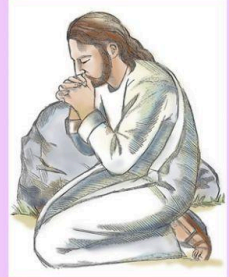




St. Matthew & Shepherd of the Hills Religious Education Program

2024-2025
Program Theme:

P.R.A.Y.
Pause, Rejoice, Ask, Yield



May 2025 Religious Ed News

What's Going on in Rome?

The Church is in a time right now called **sede vacante**, which means the seat [of the bishop of Rome, or the Pope] is vacant. The Cardinals from around the world have been arriving in Rome and have had "General Congregations," or meetings together, to discuss the needs of the Church today.

The **Conclave** begins on Wednesday, May 7! The Conclave is a meeting with high security and only the Cardinals of the Church are allowed to be there. On that day, the Cardinals will cast one vote for their choice of the next Pope. If $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Cardinals do not cast their vote for 1 man, then they will continue to vote (up to 4 times per day) on the following days of the Conclave. Twice each day, smoke will appear out of the chimney of the Sistine Chapel; if a pope has not been chosen, there will be black smoke. Once a priest has a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority and accepts the Papacy, white smoke will come from the chimney, indicating that "We have a Pope!" or in Latin, *Habemus Papem!*

Before you do anything else, please pray for the Cardinals and our Holy Catholic Church!

The Vatican has their own news page; you can access it here:

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html>

Parents, if you are interested in learning more about the conclave with your children/teens, here are a couple of great resources to start with:

<https://www.looktohimandberadiant.com/2025/04/we-have-pope-resources-for-kids-before.html>

<https://www.catholicmom.com/articles/2013/03/05/6-cool-tools-to-teach-your-children-about-the-conclave>

Here are a few videos on FORMED about the process of choosing a new pope:

<https://app.formed.org/app/collections/1137994>

<https://watch.formed.org/the-pope/videos/choosing-a-pope-what-really-happens-during-a-papal-conclave-what-catholics-believe>

<https://app.formed.org/app/collections/1136410>

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News for ALL Religious Education Families:

- 25-26 Religious Ed Handbook and Registration Links

Registration is Open for 2025-2026 NOW! Register today!

1) Please use this link to register your family:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeuudJ3J5K-MOVUE0oL6M8KZLOVtiFkdLhySkWZVn0XrdCCfQ/viewform?usp=sharing>

2) Please use this link to register each of your children:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScKdBOJwRNhtsuZe4JwUofw0yiUSYy04LCG7XsoFXA62oujEg/viewform?usp=sharing>

3) Please remember that you will need to complete BOTH the Family and Child registration to be fully registered for this year.

4) You can view the handbook, calendars and the registration links on our website: myreligioused.com

New this year! Pay before July 4 and save!

New this year: Mail your payment for religious education before July 4 and you only pay \$100 per student (maximum per family of \$300, plus sacramental fees).

How early payment works:

- Complete the family and child registrations online.
- Mail a check to SOTH/SMC Religious Education for the amount due, postmarked before July 4.
- All checks will be held and deposited on July 5, 2025.
- You saved \$20 per child for early registration and you helped Religious Education order the correct amount of textbooks and materials. Thank you!

- **You'll need to register every year.** This includes SMSA 9th, 10th, & 11th graders.
- 25-26 Religious Ed Handbook and Calendars are attached to this email.
- Please contact Dawn if you have any questions about registering (ddoll@sothparish.org or 920.322.5066)
- When you register, please consider how you can help the Religious Education team. We need catechists and small group leaders; we also need help doing things to prepare classes and activities for our youth. With your help, we can do more for the youth in our parishes!

Lost and Found:

- The Religious Ed office has a few things which were left during class/Mardi Gras. Please let Dawn know if they belong to you or your children:
Green scarf from Mardi Gras
Ring from Mardi Gras
Headband from Monday, 4/21, Rel Ed class
- After May 15, these items will be donated to St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store.

