



Saint Daniel Catholic Community

Faith Formation Office, 7010 Valley Park Drive, Clarkston MI 48346 * 248-625-1750
Fax 248-620-9839 * E-mail: bharan@stdanielclarkston.org

August 2011

Dear parents and 6th & 7th graders,

Orientation Meeting: Sept. 18, 2011, 12:15 – 1:00 – Weingartz Rm.
The orientation meeting is required for incoming 6th graders and new 7th gr. & parents.
Class schedules are listed on page 2.

Middle School meets on Sunday after the 11:00am Mass, from 12:15 to 2:15 each semester.
Two mid week classes will be offered : Tues. 4:30 – 6:00 pm Thursday, 3:20 – 5:00 p.m. each semester,
mid-week classes are limited to 15 students . (see schedules on p.2) Wed. if a teacher & aide are found.

To fulfill course requirements students are asked to do classes and to participate in the Faith, Service and Exploration activities in the box below. You are also invited to take part in many more activities – for growth in knowledge, faith, service, and for fun!

All classes meet for two semesters per year –

We know you have busy schedules and are ready to work with you. For example, if you cannot take the regular Sunday class module when it is offered, look at the *Tues. or Thurs.* schedules. Many of the faith experiences, explorations & social activities can be chosen at a convenient time for your family's schedule. Catholic School students are part of our parish family and are always welcome to take an active part in any of the fun or service activities but are not required to attend classes here.

All 6th & 7th graders, whether in Clusters, Home Cat or private school are expected to perform Service and Faith Exploration activities. The 6th grade students in Home Catechesis may continue to meet with their families or the scheduled classes. The 6 & 7th grade students who participate in Clusters (FIRE) may continue to meet with their family groups. Your service activities & Faith Explorations may be done in conjunction with Clusters, Home Study, your catholic school, or as a member of the scheduled St. Daniel classes. Service is recorded for each student regardless of the type of program participation.

Check the Middle School Activities board or the St. Daniel website for all upcoming social activities/permission slips. You can download forms as well as information.

6 & 7th Grade Requirements

Required Text: **Catholic Youth Bible**, available at St. Daniel, \$25.00; if you already have a Catholic bible you may use what you have. **BRING IT TO CLASS** each time!

◆ **Classes: Two Modules – one per semester**

Fall: -- Sun. (7 two hour sessions) or Tues. or Thurs (8 - 1½ hr. sessions)

Winter: -- Sun. (7 two hour sessions) or Tues. or Thurs (8 - 1½ hr. sessions)

◆ **Faith Explorations** (select two – see blue page)

And:

◆ **Faith Experiences** (select two - see blue page)

◆ **Faith into Action – Service** (select three – see tan page)

Please turn over

Schedule of Activities 6 & 7 Grade Students

Registration/Orientation Weekend:

****Orientation Meeting for 6th -7th graders: Sept. 18, 2011, from 12:15 -12:50 – Weingartz Room – Cushing Center.**

Please bring your completed Medical Release Form, completed yellow Registration Form (if you have not already turned one in for the year), tan Faith Into Action, and blue Explorations, Experiences Sheets w/your choices indicated. . Thank you.

Orientation Agenda:

- Parents sign up to participate in/assist with activities, driver form.
- Program explanation

All Faith into Action, Experience and Faith Exploration forms should be signed and turned in on or before September 24th to the Faith Formation office for you to get your desired volunteer activities.

Sunday classes begin, Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Nov. 6, 13 (seven weeks): 12:10 – 2:15 p.m.
2nd Semester: Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12, 26 Mar. 4, 11 (seven weeks) Total: 14 two hr+. classes)

**** Midweek Tues.:** 4:30- 6:05 p.m. Begins Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25 Nov.8, 15, 22 ,29 (8 wks)
2nd Semester: Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31, Feb, 7, 14, 28, Mar 6. Total : 16 classes.

****Midweek Thurs.** 3:30-5:10 p.m. classes begin Sept. 29, Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27 Nov. 10, 17, Dec 1 (8 wks).
2nd Semester: Jan. 12, 19, 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23 Mar. 1, (8 weeks) Total: 16 classes

A WED. 4: 45 – 6:15 CLASS WILL BE OFFERED IF 2 ADULTS VOLUNTEER.

