

May 2016

Peer Connections

St. Mary Star of the Sea Youth Ministry



"So I send you"

This month we will celebrate Pentecost. The day in which the Holy Spirit was sent by God to the disciples to help guide them as they began teaching about Jesus and His message. We should be encouraged knowing that the same Spirit dwells in each of us and gives us the courage to do the same works today just like the first disciples. It wasn't easy for the disciples and sometimes it isn't easy for us but we have the Holy Spirit to give us courage, wisdom, understanding and so much more. What can we do each day to carry out the message of Jesus? Who needs our help, service, patience, teaching or love? You have been given the awesome responsibility to spread the Gospel, can you do more?



Ministry Planning Team

This summer we are formally developing a Ministry Planning Team. These volunteers will be responsible for the annual Peer Connections calendar. Every youth ministry age group will be included. This is a HUGE job and volunteers are needed to plan and assist with events and trips. Members will receive training and will work in groups. As we continue to grow Peer Connections we need to ensure all groups have the best experience. Are you up to the challenge?



Daily Prayers

Each day on the Facebook page for Peer Connections daily prayers are posted at 6am and 8pm. A short prayer consisting of only a couple of sentences is posted to help you with your prayer life. If you have a minute or two during your morning or evening check out the page. These daily prayers are an addition to our social media experience. We already post the Gospel every Sunday and inspirational videos, music and pictures during the week.

Upcoming Events

- Kid's Carnival — June 11 @ 1:00 pm (Little Stars)
- Trip to Lourdes Shrine in Litchfield — 6/12 (more details coming soon)
- Teen Weekend Retreat — 6/17-6/19, cost \$175.00 (8th grade and up)
- Family Movie Night — July @ 7pm
- Soul Fest — 8/4-8/6

Month of Mary



May is the month of Mary. Mary is special to us not only because she is the mother of Jesus but also because she teaches us how to be good disciples. Mary's faith throughout her life in the past shows us how to live our life in present. During this month take time to pray the Rosary with your family, a group of friends or by yourself. The Legion of Mary has provided space in the Gathering Space to pray or pick up a pamphlet on how to pray the Rosary.

From United States Council of Catholic Bishops website: "Mary embraces God's will and freely chooses to cooperate with God's grace, thereby fulfilling a crucial role in God's plan of salvation. Throughout the centuries, the Church has turned to the Blessed Virgin in order to come closer to Christ. Many forms of piety toward the Mother of God developed that help bring us closer to her Son. In these devotions to Mary, "while the Mother is honored, the Son, through whom all things have their being and in whom it has pleased the Father that all fullness should dwell, is rightly known, loved and glorified and . . . all His commands are observed." The Church honors her as the Mother of God, looks to her as a model of perfect discipleship, and asks for her prayers to God on our behalf."

Kids Carnival

June 11, 2016 @ 1:00

Little Stars and their friends are invited to attend a special afternoon event on Saturday June 11, 2016.

The after noon will include:

- ★ Age appropriate games,
- ★ Music,
- ★ Snacks,
- ★ And a special service project. The Little Stars will be decorating flower pots to brighten the rooms of residents living at Apple Rehab in Plainville. This is a great way to introduce service at a young age.

Please pray with your child about attending and if they would like to invite a friend. Our hope is that you will have time to make plans with your child's friend's parents for the friend to be able to attend. There will be snacks provided. If you child is unable to eat certain foods please let us know so we can provide everyone with delicious snacks. A take home flyer will be distributed soon for you to share.

Rise of the Cool Catholics

Check out this cool article from Relevant Magazine.

"Stephen Colbert is quoting Scripture on TV, Pope Francis is getting rock star treatment everywhere he goes, and a new generation of Catholics are reclaiming their faith. Will they spark a cultural reformation?"

Read more at <http://www.relevantmagazine.com/god/church/rise-cool-catholics>



Parent's Corner

[Are you being called to volunteer?](#)

Have you felt God nudging you to volunteer your time? Or maybe you volunteer a lot already but God is pulling you to volunteer in other places, such as Church. Do you have young kids and feel volunteering isn't possible right now? Believe it or not we have the perfect volunteer position for people in all walks of life. If you are interested in helping out within the Youth Ministry Planning team as we start to grow please contact us, these are just a few of our opportunities.

[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.