

HOLY FAMILY REGIONAL SCHOOL

JESUS CHRIST IS THE REASON FOR OUR SCHOOL

Friday, March 11, 2022

Issue 25

HFRS Weekly Wrap

Dear Parents,

How great is the love of our Heavenly Father? It is amazing to think about the depth of mercy that our Father has for us. His love is perfect and unchanging and He never takes his eyes off of us. He is so worthy of all praise and honor and glory!

From the very beginning, his arms have always been open wide, ready to receive us whenever we ask forgiveness. Even if we have made poor decisions, or were so wrapped up in our daily tasks that He was no longer a priority—we are never forgotten! God always offers us the opportunity for a new heart and a new mind. Let's keep our focus on our loving Father this week, and share his mercy with those that we encounter.

This Week's Happenings:

- This past week we began to screen incoming Y5 and Kindergarten students. We have many new families who are excited to become part of the HFRS community, and several are friends and colleagues of our current families. Thank you for sharing the good news about our school!
- On Wednesday night a group of HFRS families gathered online to pray the rosary together. We will pray the rosary every Wednesday night at 7:00pm during Lent. Please join us by clicking on the following link: [Wednesday Rosary](#)
- We are now seeking candidates for the 22-23 School Advisory Council (SAC). You will notice the new title for the 22-23 school year which reflects the role of this governing body. The School Board by-laws are under review and will be modified to reflect the Family of Parish structure with three supporting parishes. If you are interested in serving on the SAC please look for more information about the nomination process in this edition of the Wrap.
- There are two weeks left for fulfilling volunteer hours for the 21-22 school year. Please note that it is necessary to sign-up before arriving at school to assist with volunteering. It is against school policy for parents to show up for unscheduled visits to the playground or classrooms.

May our Loving Father continue to bless you and your family. Please pray for the children of our school, that they be drawn to Christ, and know that they are children of God.

Yours in Christ,



Mr. Myers
Principal

Looking Ahead

Monday, March 14

Professional Development Day—No school for students.

Tuesday, March 15

Y5/K Screening at North Campus

Wednesday, March 16

7:00pm HFRS Lenten Rosary— [Click Here](#)

Thursday, March 17—St. Patrick's Day

Non-Uniform "Wear Green" Day

Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

9:00am School Mass (4-8) at St. Mary of the Hills

Friday, March 19

9:00am School Mass (Y5-3) at St. Andrew Church

Announcements:

HFRS HUMAN RESOURCE GENERALIST POSITION This week a Human Resource Generalist position was posted to the AOD site. If you know someone who is interested in working at a Catholic school and has a human resource background, please pass along this information. More information regarding the position can be found by clicking on this link: [HFRS HR Position](#)

Attention Third Grade Parents:

Wednesday	May 11	6:30pm	- 4 th Grade Parent Night, South Campus Cafeteria
Thursday	August 18	9-11am	- 4 th Grade Orientation

TO: Holy Family Regional School ("HFRS") Parents and Guardians
FROM: 2022 School Advisory Council Committee
DATE: March 14, 2022
SUBJECT: 2022 HFRS School Advisory Council (SAC) Election – Request for Candidates



The Holy Family Regional School Advisory Council (formerly referred to as Board of Directors) is committed to:

- The philosophy and goals of Holy Family Regional School
- Upholding the School Advisory Council's by-laws and policies
- Working cooperatively with our administration, faculty, parents, supporting parishes and surrounding community
- Overseeing the financial management of Holy Family Regional School, its organizations and committees
- With the help of Jesus Christ, the reason for Holy Family Regional School, we recognize our responsibility to model and promote our Catholic faith through prayerful deliberation and decision-making

Pursuant to the HFRS Bylaws (Revised February 2022), an election will be held to fill vacancies for the School Advisory Council (formerly referred to as School Board). Vacancies normally occur when current members have served to their limit (6 years in total) or are subject to re-election (every two years). Each election cycle, there are typically five seats that are required to be filled.

FAQs of a School Board Member:

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Number of At-Large School Board Seats | 12 |
| • Number of Seats "Up for Election" | 6 (3 Incumbent, 3 Open) |
| • Term | 2 Year |
| • Meeting Frequency | Typically 1 per month + committee meetings |
| • Meeting Time | First Monday of the month (Sept –Jun) at 6 PM |
| • Volunteer Hours Earned | 5 hours (non-operational) |

HFRS is generally governed by an elected and appointed School Advisory Council and is accountable to the archbishop directly through the HFRS Pastor (Monsignor Mike Hrydziuszko). The role of the School Advisory Council is to provide counsel and recommendations regarding the affairs of HFRS.

The School Advisory Council requires the special skill set of love and selflessness and the free will gift of your Time and Talents. Nothing more and nothing less. The successes of our school and the perpetuity of Catholic Education reside largely with the effort of the community of our faith and volunteers like you.

Interested candidates should send a short statement of interest to Principal Jon Myers Myers.jon@holyfam.org **by Friday April 8, 2022**. In your statement, please provide a brief biography and describe how you feel you can contribute to the school. All statements of interest will be published in the Weekly Wrap on **April 11, 2022**, and **April 29, 2022**. The election period will begin with ballots distributed on **April 25, 2022 and** returned to the school office no later than **May 9, 2022**.

Please consider becoming a member of the School Advisory Council and feel free to contact a member of the Election Committee or another School Advisory Council member if you have any questions. Thank you for all that you do for our school and its community.

