

Middle School Youth Ministry

Theme for the Year: *To the Heights*

Thursday, September 22nd – Leadership Part 1: Knowing Yourself-Strengths and Weaknesses

Students will learn a teen version of emotional intelligence. Discussion will include examples of basic personality types: perfectionist, helper, achiever, individualist, investigator, skeptics, energizer bunny, defender, peacemaker. Students will try to identify one or two types that they can relate to. Discussion and games will unpack how there's strengths and weaknesses in each type and how knowing this will help them develop empathy, self-awareness, better self-control, and improve communication and accountability.

3:30-5:00 PM in Weber Center/rooms 3-4

Snacks and drinks provided

Thursday, September 29th – Leadership Part 2: Leaders Live the Beatitudes

Students will discuss the meaning of virtue by learning Aristotle's Table of Virtues and Vices, but modified for teen comprehension. Games and activities will help illustrate the point that reactions/responses and behaviors are choices. Students will also learn how the virtues ultimately lead to Beatitude. Using examples from Blessed Frassati's life, we will discuss what it means to be in middle school and how they can be leaders in their friend groups, in the classroom, and at home.

3:30-5:00 PM in Weber Center

Snacks and drinks provided

Monday, October 3rd – Faith Race Fundraiser for A Women's Concern

1 Mile Fun Run/Walk for families to raise money for A Women's Concern during Respect Life Month.

The route would copy the one used for Girls on the Run.

4:00 PM Race begins

\$5/kid or \$15/family or donate a baby item such as diapers, wipes, clothes

Saturday, October 22nd – Service Project – Raking Leaves

Teams of students and chaperones would be assigned to specific addresses, arranged well in advance, to rake leaves and clean up yards for 1 hour.

9:00 AM Mass

9:45 AM Drive to worksites

10:00-11:00 AM Rake Leaves

11:15 AM – 12 Noon Return to Weber Center for Lunch and a fun activity

Thursday, November 3rd – Celebrating the Dedication of St. Leo the Great Church

Students will learn about St. Leo the Great's contributions to our understanding of the two natures of Christ, his fight against the heresies of his day (which we are still fighting in our culture today), and his work as a peacemaker. Fun games and activities will also be included.

4:30-5:00 PM Lesson/Discussion in Weber Center, snacks provided

5:15-5:45 PM Games and Fun

6:00 PM Mass

Thursday, December 8th - Honoring the Blessed Mother on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Students will pray the Litany or Loreto. We will discuss the titles of Mary as a means of getting to know her and her role in bringing people to Jesus. Video clip option: The Chosen, Season 1, episode 5 "The Wedding Gift."

5:30-6:00 PM Dinner

6:00-6:30 PM Lesson/Discussion

6:30-7:00 PM Games and Fun

7:00 PM Mass

More events are planned for the remainder of the year. One very special one involving Blessed Pier Giorgio is in the works. Stay tuned!

Questions? Contact Tina Johnson at tjohnson@stleos.org