24-25 Rel Ed Survey:

Please share your thoughts about the 2024-2025 Religious Education year. **We would love to have everyone participate in the survey**, so we can make the program better each year. It should only take about 5-10 minutes, even if you have children in multiple grade levels. Here is the link for the survey:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdjF_A8VFFNpdx0HJlew6RJI5-WGAbaTmfZnQAahPc4augNSg/viewform?usp=header

- Religious Education Fundraising Events:

- **SOTH Coffee House.** Please sign-up now for 2-3 Sundays this year. Please, reach out to Dawn Doll(ddoll@sothparish.org) or Jenn Wilke (jenn@rahnexc.com) to let them know if you would like training.

***Don't forget to scroll down to the very end of this Newsletter for "**Other Service Opportunities or Families to Grow in Faith Opportunities**"

Elementary/ Middle RE News

- 2nd Grade Parents

- Congratulations to all our 1st Communicants who made their 1st Holy Communion in the last couple of weeks! What a wonderful day for these children, saying "yes!" to Jesus! Please keep coming to Mass to worship and receive Jesus every Sunday!

- Please contact Dawn Doll if you have any questions about 1st Communion at 920.322.5066 or ddoll@sothparish.org

- Family Faith Points - Weekly and Monthly Opportunities:

- Thank you to all the families who participated in the Family Faith Points program this year! Keep learning about your faith and praying all summer long!
- Families who participated should expect a letter in the mail in the next few weeks.

- Youth Group:

[-https://www.myreligioused.com/click-here-for-youth-ministry-events.html](https://www.myreligioused.com/click-here-for-youth-ministry-events.html)

- Watch the bulletin for upcoming dates and events.

- Please, keep our parish middle school students in your prayers!

High School RE News:

[-https://www.myreligioused.com/high-school-homepage.html](https://www.myreligioused.com/high-school-homepage.html)



Pre-graduation Mass hosted at St. Matthew 4pm Sat. May 17th

Wear your gowns to Mass, process in, and sit up front!
Allow us to help prayerfully celebrate
your completion of Highschool.

**All Shepherd of the Hills & St. Matthew 12th graders invited.
RSVP by May 1st please to Anna Kraus (920)375-1920 or
akraus@sothparish.org**



Shepherd of the Hills and St Matthew

TEEN EVENTS 2025

MARCH 23

High School Session SMC 10AM-12PM
also help clean-up Cabin Fever as needed

APRIL 4

KC Fish Fry @St. Matt Bake Sale items needed & teens
to work it for service hours. All donations go to Bus fees
for Mission Trip

APRIL 6

Bunny Brunch SOTH help 8:30-11:30

APRIL 6

Confirmation Rehearsal SMC 3pm-?
in the church with Sponsor or an adult proxy

APRIL 10

Confirmation Mass @7:30pm hosted at SMC
with small Social to follow Mass

MAY 12

Culver's Night for Mission Trip 5pm-8pm
(all encouraged to eat via drive thru/dine-in *East
Side location by Festival Foods in FDL)

**MAY
30/JUNE 1**

Mass Announcements & Mission Trip Appeals at
SOTH & SMC Masses * every little bit helps!

JUNE 22

Mission Trip Send off Mass SOTH 10:30am

JUNE/JULY

TBD HS Bible Study Planning & Camping/Game
Themed Youth Nights watch the Bulletin

✉ AKRAUS@SOTHPARISH.ORG

☎ +1920-375-1920

🌐 MYRELIGIOUSED.COM

- Service Opportunities here—

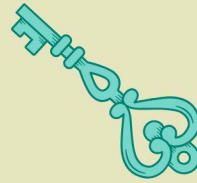
<https://www.myreligioused.com/click-here-for-service-hours--events-opportunity.html>

-Parents please help encourage your teen to help at the various upcoming events *see image above

- **Mission Trip News**

<https://www.myreligioused.com/summer-mission-trips.html>

MISSION TRIP TEEN EVENTS 2025



APRIL 4

KC Fish Fry @St. Matt Bake Sale items needed & teens to work it for service hours. All donations go to Bus fees for Mission Trip

MAY 12

Culver's Night for Mission Trip 5pm-8pm (all encouraged to eat via drive thru/dine-in *East Side location by Festival Foods in FDL)