Sincerely,

Paul Engel (248.842.1503) and Angie Avripas (586.909.8128)
2022 SAC Election Committee

"Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that you have received--only what you have given: a full heart enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice and courage."
— Saint Francis of Assisi



HOLY FAMILY REGIONAL SCHOOL SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL 2021-2022

BOARD POSITION:	NAME:	TERM END:	E-MAIL ADDRESS:
Pastor	Msgr. Mike Hrydziuszko	N/A	pastor@standrewchurch.org
Principal	Jon Myers	N/A	Myers.jon@holyfam.org
Assistant Principal - South	Bridget Hondzinski	N/A	Hondzinski.bridget@holyfam.org
Assistant Principal - North	Carla Vandercruyssen	N/A	Vandercruyssen.carla@holyfam.org
President	Tony Haddad	2023	tony@ttechsolutions.net
Vice President	Ben Brigulio	2022	ben.brigulio@gmail.com
Secretary	Jeremiah Glembocki	2023	glembocki@aol.com
Treasurer	Liz Plummer	2022	lizobloy@gmail.com
At-Large	Bethany Rotole	2023	blpagnani@gmail.com
At-Large	Angie Avripas	2022	aavripas@es3.net
At-Large	Chris Sorgi	2022	cpsorgijr@gmail.com
At-Large	Capri Hiovich	2022	hiovichcp@gmail.com
At-Large	Sam Previti	2023	sspreviti@hotmail.com
At-Large	Judy Kolcaj	2022	jkolcaj@yahoo.com
Parish Rep.- St. Andrew	Paul Engel	n/a	pte@h2law.com
Parish Rep.- St. Mary	Melissa Keen	n/a	mzkeen13@gmail.com
Parish Rep. - St. Irenaeus	Kevin Kavanaugh	n/a	kevin@thekavanaughlawfirm.com
Parish Rep.- St. John Fisher	Allan Kochanski	n/a	akochanski2000@gmail.com
Parish Rep. - Sacred Heart	Mikolaj Stachura	n/a	mikolaj.stachura@gmail.com

Mission Moments

Mar 7, 2022

Living our Mission/Spiritual and Religious Formation

1. During the weeks of Lent:

- Mrs. Myers will offer student prayer opportunities during recess, one day a week, at both the north and south campuses.
- A virtual Rosary will be hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Myers every Wednesday.
- Reconciliations will be offered to students in grades 3-8.
- A parent-led Rosary for Peace will take place at north campus on Friday mornings, 8:30 AM in St. Andrews. We will be joining the parishioners who gather each Friday to pray the rosary.
- The virtue of Fortitude will be highlighted during morning announcements and in religion classes.
- Passion play practices continue. There is much catechesis that happens with the student cast as they take on the roles of people in Jesus' last days.

2. The third graders are learning about the Pentecost. To enhance the lesson, students were instructed to fill a white piece of paper with the colors of red, orange, and yellow to represent the fire above the Apostles' heads. Students could create whatever pattern they desired but the goal was to let no white space show. The Holy Spirit fills each person just as completely and entirely as students filled their paper. A dove was added into the center to represent the Holy Spirit along with the gifts given to each person.

Living our Mission/Academic Excellence

1. Some Middle school students have scored 'post high school level' of reading excellence on the STAR reading test. These students are also able to help lead classroom discussions applying critical thinking skills, and proper literary terms to dissect literature.
2. Our 8th graders have been chosen to participate in math and reading testing from the National Assessment of Educational Progress from the National Department of Education. We will be excited to see how our students perform next to their peers.

Living our Mission/Service to Others

1. The middle school Science department has just completed a 3 year process of converting their classrooms into green classrooms. They have transferred all notes, assignments, tests, and quizzes into google formats. This has considerably improved the amount of paper used, helping both the environment and our school budget.
2. First graders are completing a weekly chore at home during the weeks of Lent that they aren't normally responsible for and can independently complete. Children will earn \$2 at the end of their commitment and will donate the money to cover the cost of a spring craft for the residents of Waltonwood.

Cardinal Virtue of Fortitude

Educating You and your Child

Your child(ren) are learning about this virtue this month of March

Fortitude both a virtue and Gift of the Holy Spirit! It means courage.

Related virtues are Industriousness, Magnanimity, Magnificence, Patience and Perseverance

Here are a few thoughts that have been shared with your children...

Fortitude is strength ... not strength from your muscles but strength in your mind and your conscience. It is often called courage. Do you know what it is to be courageous? There are different types of courage...meaning you aren't afraid of things. Fortitude, though, means you have a courage, but courage to make the right choices and to do the right thing. It is a shield from God to protect you from hurt feelings, and it helps you endure difficulties and pain ... for the sake of what is good.

We know we have the mark of fortitude, when we are confident in our faith, and heroic in the things expected of us... whether big or small. We know, with God, we can do anything...we are not lazy, we are not reckless, and we don't do things that would hurt ourselves, or others. We can say no to things we know is wrong...even when saying no to friends...or even saying no to a group of people who may make fun of us. That is true courage, true fortitude. Think for a moment whether you know someone who has the mark of fortitude? Do you?

Having fortitude also means *saying yes* when you normally might not...or maybe when you really don't want to do something. For instance, if you see someone who needs help, you would go help them...even if you are tired, or if you are being called away from something you are busy doing. You would say "yes" I will help because I know it is the right thing to do.