Overview of the Program

The *Sunday 6th and 7th grade* students will use the Celebrating the Liturgy series: Covenant People. **Each student needs a Bible of their own.** We are suggesting the Catholic Youth Bible available at St. Daniel - \$25.00. It will be used as your text for the next four years. Class will cover the Sunday readings and activities which include doctrine and ways of living out the Catholic faith. Students should find it both interesting and rewarding. *Nine to eleven adults / parents are needed to assist as table leaders, set out refreshments, etc. and you are always welcome to sit in on a class session. Table group leaders who serve as Learning Guides will serve for each week of class.* (14 sessions)

****Tuesday 6/7 gr.** students follow the Covenant People series. Class size is limited. Teacher: Mrs. Winkler

****Thursday 6/7 gr.** students do an intensive study of the **Gospel of John**. Class size is limited to 15. The teacher will be Mr. Hein.

Midweek students will also need a copy of the Catholic Youth Bible described above for these classes.

Parent participation is required and necessary to make the program successful.

Examples of parent participation are:

*Learning Guide - Lead a small group through discussions, skits, and projects using lessons prepared by director, & your overview, smiles and encouragement.

*Learning Aide - Assist the Learning Guide by joining in discussions, gathering materials for small group activities, take attendance....

*Refreshments, supplies, set up – 8 – 12 parents to rotate on Sundays

*Activity volunteers for the special events, special game days, trips away from church.

Call if you have questions. Betty Haran, Dir. Of Children's Catechesis Gr. 1-7 248- 625-1750

Check out the parish website: <http://www.stdanielclarkston.org>

Students: Circle your interests, sign your full name, and return this form to Betty Haran. It will be recorded and returned to you
 Name: _____

Faith Explorations (Select at least two.)

Circle the ones you are interested in. Turn this in by Sept. 24.
 Get Permission slips and details at the Middle School bulletin board or online.

- Feb.** TBD Visit to **Temple Beth El** (Sat. 8:30 am – 1pm); attend a prep session at St. Daniel, then attend the Saturday service.
- Mar. 10 (Sat)** *We are going on a Pilgrimage! Yes, indeed, a trip to visit a holy place to pray and renew our faith; a place to visit our local candidate for sainthood, the **Monastery home of Blessed Solanus Casey.** (Detroit) 12:30-5:30 p.m.*
- April 5 (Thurs.)** **Seder Meal** – take part in the preparation and celebration of the Passover Meal as Jesus did, learn the connection to the Last Supper - 4:40 – 6:45 p.m. in the Social Hall. Parents are welcome to participate, pre-register for this so we can plan (*table set up and food preparation is done by students*).
- DIA -- TBD** Religious Artifact Treasure Hunt at the Detroit Inst. of Arts. Using a worksheet as a guide to help you find treasured artworks that reflect our Catholic Christian faith at the DIA!
- October –March
 At Your Convenience
 a local project:** *Interview any adult member who is actively involved in the life of the St. Daniel parish community. Using an interview form provided, find out why people lector, sing in the choir, serve as an EM, serve on a committee. Find out how they enrich the family of St. Daniel. Get the form from the Faith Formation office.*

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Be sure to circle the activities you want to participate in. After you have taken part, or completed something, record your dates and achievements on a ‘Service sheet’.

Parents, we need you to plan / chaperone at monthly activities:
 please initial the event you will help with as chair, driver, paper organizer, or ?
 This activity schedule will be developed in more detail. All details will depend on parent participation and involvement. Parent drivers and chaperones are asked to fill out authorization for criminal background check, attend Protecting God’s Children, and provide proof of insurance forms if driving.

Faith Experiences (Select any two)

- **Participate in “Changing Lives Together” prayer support team.** Each day at noon until Oct. 30, take the time to say one Our Father prayer. Pray for the success of an archdiocese wide campaign to restore and make strong and vibrant the parishes in Southeast Michigan. Set aside the time, make up a log to help you keep track of your prayer service.
- **Work as an aide, games leader, team leader in the “Changing Lives Together” celebration party** on Oct. 30th 5-9-8 p.m. – St. Daniel Social Hall. See sign up sheets on bulletin board.
- **Participate in a “Teaching Mass”** – attend any weekday afternoon special Mass at which Fr. Chris will pause to explain what each part of the rituals in Mass means. You may opt to participate as a lector, usher, or altar server. Nov. 7 & 8 at 4:40 p.m. or Nov. 14 & 15 at 6:15 p.m. You need to let us know which one you will be attending.
- **Participate in Reconciliation** (communal) Sat. Dec. 17, 10:00 a.m.; Tues. Dec. 20, 7:00 p.m.; Sat. Mar. 10, 10 a.m., Tues. Apr. 3, 10:00 a.m., or any Saturday at 4:00 p.m.
- **Attend Stations of the Cross** – any Friday eve. in Lent.
- **Feb. 22** **Ash Wednesday** -Attend Mass, receive ashes, 7:00 p.m.
- **April 5** **Holy Thursday Mass and foot washing.** This is the beginning of the Easter Triduum liturgies - the holiest of our Catholic rituals. 7:00 pm-8:30 pm
- **April 7** **Attend the Saturday Easter Vigil**, blessing of fire, new water, baptism of adults; Sat. 8 pm –11:30 p.m.