MAY 21

Wed. 5pm-7pm Social Gathering & Getting to know each other Hosted at SOTH Coffee House!
ANNOUNCEMENT OF THEME for Alive in You

**MAY
30/JUNE 1**

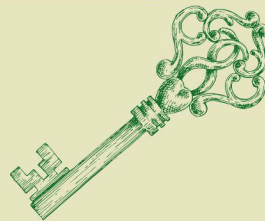
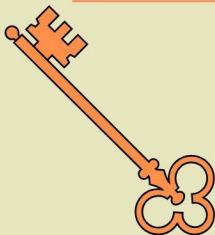
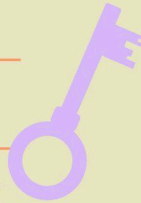
Mass Announcements & Mission Trip Appeals at SOTH & SMC Masses * every little bit helps!


JUNE TBD


Social Night including West Bend Bus Buddies!

JUNE 22

Mission Trip Send off Mass SOTH 10:30am & Final Permission Forms Signed for potential service work



 AKRAUS@SOTHPARISH.ORG

 +1920-375-1920

 MYRELIGIOUSED.COM

SUPPORT some faith filled Youth get to their Summer Mission Trip to Nashville, TN June 23-30, 2025 While you fill your stomach!

EAT CULVERS

969 E JOHNSON ST.
FOND DU LAC, WI 54935
*NEAR FESTIVAL FOODS

ON MON MAY 12TH

**DURING THE HOURS OF
4:30PM - 8PM**
Drive-thru or Dine-in

WI  TN
Let's GO!

10% of orders will go towards bus fees for our Summer Mission Trip!
Thank you from!
St. Matthew, Shepherd of the Hills, & Holy Angels Catholic Parishes!

Youth Ministers:
Anna Kraus: akraus@sothparish.org
Brian Mase: maseb@hawb.org

Keep Celebrating Mother's Day & treat your Mom to Culvers!

Watch Bulletins for Alive in You High School Mission Trip Updates.
June 23-30, 2025 Nashville, TN



ALIVE in You
9th-12th grade Mission Trip
Nashville, TN
June 23rd-30th 2025

CLICK this image to get to the printable registration sheet.

Mail it in with check/insurance & you'll be OFFICIALLY registered for AiY 2025 *waitlist after 1st 12 teens

FYI for RETURNERS Fundraising will be a bit different this year! Dates set for events FALL-SUMMER!
More to come via email once you've REGISTERED

Other Opportunities for Families to Grow in Faith from SMC & SOTH:

- Eucharistic Revival - Year 3!

Continue our Revival Nights, with Adoration and Confession from 6-7 pm. Join us for the whole time, or stop in for 5 minutes; spend some time with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

May 8 - SOTH

June 12 - SMC

July 10 - SOTH



 NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival

Revival Night

April's Revival Night will be on Holy Thursday. We invite you to come spend some time with Our Lord at both Shepherd of the Hills and St. Matthews as we begin the Triduum with Christ



When: April 17th, after Holy Thursday Mass
Where: Shepherd of the Hills and St. Matthews Catholic Church

"Remain here and keep watch with me"
 -Matt 26:38b

Questions or interested in other events? Please email Sarah Doll at vsprallyday@gmail.com

Questions? Please contact Sarah Doll at vsprallyday@gmail.com.

- St. Matthew Parish information asked to be shared with you:

- Join us for The Chosen April 8 and May 6 beginning at 5:30 in the St. Matthew.
- This is for all ages, families, friends, and community members. ALL ARE WELCOME!
- Please bring anyone you feel would grow from this experience.
- Childcare is available by responsible teen volunteers.
- We will provide the popcorn and laughs.

-Shepherd of the Hills Parish information asked to be shared with you:

Don't forget about the Bunny Brunch!