We have been talking about, not being afraid to do things that help others, and how our behaviors should lead to good. However, we must remember that when we are *doing good for God*, we should not seek praise. We should not muster up courage to do things just to get noticed, or to win praise. We, as God's people, should always be humble. If someone notices the good you have done (and you haven't told them) then, for sure, say thank you ... and then thank God for showing that *what you did* made a difference. Don't do good to please yourself.

Help us reach our goal of One Million Random Acts of Kindness!

Everyone in the Greater Rochester area & beyond is welcome to participate in our mission to spread Kindness, the most important ingredient in a caring community!



Visit: localkindness.org for more information &

Scan to Track and share YOUR Random Acts of Kindness!



See it. Say it. Do it.



Coffee



with Campus Ministry

Come chat with

Kim Myers, Director of Campus Ministry,

DATE CHANGE Monday March 21st

and enjoy prayer and coffee

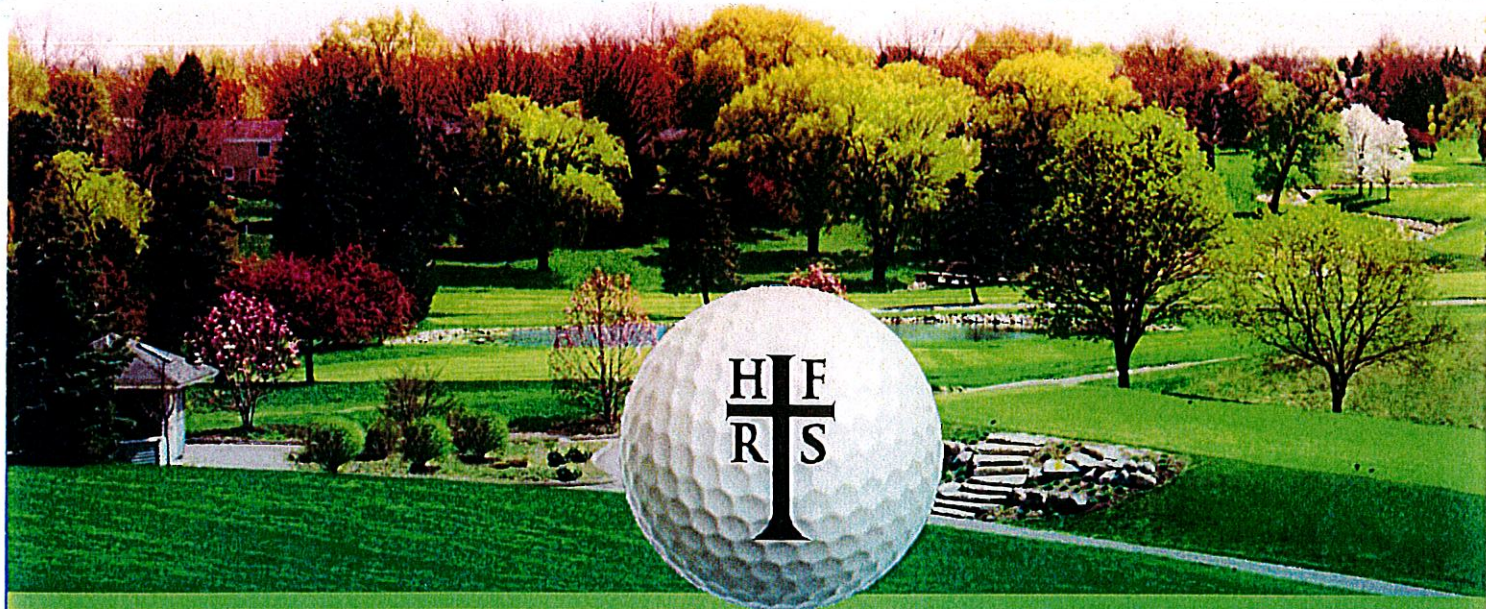
All are Welcome!

