

## Schedule of Classes

Sessions take place at the Shrine Catholic High School & Academy campus from 6:15-7:30 pm.

September 21, 28  
October 5, 12, 19, 26  
November 2, 9, 16, 30  
December 7\*, 14, 21  
January 4, 11, 25  
February 1, 8, 22  
March 1, 8, 15\*, 22, 29  
April 12, 19, 26  
May 3

\*special group activity, time, location

## Special Family Events

The programs listed below are events planned to enhance your family's faith formation. Please refer to our church bulletin, *The Shrine Herald*, or website, [www.shrinechurch.com](http://www.shrinechurch.com), for further information on these interesting and educational events. Join us!

### October 31—Trunk or Treat

Starts at 2 pm in the Church's Northwood parking lot.

### November 1—Dia de los Muertos

2 pm in the GS gym. Spanish Mass in Church, 4 pm.

### December 5—Journey to Bethlehem

1—3 pm in the Shrine Catholic Grade School gym.

### December 7—Religious Formation Reconciliation Service

Services held in the church starting at 6:30 pm. Report to the Church.

### Lenten Wednesday Series—February 24 thru March 31

Watch the *Herald* for further details regarding this series.

### March 15—Religious Formation Reconciliation Service

Services held in the church starting at 6:30 pm. Report to the Church.

### March 13—Family Movie Event & VBS Sign-up

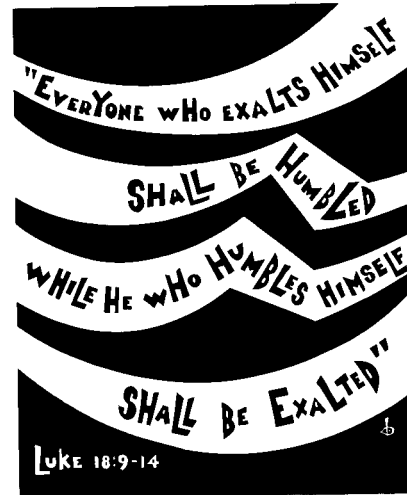
Show times at 2 & 4 pm in the Shrine Conference Center.

### March 21—Make a Family Banner for Palm Sunday

Make a banner in the GS gym after the 9 am Mass. Bring your banner and take part in the processional at the 9 am Mass on Palm Sunday.

### June 28—July 2

High Seas Expedition Vacation Bible School, 9 am until Noon at Shrine Catholic Grade School.



## Confirmation Preparation

Confirmation is the sealing of the candidate's Baptism and a sign to the parish community of readiness to be active as a disciple of Christ, strengthened by grace and the gifts of the Spirit. The two-year preparation program includes seventh and eighth grade Shrine Religious Formation students and Shrine Catholic Academy students. Candidates are confirmed in the fall of their ninth grade year following successful participation in the Confirmation preparation program. Please refer to the *Confirmation Sacramental Preparation* pamphlet for more details.

*It is better to be the child of God than  
king of the whole world.*

-- St. Aloysius Gonzaga

National Shrine of the Little Flower

THE SPIRIT  
OF THE  
LORD HAS  
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WHOLE  
WORLD



## Grades 7 & 8 Religious Formation

2009—2010

Christine Wist  
7th & 8th Grade Coordinator  
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*Office of Religious Formation*  
2100 W. 12 Mile Rd., Royal Oak, MI 48073  
248.541.5133 FAX 248.541.6969  
[www.shrinechurch.com](http://www.shrinechurch.com)

OFFICE HOURS  
Monday 9—7:30 pm  
Tuesday—Friday 9—3:30 pm  
Appointment hours available

## Adolescent Spirituality & the Role of Parents

As youth mature, they often enter a questioning phase of spiritual development. Properly respected, this can ultimately lead to the ownership of faith. Parents and adult role models play an important part at this time and studies show adolescents want their families to be involved, even if they do not always express it. Parents set examples by instilling strong faith practices in the home and through regular Sunday worship, providing a solid foundation for their children.

## Curriculum

The Shrine Religious Formation program uses the "Call to Faith" text series. Seventh graders study the life of Jesus, the Holy Trinity, the Kingdom of God and the Sacraments, while eighth graders explore the history of the Church, Revelation, and her moral teachings. In the first class of the month, all students will participate in prayer and reflection to guide them through the rest of their week and their Confirmation journey.

## Expectations

Just as Jesus called His disciples to be active in ministry, participants are expected to join in discussions and activities, being attentive and considerate of adults and other students. The Shrine Catholic Schools graciously accommodate our weekly sessions and we stress the importance of students respecting their fellow parishioners' property. Discipline problems will be addressed to the 7th & 8th Grade Coordinator and parents will be notified of chronic problems. If you have concerns about your child, please contact the Coordinator or Religious Formation Office at any time during the year.

Mid-year progress reports summarize general comprehension of covered material, behavior and attendance. Parents are encouraged to complete the comment section and return the progress report to help us serve you better.

Shrine offers many opportunities for young adolescents to be involved in parish ministry, including lecturing at the 9 am Mass, singing in the treble choir, being a Minister of Hospitality, and taking part in service projects. Please encourage your teens to explore active participation in parish life.

## Session Times & Attendance

All events take place at the Shrine Catholic High School & Academy campus from 6:15- 7:30 pm, unless otherwise noted.

Faith formation is a responsibility parents accept when requesting the Sacrament of Baptism for their children. While we recognize that adolescents have many activities, their religious formation and sacramental preparation should have the highest priority, and we thank parents for supporting this. Public schools cannot penalize students for attending religious-based programs or liturgies in lieu of school or sports events. If this is a problem, please contact the Religious Formation Office.

Attendance is key to adolescents' understanding of catechetical material. Students may not miss more than 5 classes per year. If this occurs, the promotion to the next grade level or reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation will be delayed. We strongly discourage taking students out of class early. In cases of true emergency, the hall monitor, stationed on the third floor near the parking lot door, will assist parents signing out students. For safety's sake, students will not be released early without a parent.

In cases of inclement weather, please follow the Royal Oak School District closings.

## Parent Resources and Communication

The *Shrine Herald*, our church bulletin, features a section where all events, calendar changes, liturgies, service project opportunities, and family events will be detailed. Back issues of the *Herald* and additional resources for parents and teens are available on the church's website [www.shrinechurch.com](http://www.shrinechurch.com). Be sure to check these sources often.

## Formation Evenings

October 19 (6:15-7:30 pm) OR October 21 (7-8:15 pm)  
7th & 8th Grade Parents only. Religious Formation students will attend regularly scheduled classes on Monday, October 19.

February 22 (6:15-7:30 pm) OR February 25 (7-8:15 pm)  
7th & 8th grade parents and students will attend this Evening of Formation together.

## Sacramental Information

Children are prepared to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the seventh and eighth grades. If you have a child entering the eighth grade with at least one additional prior consecutive year of formal religious education OR the seventh grade, you will receive additional information as the year progresses.

If your teen has not been baptized or has not received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Eucharist, please contact our office.

## Tuition

This program welcomes young people in grades seven and eight. Registration forms may be obtained from the Parish Office or the Religious Formation Office. Tuition is \$65 per student for registered Shrine parishioners, \$130 for nonparishioners. Statements are distributed at the beginning of the program year and payment is expected by October 30, 2009. No family will be turned away due to inability to pay.