Reminder - Your Action/Service, Faith Explorations, and Faith Experiences need to be logged on a “Service Hours” half sheet which is available from your catechist or from the table in the Faith Formation Hall. Thanks.

St. Theresa’s Prayer

Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes through which he
Looks compassion on this world.
Yours are the feet with which he
Walks to do good.
Yours are the hands with which he
Blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, Yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes,
You are His body.
Christ has no body now but yours.

© **BONUS** (Memorize and recite the above prayer – good for one Faith Experience)
(Re-memorize & say the Act of Contrition – good for your Soul & one large Hershey bar).
Recite your prayers to your group leader or Betty Haran when you are ready

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Name: _____
Phone No. _____
Email _____
(I promise to keep it secret and private)

St. Daniel Faith Formation – Grades 6 & 7

Put your faith into action (Select three)

Select at least three - and do tell us about any other service projects you or your family may already be involved in, they may substitute. Permission form needed for offsite activities – Medical Release information form needs to be completed and turned in.

Year around: What’s In the St. Daniel Library! A team of young people to set up & take down a library cart display of new materials during Coffee & Donuts; teams take turns, display would go up 1x per month.

Year around: *Classroom Aide – after school, Gr. 1 –5, Mon & Tues. (4:25 -5:45); or (6:10-7:30) Beg. 9/26-5/3. Or, Wed. (4:55-6:15 p.m.) (weekly commitment-requires a training session)

Year around: *Sunday School a.m. Aide - Pre-school classes during 9:00 & 11 a.m. Masses. (Ex. Aide at the 9 am, worship at the 5pm or 11am (10/2-5/1). (Weekly commitment- req. training sessions)

Year Around: Sunday Nursery Aide Assist in the nursery while parents of toddlers attend Mass at either the 9 am or the 11 am Mass.. (Schedule your work time so you attend Mass that weekend as well.

Year around: *Child care - parent meetings only. You will be called and scheduled as needed.

****Oct. 3 - –April 20** Bring in adult men & woman’s socks, vitamins, non-prescription medications, bandages, underwear, soap, shave supplies, toothpaste, brushes for creating and packing personal care bags for the homeless or for the Medical Mission. Earn the money yourself for these things. This is an opportunity to learn personal charity. **You earn, you sacrifice.** Label your donation “Medical Mission” or “Grace Centers of Hope”

Oct. 3-Nov. 11 Pack a “Shoe Box for Appalachia”. Again, **you earn** the funds to supply the contents for a person of any age, infant, child, teen, adult, or senior. Select and pack a shoe box with pleasant new gift items that allow the poor of Van Sant, West Virginia to have a Christmas gift. Socks, shirts, toiletries, small games, notebooks, pens, pencils, stationery, stamps, whatever you think of that is appropriate for an infant or an elderly senior citizen. Wrap the box and cover separately, and label the age/sex of the intended receiver.

Sept. 24 Aide at parent/student Reconciliation prep. meeting I-a; 8:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Oct. 1 Aide at parent/student Reconciliation prep. meeting I-b; 6:30 - 8:30p.m.

Oct. 15 **Grace Centers of Hope** 9am -12 N Fall Clean-up. Wear gloves, bring rakes.

Oct. 15 **North End Soup Kitchen**, 8:30 – 1:30pm. Cook, prepare & serve lunch (Flint):

Oct. 29 **Gleaners** 8:30 – 12 noon Sort, pack food for distribution. Pontiac Warehouse

Oct. 1 - 31 Changing Lives Together– **You find** a community service project, school service project, Food Drive – **You take the responsibility** to be the organizer and money earner to buy food for a hungry family! Put your non-perishables in the boxes at the church door entrances.