When: Monday, March 21st 9am

Where: South Campus MPR

MUST RSVP for the gathering please to

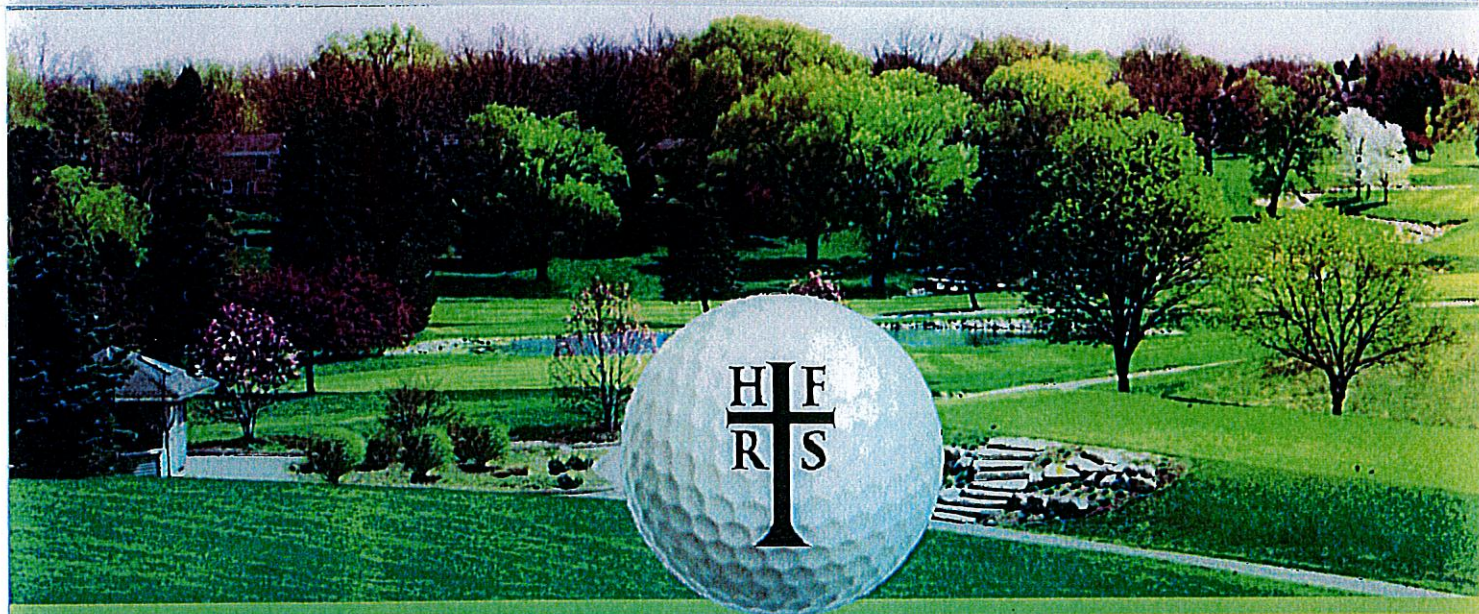
Myers.kimberly@holyfam.org



SAVE-THE-DATE

Holy Family Regional School
29th Annual Golf Outing
May 16, 2022

Great Oaks Country Club
Please visit www.holyfam.org for more information



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PTG Connection

Connecting Parents, Teachers and Students



Quick Links

[Contact Us](#)

Next PTG Membership Meeting

4/12 - 9:15 am - North Campus

Lent us your ear...

As we fill you in on all things PTG this week!

Daddy Daughter Dance

Sunday, Mar 6th

Wow! What an amazing party we had last weekend! The room was at capacity with dads and their #1 ladies enjoying sweet treats and fun beats. Special thanks to Kristen Baradihi Ashley Poggiolo, Candace Smith, Sara Tomas, and all the parent volunteers who contributed!

Photos Wanted!

We know you took a million pics so far this school year and are dying to share them with us. Send all event photos to:

photos@holyfam.org.

In this issue...

1

DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE

2

PHOTOS WANTED

3

DESTINATION IMAGINATION

4

FAMILY DINNER NIGHT

5

ICE CREAM SOCIALS

6

FISH FRY

7

MOTHER/SON EVENT

8

SCIENCE/CULTURAL

9

MOTHERS' DINNER

Destination Imagination

Congrats to our DI teams who attended last weekend's showcase at Waterford Mott. We are so proud of you and your coaches! Julie Gagliardi, Andrea Thomas, Tanya Gurne and Jessica Chang - you are fantastic mentors! Thanks again to Capri Hiovich for organizing the teams.

Family Dinner Night

Wednesday, Mar 9th

Family Dinner Night was in full effect this week at all Kruse and Muer's locations. Special thanks to Melissa Flasck for coordinating this yummy event.

Ice Cream Socials/Open House

Thursday, Mar 10th - South Campus

Thursday, Mar 24th - North Campus

The South Campus ice cream social took place on Thursday. There were lots of happy *sticky* little faces touring the halls. *Don't worry, we saved some treats for the event at North Campus* - [RSVP here to enjoy!](#) Thank you to Michelle Koo, Joy Nagy, Alicia Bronik and Jennifer Brown for overseeing both locations.

Fish Fry

3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/1, 4/8, 4/15

Head to Paul's on Main Street every Friday during Lent. HFRS families receive 10% off their bills. Good times and good eats! Be sure to bring attached flyer...

PTG Executive Board

Presidents: Elizabeth Koenig
& Lauren Kochenderfer

Vice Presidents: Jamie Corsetti
& Christina Scollin

Secretary: Christina Matway

Treasurer: Julie Gagliardi

Mother/Son Event

Sunday, Apr 10th

Save the date for an afternoon of laser tag, bowling and MORE! The best part? *Mom will be there.* See attached flyer...

Science/Cultural Event

Tuesday, Apr 12th

Save the date for this annual favorite! See attached flyer for more info...

Mothers' Dinner

Thursday May 5th

Save the date for the 39th Annual HFRS Mothers' Dinner & Fashion Show at the Palazzo Grande. This year's theme: "**Old Hollywood Glam, a Night in the Spotlight.**" *Long lashes, bold lips & waves...think of how great your selfies will be!* Ticket sales open April 4th. Parents of **8th grade models** should attend an informational meeting, **Tuesday Mar 15th @ 7pm** in the South Campus Cafeteria.

Retail Fundraisers

[Amazon Smile](#), [Box Tops](#), [Kroger](#), [Toyology](#)

For HFRS retail fundraiser info, click on the links above, available in every PTG Connection.

"Teamwork makes the DREAM work."

