

July 2016

Peer Connections

St. Mary Star of the Sea Youth Ministry



Don't forget about church!

Summer is a great time! There are family vacations and trips to far away places or just places that seem far away. While you may be taking a break from your everyday life, don't forget about church. Stay connected to your faith during the summer. Here are some tips:

1. Go to Mass—One of the amazing things about the Catholic Church is that the Celebration of the Eucharist is the same no matter where you go. Take advantage of this awesome opportunity and visit a new parish while you are on vacation.
2. Summer Reading—Add a faith based or religious book to your summer reading list. Or be really daring and add a few books of the Bible to your list. If you need a new book, visit the Catholic Lighthouse kiosk in the Gathering Space.
3. Say your Prayers—Your routine may change when the weather warms up but still make time to say your prayers. Say grace at family meals, visiting the grandparents - say the rosary, stuck in the car on a road trip - check out the Facebook page for daily prayers and Sunday Gospel.

Have a safe summer—God bless!



Summer of Mercy

dynamiccatholic.com/year-of-mercy/summer-of-mercy/

If you loved Dynamic Catholics' *Best Lent Ever*, then you must sign up for their Summer of Mercy program. You'll receive inspiration right in your inbox. This is a wonderfully simple way to continue to celebrate the Year of Mercy.



Join the Little Stars Team

You may have noticed some of our younger parishioners eagerly entering the church every Sunday during the 9:30 Mass. These are members of our Little Stars program designed for 3-6 year olds. The one thing that is missing is YOU! They need you to help teach them about our faith. If you would like to become an assistant in the program, please contact us!

Upcoming Events

- Ministry Planning Team Meeting — July 11— Hart House
- Soul Fest — August 4-August 6

Attention Little Stars

During the months of July and August we will be on vacation. We hope you have a wonderful summer and we are super excited about returning in the Fall with new ideas and projects. Enjoy your summer!

BELONG Tour—Women of St. Mary's Parish

Join us this November as we journey to the BELONG TOUR from the same people who brought us WOMEN OF FAITH CONFERENCE in Hartford! November 11-12 (Friday evening 7:00 kick-off, all day Saturday 9-3). As the only visit to the Northeast, this dynamic and inspirational event draws amazing Christian ladies of all ages from all over New England, NY and NJ friendly and devoted every year! You'll laugh, cry (both from joy and moving moments), and learn through entertaining skits and music, books and their authors. It will inspire you to Open Your Heart. Experience Connection. Rock Your Purpose! Visit the BELONG TOUR at www.belongtour.com to learn about the presenters. Ticket price (\$129) includes both days of the event and a box lunch on Saturday. Scholarships are available. Treat yourself to this very special experience!

women^{of}faith presents
BELONG
tour



Song Suggestions - July 2016 - Soul on Fire by Third Day

God, I'm running for Your heart... I'm running for Your heart... Till I am a soul on fire... Lord, I'm longing for Your ways... I'm waiting for the day... When I am a soul on fire... Till I am a soul on fire



Prayer for Our Nation

God of Justice and Truth, we ask your blessing on our nation.

Thank you for the freedoms we enjoy, especially those we take for granted.

Thank you for the diversity of our people and enlarge our capacity for tolerance and mutual respect. As we celebrate our independence as a sovereign nation, may we also celebrate our interdependence.

Make us mindful of the blessings of our rich and abundant land.

May your gracious Spirit inspire us to work together to meet the challenges of our times.

With all hope, faith and trust in you we pray.

Amen



Parent's Corner

Summer Family Fun

Need some ideas for family time this summer? Every Friday on the Peer Connections Facebook Page and Instagram, we are posting some tips for Summer Family Fun.

Are you being called to volunteer?

Believe it or not we have the perfect volunteer position for people in all walks of life.

Open Positions — Ministry Planning Team Members (various roles), Little Stars Teacher & Assistants, Middle & High School Ministry Adult Leaders, Parent Ministry Book Study Team (various roles)

The more you read (or listen), the more you know

The Lighthouse Kiosk has brand new CD's and books, check it out. There are great ones on Saints, as well as some old favorites for the kids to listen to in the car.

Amanda McCaffrey, Coordinator of Youth Ministry
st.marys.peerconnections@gmail.com | 860-716-4978 | stmary-unionville.org

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