sacraments. Call Betty at (989) 631-4447 or email: betty@assumptionmidland.org to schedule your family meeting.

Dates for Reconciliation Classes (Parents and Children):

Sunday, October 9th	12:00 - 2:00pm
Sunday, November 6th	12:00 - 2:00pm
NOVEMBER 12th for Reconciliation	10 AM

Dates for Confirmation Classes:

Sunday, December 11th	12:00 - 2:00pm
Sunday, January 15th (snow day on Jan. 22nd)	12:00 - 2:00pm
CONFIRMATION: TBA - (Due to Bishop's schedule)	

Retreat for Confirmation will be the evening before Confirmation.

Dates for First Eucharist Classes:

Sunday, February 26th	12:00 - 2:00pm
Sunday, March 25th	12:00 - 2:00pm
Date for First Eucharist	April 21st

(Come at 3:00pm dressed for First Eucharist)



Sacraments: Preparation for celebrating the sacraments of Confirmation, First Eucharist, and First Reconciliation begins with an Individual Family Meeting in September. Call Betty at (989) 631-4447 or email her to schedule your family meeting.

RCIA (adapted for Children): Children who are over the age of seven and have not yet been Baptized will be expected to attend regular faith formation and attend a program that will prepare them to receive Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist. Please call Betty if your child has not been Baptized.

“The greatest gift parents can give their children is their love for one another.”



CATECHETICAL SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 18, 2011

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops



Elementary Formation: Our elementary program includes **pre-school, kindergarten, and grades 1-5**. Children in these grades meet on Sunday morning either before Sunday Mass at 8:20 am or after Mass at 10:45 am. The faith formation program used in 1st grade through 5th grade is the Silver Burdett **Blest Are We, Faith and Word edition**. This program was developed according to the four pillars of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: what Catholics believe, how we worship, how we live and how we pray. Using an integrated approach, the essentials of Catholic teaching are presented to the children in a way that helps them to learn about and deepen their faith. Using a spiral curriculum, the Blest Are We text reinforces year to year what the children already know.

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: Used at the **pre-school and kindergarten** level. This is a program of faith formation that presents the most important realities of the catholic faith to the youngest members of the church. This is achieved by: **1)** a prepared environment (atrium) and **2)** a trained catechist whose sources are scripture and liturgy. The prepared environment contains materials that are models of symbols used in the church's worship, such as an altar, liturgical colors, etc., as well as materials relating to the proclamation of the faith such as parables, prophecies, geography of Israel and the life of Christ. These presentations are chosen to convey the essentials of the faith in a manner appropriate to the child's development. The child is then invited to internalize and respond to the presentation by working with the materials themselves.

The elementary children also learn about vocations during national vocation week in January.

Vacation Bible School: Offers a fun interactive vacation bible school in the summer. In 2007 we had a Great Bible Reef and in 2008 we had a Treetop Bible Blast. Just recently we joined with our cluster parishes of Blessed Sacrament and St. Brigid's and had an adventure in faith in our very own Hometown Nazareth.

Youth Ministry for Middle and High School Students: Part of the catechetical ministry for our middle and high school students is at 6:30 pm on Sunday evenings. Youth ministry events are also scheduled on other days with the parish community, vicariate and diocese. This year our **middle school** students will be discovering God's plan for love and life by using the new program, **Theology of the Body** designed for them by Ascension Press. For most of the sessions this year, 6th, 7th and 8th graders will be combined. Faith themes for **high school** students are: faith and identity, Scripture, Jesus, peace and justice, morality, prayer and worship. High school students also have an opportunity to participate in Mission trips, National Conferences, ND Vision, and the Right to Life March in Washington DC. There are also times when programs such as retreats, service projects and other outings will be offered by **MACY** (Midland Area Catholic Youth) for middle and high school students. Both middle and high school students will be exploring the **New Translation of the Roman Missal** along with growing into a deeper appreciation and understanding of the Mass.

The **faith formation** sessions are designed to build on the faith lived at home and are also community builders. Catechists and aides share their time and talent in these sessions. If you enjoy working with children, adolescents or teens, and feel called to share your faith, please give us a call.

Check out our website for the latest news in Faith Formation and all parish activities at www.assumptionmidland.org.