FRIENDS • FELLOWSHIP FISH FRY

Join your Holy Family Community
every Friday during the season of Lent
at



Grab some friends and make it a night out!
Present this flyer to receive 10% off your bill



HOLY FAMILY REGIONAL SCHOOL PTG CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO

OLD HOLLYWOOD GLAM

A NIGHT IN THE SPOTLIGHT

39th Annual Mothers' Dinner &

Fashion Show

Thursday May 5, 2022

CHAMPAGNE - 6:00pm | DINNER - 7:00pm | FASHION SHOW - 8:00pm
Palazzo Grande | 54660 Van Dyke Ave. Shelby Twp., MI

TICKETS: \$65 | Raffles + Wine Pull

TICKETS GO ON SALE APRIL 4TH, 2022



APRIL 12TH 2022

2022 HFRS CULTURAL EVENT AND SCIENCE EXPO

This school year our annual Cultural Event and Science Expo will only be accepting research projects that can be displayed on a tri-fold display board.

Presentations should be delivered to South Campus after school April 11th or before school April 12th.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER AND FOR MORE INFORMATION!

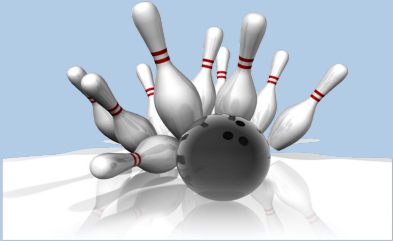
Any Student can participate!



Holy Family Regional School

presents our annual

Mother Son Event



When: Sunday, April 10th

Time: 12 pm - 2 pm

Where: Escape (Troy): 1950 E Square Lake Rd, Troy

Cost: \$26.50/person

Includes: Bowling, Laser Tag, 2 slices of pizza & unlimited soda.

Registration closes Wednesday, April 6th!

No late registrations will be accepted. This event has a capacity limit so be sure to sign up now.

No preassigned lanes. Lanes can hold up to **8** people.

We suggest entering with your desired group.

We will do our best to accommodate,
although we cannot make any guarantees.

Bring **CASH** for the Arcade(*optional*), 50/50 Raffle, and a chance to win some awesome fishbowl raffle prizes.

Link to Register: [HERE](#)

Link to Volunteer: [HERE](#)

Please contact event chairs with any questions:

joannarcollins@yahoo.com or nikcondon@att.net



HERE'S THE SCOOP ...
YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS IT!

Holy Family North Campus Ice Cream Social

Thursday, March 24th
5:00–7:00 pm

TOUR OUR SCHOOL

MEET OUR AMAZING TEACHERS

SEE PROJECTS ON DISPLAY

REVIEW TEXTBOOKS

VISIT WITH OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

RSVP ONLINE @ WWW.HOLYFAM.ORG

Holy Family Regional School - North Campus
1240 Inglewood Avenue Rochester, MI 48307
(248) 218-4554 - Enrollment Department

JESUS CHRIST IS THE REASON FOR OUR SCHOOL





IT'S GAME TIME



ATHLETIC NEWS FOR THE WEEK

BOWLING

Saturday, March 12th

Competition @ 1:00 pm

Bowl One Lanes: 1639 E. 14 Mile Rd. Troy

CHEER

Saturday, March 19th:

10:00 am: CYO Championship @

St. Catherine of Wixom

WINTER SPORTS SEASON SURVEY:

For those teams that have already completed your winter sports season, please find below our season ending survey. We would appreciate your honest feedback so that we can better serve you and your athlete. Please complete 1 survey per player. Your answers will be anonymous and strictly confidential. The survey will remain open until Monday, March 28th.

[Winter Sports 2022 Season Ending Survey](#)

WINTER UNIFORM RETURN

Monday, March 21st from 8:30 am - 11:30 am:

Cheer, Bowling & remaining Basketball teams

Athletes can drop off their uniforms in the gym on one of the labeled metal racks.

Basketball: return washed shorts and jerseys in a gallon size Ziploc bag with your player's jersey number, size, and name clearly labeled (Smith, YXL, #8). Do not return practice jersey. Those are to keep for additional seasons.

Bowling: Return washed shirt in a gallon Ziploc bag with your athlete's name and size clearly labeled (Smith, AS)

Cheer: Return washed uniforms in a gallon Ziploc bag with your athlete's name and team clearly labeled (Smith, JV Cheer).

Anyone with lost or damaged uniforms will be required to pay a replacement fee

SIDELINE STORE

SHOP OUR SIDELINE STORE YEAR ROUND. SHOP FOR MORE STYLES AND DESIGNS [HERE](#)



Works of Mercy and Deeds of Justice

Missionary Discipleship: Two Feet of Love in Action

St. Mary of the Hills Winter 2022

Catholic Social Teaching: Subsidiarity & the Role of Government

“The state is an instrument to promote human dignity, protect human rights, and develop the common good. Subsidiarity holds that such functions of government should be performed at the lowest level possible, as long as they can be performed adequately. When they cannot, higher levels of government must intervene. This principle goes hand-in-hand with Participation, the principle that all peoples have a right to participate in the economic, political and cultural life of society, and in the decisions that affect their community. It is clearly laid down that the paramount task assigned to government officials is that of recognizing, respecting, reconciling, protecting and promoting the rights and duties of citizens.”