- It is held immediately after the 8:15 Mass on Sunday April 6
- *PLEASE NOTE: THERE IS ONLY ONE SEATING FOR THE BRUNCH!*
- Menu: ham sandwich, cheesy potatoes, applesauce, carrots and celery, pickles, cheese, homemade desserts and beverages.
- Cost is \$8 adults, \$5 children 3-9 , 2 and under are free.
- Every child 9 and under will receive a free stuffed bunny!
- We have tons of raffle baskets for all ages, face painting, guessing games and crafts for the kids, and they can visit with "Live" Easter Bunnies!
- This year's brunch is being held for Alexis Swift who suffered severe traumatic brain injury after a car accident.
- If you are unable to attend but still want to donate, please send your donation to the parish office clearly marked Bunny Brunch.

-Other Faith-filled Activities we have been asked to share with you:

Dawn will be at both of these camps this summer...and we are going to have an amazing time! Join us at Schoenstatt for Summer Camp!

SCHOENSTATT GIRLS AND YOUNG
WOMEN SUMMER CAMP 2025

Enkindle

August 6th at 10am to the 8th at 7pm
high school - ages: 13 - 17

Cost \$140 - Lodging dorm room style in
the Little Kingdom

Following Enkindle, all are
welcome to come and stay for
FAMILY CAMP - Aug 8-10th!!



**My Living Crown
Your Holy Springtime!**



Schoenstatt Retreat Center
W284N698 Cherry Ln,
Waukesha, WI 53188

Contact: Jaziel Reyes
sgyw.wi@schoenstatt.us

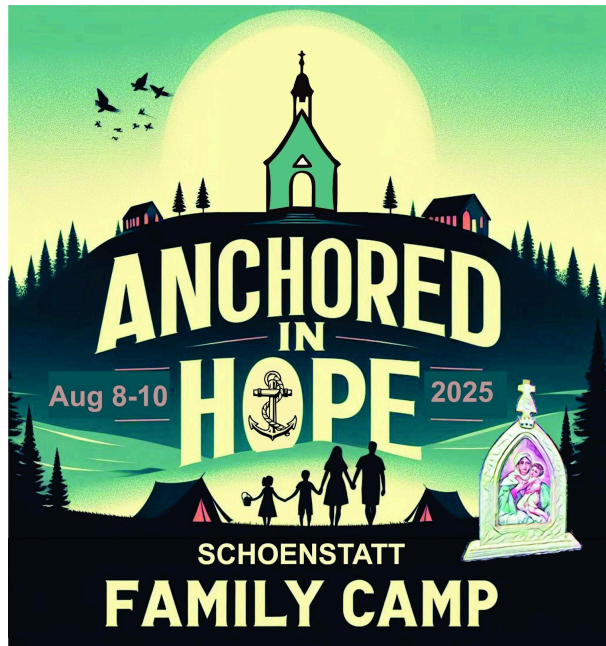
Girls Camp

June 30th at 6pm
to July 3rd at 1pm

Ages: 9 -13
Cost \$200



And, new this year...Anchored in Hope Schoenstatt Family Camp!



Want to sign-up for Family camp? Here's the link:
<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/family-camp>

Other Ways to stay in touch with your Catholic faith over the summer:

Find a Mass while you are away from your parish church:

<https://www.archmil.org/Parishes/Find-A-Mass.htm> or <https://masstimes.org/>

Relevant Radio - Catholic discussions and prayer times on the radio every day - find a station near you: <https://relevantradio.com/>

Relevant Radio Stories of the Saints - audio dramas: <https://www.themerrybeggars.com/>

FORMED - watch the bulletins for suggestions or explore for yourself - all Catholic ebooks, videos, audiobooks, podcasts, etc, available free to you from your parishes. To log on:

- 1) Go to formed.org
- 2) Click "Find your Parish Subscription"
- 3) Enter 53019 to find the Shepherd of the Hills & St. Matthew Parish's Subscription
- 4) Enter your name and email and you will get a link to FORMED in your email.
- 5) Click on the link in the email and you are set to enjoy Catholic content!

Please contact Dawn or Anna if you have any trouble getting into FORMED.

Here's some Easter content from FORMED: <https://leaders.formed.org/easter>

And some for later in the summer:

<https://formed-leaders.webflow.io/spiritual-growth-and-prayer-resources>