Oct. 30 Aide at Changing Lives Together Celebration. Come dressed as a saint and help the evening festivities. Be games organizer, leader. 5-8 pm

Nov. 12 Grace Centers of Hope – soup kitchen/pantry work day 10:00 am – 1:30 pm

- Nov. 12 (Sa)** Aide at parent/child Reconciliation Workshop II-a 8:30-11:00 a.m.
- Nov. 13** Begin rehearsals for Youth Choir – We need your strong voices for the Christmas 4 pm Mass; rehearsals begin at in 12:15 pm
- *Turn in your Shoe Boxes for Appalachia!
- Dec. 3** Carols at Colombiere, Saturday morning – bake cookies, Saturday afternoon. Sing
- Dec. 10 (Sa)** Aide at parent/child Reconciliation Workshop II-b, 9:00-11:00 am
- Dec. 18** Face Painting or lead children’s games at Parish Tree Trimming Party, 6 – 8 p.m.
- Dec. 24** Sing in Young People’s Christmas Choir – sign up early (see Nov. 13 above) so you can be contacted for practice. Rehearsals are on Sunday afternoons- watch for details
- Jan. 14 (Sat)** Gleaners warehouse, sort and prepare food parcels 8:30 am – 12 N.
- Jan. 21 (Sat)** Aide – First Communion workshop I-a 8:30 – 11:00 a.m.
- Jan. 28 (Sat.)** Aide – First Communion workshop I-b 8:30 - 11 a.m.
- Feb. 4 (Sat)** Grace Centers of Hope 10:00 am – 1:30 pm.
- Feb. 18 (Sat)** Gleaners, pack food for distribution to homeless 8:30am-12N. **(Need a parent to lead this)**
- Feb. 21 (Tu)** Face Painting/games organizer at Mardi Gras 6 – 8 p.m.
- Feb 22 -Apr 5** Save coins from your allowance to fill your Rice Bowl. Turn your coin filled bowls in on Holy Thursday, April 5, 2012, sacrificial offering of coins for the hungry.
- Mar. 10** Gleaners, pack food for distribution to homeless. 8:30-12N
- Mar. 24** Aide - First Communion workshop II-b 8: 10 am –12 N
- April 1-25** Do something good for God’s planet Earth - Ecology Sunday, see Mrs. Enneking/Christian Serv. Or, find a worthy ecology project to do. Write up your good deeds.
- April 1** Assist with distribution of palms at the Palm Sunday Mass processions; arrive 20 min. early, tell the usher you are there to help hand out palms, then do so! (Begins in social hall)
- April 14 (Sa)** Aide – First Communion workshop II-b 8:10 – 12 N
- April 28** Grace Centers of Hope 10:00 a.m.-1:30 pm
- June 24** Face Painting /games organizer at Parish Family Picnic; 2-7 pm
- June 25-29** Vacation Bible School – classroom, music, craft or other aides. 8:30 to 12 Noon

****Sept. 2011- May 2011 Over the next several months collect and gather together shampoo, small combs, bars of soap, new disposable razors, small washcloths, vitamins.** We can use them to make up personal care “baggies” for the homeless and poor. Adult men’s & women’s, socks, underwear and paper products, etc. are extremely valued. This can be an ongoing project – the poor are always with us – not just at Thanksgiving or Christmas. Earn some cash so you can help clothe the homeless.



Other activities will also be listed on the Middle School and Teen Connection bulletin boards – and on the St. Daniel website. If something crucial comes up, it will be posted on the bulletin boards. Check `em out!

Select a variety of service activities which appeal to you and give you a chance to grow in faith and community involvement! Remember to circle your areas of action, exploration & experience. And don't forget----please sign your name legibly on each page!!

You will be called or emailed to remind you of what you signed up for, and the forms will be returned to you! Put it on the family calendar so you don't forget!

Record your service! Use note paper or the orange service half-sheet forms (located on the Faith Formation table) to record your service – turn your service record in every 6-8 weeks.

You are always welcome to suggest ideas and ways to serve! You may already be involved in a project where you serve your school or community. (Ex: You may help your parents with Meals on Wheels, or Humane Society or tutor, or)

God loves you for serving the body of Christ!!

You, making the reign of God a reality!

Please turn the tan, blue, yellow sheets in to the Faith Formation office; we will photocopy them and give you the originals back as a reminder document. Thanks.

PURELY FUN STUFF:

Name: _____

Middle School Youth: For grades 6, 7 & 8 - 9 Students,
 please circle the ones you are interested in so we can plan & make reservations!
 Actual sign up will take place on forms retrieved from the Middle School bulletin board or online.
 Times, fees, etc will be on the permission forms.

Parent leaders
 needed.
 Pick any activity
 you and your
 children will
 enjoy!

Tiger Baseball Game September 11, 2011

(Purchase tickets through Faith Formation Office by 8-29-11)

Joe Dumars Recreation/Field Day TBA

Detroit Pistons game Feb or March TBA

Laser Tag/Zap Zone Monday, Feb 20, 2012

12-2PM (No School!)

Weekend Horseback Retreat May 18, 19, 20, 2012

Any Ideas you would like to suggest? _____