—Saint John XXIII, *Pacem in Terris*, 77

Black History Month

Presidents’ Weekend

Random Acts of Kindness

World Day of Social Justice

Pray Together

- [Prayer Service - St. Josephine Bahkita](#) Patron Saint for Trafficked Persons
- [February Black History Month Prayer Service](#) Catholic Hospital Association
- [A Meditation on the Our Father by Fr. Ronald Rolheiser](#) World Day of Social Justice Feb. 20
- **Prayer Cards** from USCCB on the display rack by Chapel
- [California Bishops Pray the Stations of the Cross](#)
- [Examination of Conscience: Loving Our Neighbors in the Public Square](#)
- [#Mercy2Earth A World of Gratitude | Season of Creation 2021](#) (6 min.) copy and paste in browser

Reach Out Together

- Share the Poverty Awareness Calendar (www.povertyusa.org)
- Take the Civilize Pledge USCCB [A Better Kind of Politics | Civilize It | USCCB](#) <https://www.usccb.org/civilizeit>
- **Strangers No Longer Banquet** Sun. April 24 MRCC Banquet Center at 23401 Mound Road in Warren from 1:00 to 4:00 PM \$ 25. More details to follow.
- **Crossroads’ Benefit Event 2022**
Live, in-person at the Royal Park Hotel, Rochester – **Friday, March 4** Dinner and program – 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
<https://www.crossroadscarecenter.org/events.html>. Reserve your seats online at [Crossroads Care Center](#) or by calling Alex at 248.293.0070 x107 or email alex.p@CrossroadsCareCenter.org The deadline to RSVP is February 18. Watch the event virtually, on-demand – Beginning Saturday, March 5

Learn Together

- Read a book - Join a Webinar - Listen to a Podcast - Share a Story - Meet Someone in Need
- Practice the Methodology See Judge Act
- Join a Book Study - Creation at the Crossroads On Care of Our Common Home. Starting March 7.
- Connect the Issues with Catholic Social Teaching
- [iCivics](#) is a 501 non-profit organization in the United States that provides **educational online games** and lesson plans to promote civics education and encourage students to become active citizens. iCivics was founded in 2009 by retired Supreme Court of the United States Justice Sandra Day O’Connor.

Borrow A Book from Christian Service. A list is on the CS section of the parish website **ADD LINK** and in the display rack by the Chapel. Call (248-243-0258) or email (takeaction@smoth.org) with the title and or author you want to borrow and the book will be placed on the small table by the CS Office and Chapel. Return book to the same spot preferably within a month.

- How To Be An Antiracist by Ibram X. Kendi
- The New Jim Crow by Michele Alexander
- Stamped from the Beginning by Ibram Kendi
- Small Great Things (a novel) by Jodi Picoult (contains questions for discussion)
- Open Wide Our Hearts by Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center (a collaborative venture)
- Uprooting Racism Paulist Press
- White Fragility Robin DiAngelo
- Caste *The Origins of Our Discontents* Isabel Wilkerson
- "Brothers and Sisters To Us: US Bishops' Pastoral Letter On Racism In Our Day"
- Racial Justice and the Catholic Church Rev. Bryan N. Massingale
- Study Guide for Open Wide Our Hearts A Pastoral Letter Against Racism
https://www.usccb.org/resources/study-guide-open-hearts-2019-09_0.pdf
 USCCB Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love - A Pastoral Letter Against Racism



Children's Selection

Coming Soon. In the meantime check out icivics.

Spring Webinars from the Columban Center for Outreach and Advocacy

From Rhetoric to Reality: What's Really Happening on the US/MX Border?

Tuesday, February 15 at 4:00pm ET [Register Here](#)

Fasting for Creation: How Lent Can Help Us Care for Creation

Tuesday, March 15 at 4:00pm ET [Register Here](#)

#Faith4Earth: How People of Faith are Caring for Creation this Earth Day

Tuesday, April 19 at 4:00pm ET [Register Here](#)

People Power: How to Mobilize Communities of Faith for Social Justice

Tuesday, May 17 at 4:00pm ET [Register Here](#)



Feb. 20 World Day of Social Justice

Priorities: Hunger & Homelessness – Life & Dignity – Mental Health

Act Together Quick Links

[Register for Crossroads' Benefit Event](#)

[Sign-up for Mat Making for Haiti Feb. 26 In-Person](#)

[Sign Up for Creation at the Crossroads Virtual Book Study by Feb. 28](#)

[Sign Up for Ecospirituality Nights Zoom Young Adults 18-39](#)

[Beat the Winter Blues - Zoom Presentation Feb. 16 Zoom](#)

[Presentation by Dr. Tim Hogan - The Gift of Cultural Hurricanes In-Person St. Irenaeus March 6 1:00 PM](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o-j2V7FDX84> copy & paste into browser

Pray Together

Reach Out Together

Learn Together

Act/Serve Together

Gospel Witnesses

During Black History Month, we raise up the memory of Black Americans whose lives inspire us to live our baptismal call to the fullest, and implore their intercession to blot out the sin of racism.

Pierre Toussaint was born into a Catholic slave family on June 27, 1766, on a French plantation in modern day Haiti. The Bérard family educated him as a house slave and took him with them when they moved to New York City in 1787. He was apprenticed as a hairdresser, and since the wealthy had hairdressers come to their homes and he was allowed to keep much of his earnings, his kind and cheerful disposition assured a steady and lucrative position in the society of the time. He took the surname of “Toussaint” in honor of the hero of the Haitian revolution. Due to his service to the family he was freed at age 45. He then married and purchased a house where together he and his wife fostered orphans, supporting them in getting an education and learning a trade. Bilingual in French and English, he was able to help many Haitian immigrants, organizing a credit bureau, an employment agency and a refuge for destitute travelers. He attended daily Mass and was a benefactor of many charitable organizations. He died on June 30, 1853, and was declared Venerable in 1996.

Mary Elizabeth Lange was born around 1789 in Santiago de Cuba, where she lived in a primarily French speaking community. She came to Baltimore, where a great number of Catholic, French-speaking refugees had settled. Although Elizabeth was a refugee, she was well-educated and wealthy due to money left to her by her father. In 1828, with the help of Sulpician Father James Joubert, she and two other Black women started a school for Black Catholic children. The following year she and three other Haitian women pronounced vows in what became known as the Oblate Sisters of Providence, the first religious order of women of African descent. At first their educational work met with success and the sisters won praise for nursing victims of a cholera epidemic, but internal difficulties led to a split. Mother Lange eventually resumed leadership in 1844 and despite discouragement, racism and a lack of funds, the sisters continued to educate children and minister to the needs of the Black Catholic community. She died on February 3, 1882.

Thea Bowman was born in Mississippi on December 29, 1937. Her grandfather had been born a slave but her father was a physician and her mother a teacher. Though they were Methodists, they enrolled her in a Catholic school and at age nine she asked them if she could become Catholic. After high school she joined the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration at LaCrosse, Wisconsin, the only Black sister in the congregation. She went on to higher studies at the Catholic University in Washington, D.C., earning a Ph.D. in English. After teaching for sixteen years, she became directly involved in ministry to her fellow African-Americans. Gifted with a brilliant mind, a beautiful voice and a dynamic personality, Sister Thea shared the message of God’s love through inspirational talks across the country and beyond. Her work had a huge impact upon Catholic liturgical music in providing an intellectual, spiritual, historical, and cultural foundation for developing and legitimizing a distinct worship form for Black Catholics. In 1984, Sr. Thea was diagnosed with breast cancer. She prayed “to live until I die.” Her prayer was answered, and Thea continued her gatherings seated in a wheelchair. In 1989, the U.S. bishops invited her to be a key speaker at their conference on Black Catholics. She died at age 52 on March 30, 1990.

- 1 Phillis Wheatley
2. Wilton Daniel Gregory
- 3 Virgil Ablah
- 4 Jacob Lawrence
- 5 Katherine Johnson
- 6 Bryan Massingale
- 7 Ida B Wells

- 8 Louis Armstrong
- 9 Marie Van Brittan Brown
- 10 John Lewis
- 11 Wilma Rudolph
- 12 Thurgood Marshall
- 13 Marian Anderson
- 14 Colin Kaepernick

- 15 Bessie Coleman
- 16 Marsha P. Johnson
- 17 Sojourner Truth
- 18 Shirley Chisholm
- 19 Lewis Lattimer
- 20 Henrietta Lacks
- 21 Chadwick Boseman

- 22 Audre Lorde
- 23 Spike Lee
- 24 Harriet Tubman
- 25 Alexa Canady
- 26 Patrisse Cullars
- 27 Alvin Ailey
- 28 Martin de Porres Grey

Lenten Alms -

[Meet Micah 6 Community](#)

Pontiac is a comeback city, writing the story of its recovery. We are doing our part by growing healthy food, making sure neighbors are known, kids are resourced, and services are accessible.



Congresswoman [Haley Stevens](#) took time out of her day to come and tour [Micah 6 Community](#), [Sprout Fresh Food Store](#) and [Webster Community Center](#). It was great to share stories from our community with her and show her the progress happening here in our neighborhood. The FOP Laudato Si' Team from St. Andrew, Irenaeus and Mary of the Hills also took a tour recently. We are excited about joining the Good Neighbor efforts.



Connecting the Sunday Scriptures to Works of Charity and Justice

"Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours."

Research parish and diocesan efforts to reach out to the poor, to refugees, to moms in need, and to the incarcerated. Prayerfully discern how you might contribute to these efforts.

The Center for the Works of Mercy in Detroit <https://ccsem.org/cwm/> is in need of some volunteers to help sort through donations and restock our clothing room with new and updated seasonal clothing. Contact Adriana Moses at (313) 335- 3261 ext. 3067, or at mosesa@ccsem.org Located at 8642 Woodward Ave. in Detroit in the heart of Detroit's North End neighborhood, the Center for the Works of Mercy is the new home for Catholic Charities in Detroit!

- Pray for those who are discerning a vocation to the consecrated life, diaconate, or priesthood.
- Pray for those who have died, especially those who have no one to pray for them.
- Prayerfully consider how you can share your gifts of time, talent, and treasure.
- Commit to some time for spiritual reading, podcasts (the Bible, the Lives of the Saints, the Catechism, papal documents, etc.) during Lent.
- Send us your favorite act of kindness, quote, book... by emailing takeaction@smoth.org and we will share your good news on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram.



**CATHOLIC
MOBILIZING
NETWORK**

ENDING THE DEATH PENALTY.
PROMOTING RESTORATIVE JUSTICE.

Christian Service * Evangelical Charity * 248-243-0258 Sr. Grace Keane, OSF



WE'RE ALL PART OF **GOD'S PLAN(ET)**

An Invitation to Participate in the *Laudato Si'* Action Platform

What is the *Laudato Si'* Action Platform?

The *Laudato Si'* Action Platform (Platform) is a new and groundbreaking faith-driven and ecological initiative to engage the Catholic Church in a seven-year journey to global sustainability and spiritual conversion. The Platform is a collaboration between the Vatican and a coalition of Catholic organizations across the world, many in the United States.

The Platform offers Catholics an interactive place to learn, act, and spiritually grow together in their homes and Catholic institutions in which they pray, discern and work. It is designed to inspire and equip the Catholic Church to implement Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'* with planning, guidance, resources and community so we may integrate creation care more fully into our daily lives and with our Catholic communities and institutions.

You are warmly invited to embark on this effort along with others in the U.S. Catholic community, as we join our brothers and sisters around the world. Your unique "culture, experience, involvements, and talents" are needed on this journey towards greater love for our Creator, each other, and the home we share (LS 14.) The initiative is rooted in the strengths and realities of communities around the world and is designed to empower everyone to take "decisive action, here and now" as we journey towards a better future together (LS 161.)

Why is the Platform Needed?

Our Church teaches us that care for creation is a precious gift from God intended to be shared by all – our one common home, and a requirement of our faith. (USCCB, *Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching*) God calls us to care for all His creation, but we are now in a climate crisis. Earth, our common home, is facing a grim future as pollution, higher temperatures, droughts, wildfires, stronger storms, floods, and biodiversity loss, are all creating and driving up the risk of enormous suffering, especially for our most vulnerable brothers and sisters everywhere. These challenges demand meaningful and urgent responses from all of us. We are at a Kairos moment. We must respond to the call for healing and renewal in our relationships with God, our neighbors, and the Earth itself. Through the Platform, we can walk this "path to renewal" together (LS 202.)

What are the Goals of the Platform?

To respond to this moment, the *Laudato Si'* Action Platform is organized around seven goals:

1. Response to the Cry of the Earth
2. Response to the Cry of the Poor
3. Ecological Economics
4. Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles
5. Ecological Education
6. Ecological Spirituality
7. Community Engagement and Participatory Action



Who Can Participate?

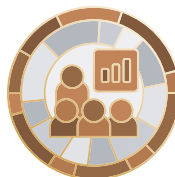
Everyone! The Vatican offers the *Laudato Si'* Action Platform as a service to all peoples and institutions of the Catholic Church, and all men and women of good will. To help organize engagement, it is designed around seven sectors of the Catholic Church:



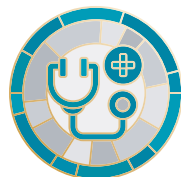
Families/individuals



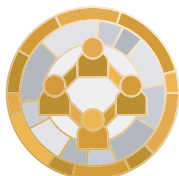
Parishes & dioceses



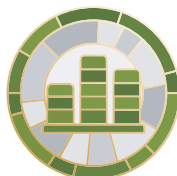
Educational institutions



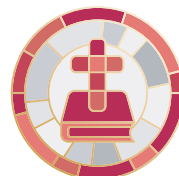
Hospitals & healthcare centers



Organizations & groups
(NGOs, lay movements, ecological communities, foundations, communications centers)



Economic entities
(farms, cooperatives, businesses)



Religious orders
(orders, provinces, communities)

I'm Ready! How does it Work?

If you or your group are ready to embark on this seven-year sustainability journey, you can register your institution, community, or family's engagement between Nov. 14th, 2021, and April 22, 2022 (Earth Day.) By registering you will have access to *Laudato Si'* Planning Guides to map and evaluate your journey, practical guidance on ways to act on each of the seven goals, and resources to develop your community's action plans and gather metrics of your success.

For more information on the LSAP and to register, visit laudatosiactionplatform.org.

Year 1: The first year of the journey is a year of discernment, reflection, and planning.
Years 2-6: These are years of implementation.
Year 7: The last year is a Sabbath year for celebration and reflection.

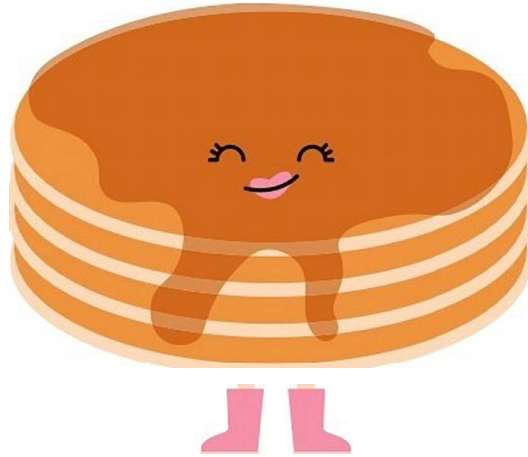
If you are not yet ready - No worries!

You can register to be a part of the journey when the next cohort registers later next year. This is a seven-year journey with ongoing opportunities to engage with the Platform.

A home for U.S. Catholics to connect.

Catholic Climate Covenant and its 20 U.S. Catholic partners have created a national campaign and website "**We're all Part of God's Plan(et)**" to help the U.S. Catholic community engage with the Platform. Here you will be in community with other U.S. Catholic people and institutions engaging in or seeking to engage in this work. The God's Planet website is the home for U.S.-specific resources and news, including best practices, action plans, events and inspiring work. It is also an interactive place where you can share ideas, challenges, and opportunities, and seek further guidance and accompaniment. We encourage you to submit your stories and questions, and to use, obtain and promote the God's Planet materials in our shared efforts to bring the U.S. Catholic community closer to care for our common home. Visit GodsPlanet.us





ROCHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Pancakes - Sausage - Beverage

SUNDAY, MARCH 13

8:00-11:00 AM

Rochester Fire Station
277 E. Second St.



Adults - \$6
Children under 12 - \$3