



I AM THE WAY
, AND THE TRUTH,
AND THE LIFE
JOHN 14:6



As Summer Winds Down, Our Faith Awakens

As summer comes to a close, we find ourselves soaking up the last rays of sunshine—enjoying festivals, family trips, and long evenings—before the rhythm of fall begins. August becomes a season of both holding on and letting go: we hold tight to the warmth and joy of summer while preparing our hearts and homes for the season ahead. Here at St. Joseph Parish, we embrace this time of transition with hope and joyful anticipation. Our parish calendar is coming to life, and the 2025–2026 Religious Education year is ready to begin! This year's theme, "Pilgrims of Hope, Anchored in Christ," invites families and students to embark on a journey of faith—walking together and trusting in God's promises through every season of life. Registration for Religious Education is now open, and we warmly invite all parish youth to our CSI (Catholic Saints In Training) Back-to-School Night—a faith-filled evening to reconnect, register, and kick off the new year with joy and purpose. Whether you're returning or joining us for the first time, you belong here.

Be sure to grab a copy of our RE calendar and stay up-to-date for exciting parish happenings, Family Mass dates, youth ministry gatherings, and musical ministry throughout the year. We can't wait to witness the many ways God will work through our parish community in the year ahead.

Let us walk together, family—Anchored in Christ.



Saturday,
Sept. 6, 2025
**OUR PARISH
FESTIVAL!!**

Watch for details and
plan to join us!



SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER FOR THE 2025–2026
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION YEAR!

\$25 DUE AT TIME OF REGISTRATION
\$10 (ONE STUDENT)
\$160 (TWO STUDENTS)
\$200 (THREE OR MORE STUDENTS)

"ADDITIONAL \$25 SACRAMENT FEE FOR ALL STUDENTS THAT WILL RECEIVE FIRST
SACRAMENTS OR CONFIRMATION"

WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE BUT WE ARE ONLY ACCEPTING PAYMENTS
MADE BY CASH OR CHECK AT THIS TIME.

BILINGUAL REGISTRATION FORM

[HTTPS://WWW.OSVHUB.COM/ST-JOSEPH-CHURCH-31/FORMS/RELIGIOUS-EDUCATION-2025-2](https://www.osvhub.com/st-joseph-church-31/forms/religious-education-2025-2)

REGISTRATION

FOR 2025–2026 IS OPEN!

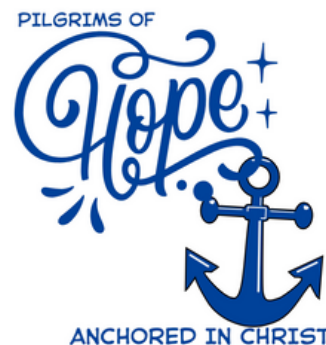


Saturday, August 16th
BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT
CSI Life Nights
St Joseph Youth Ministry
6pm -8pm
Every 3rd Saturday of each
month.

Sunday, August 17th
*Registration/ Orientation day
for RE
12pm - 2pm



ST JOSEPH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR 2025-2026



AUGUST

- 16 CS: Youth Ministry Back to School Gathering 6-8pm
- 17 RE 2025-2026 Registration Sunday 12 noon- 1:30 pm

SEPTEMBER

- 14 Sacrament Sunday (for parents and students receiving First Sacraments and Confirmation)
- 17 First RE Session K-8 5:30-6:45 pm Monicals Pizza Fundraiser Night
- 24 RE Session K-8 5:30-6:45pm

OCTOBER

- 8 RE Session K-8 5:30-6:45 pm
- 12 First Youth & Family Mass/ Donut Sunday 11 am
- 15 RE Session K-8 5:30-6:45 pm
- 18 Youth Ministry Saints N Smores (Confirmation Candidates)
- 22 RE Session K-8 5:30-6:45 pm
- 25 (Rake n Run) Youth Ministry 1-3 pm

NOVEMBER

- 1/2 Harvest Sunday-Flyers (TBA)
- 5 RE Session K-8 5:30-6:45 pm
- 9 Youth & Family Mass/ Donut Sunday/ Harvest Sunday Food Collection 11 am
- 12 RE Session K-8 5:30-6:45 pm
- 15 Youth Ministry 6-8 pm
- 19 RE Session K-8 5:30-6:45 pm
- 20 RE/Parish Advent Activity

DECEMBER

- 3 RE Session K-8 5:30-6:45 pm
- 10 RE Session K-8 5:30-6:45 pm
- 13 Youth Ministry 6-8 pm Singing For Seniors (DTBD)
- 14 Youth & Family Mass/ Donut Sunday 11 am

JANUARY

- 11 Youth & Family Mass/ Donut Sunday / Sponsor Sunday 11am
- 14 RE Session K-8 5:30-6:45 pm
- 21 RE Session K-8 5:30-6:45 pm
- 24 Youth Ministry 6-8 pm
- 28 RE Session K-8 5:30-6:45 pm

FEBRUARY

- 8 Youth & Family Mass/ Donut Sunday / Sponsor Sunday 11 am
- 11 RE Session K-8 5:30-6:45 pm
- 15 Confirmation Retreat 10:30 am
- 18 RE Ash Wednesday Mass (TTBD)
- 25 RE Session K-8 5:30-6:45 pm First Reconciliation Retreat

MARCH

- 8 Youth & Family Mass/ Donut Sunday 11 am
- 11 RE Session K-8 5:30-6:45 pm
- 12 First Reconciliation
- 18 RE Session K-8 5:30-6:45 pm
- 21 Youth Ministry 6-8 pm
- 22 Confirmation Candidate countdown to Confirmation Sunday, 3 pm-4:30 pm

APRIL

- 11 1st Communion Retreat
- 15 RE Session K-8 5:30-6:45 pm
- 15/16 Confirmation Practice (TBD) 6pm
- 16/17 Confirmation (TBD)
- 18 Youth Ministry 6-8pm
- 22 RE Session K-8 5:30-6:45 pm
- 22/23 Confirmation Practice (TBD) 6pm
- 23/24 Confirmation (TBD)
- 30 1st Communion Practice

MAY

- 3 1st Communion/ May Crowning 11 am
- 6 LAST RE Session /End of Year/ Sacrament Party 5:30- 6:45 pm



Youth Musicians

Requested on these dates:

Christmas Eve 12/24/25 3:00pm mass with music starting at 2:00pm

Ash Wednesday 2/18/26 Evening mass

Palm Sunday 3/29/26 11:00am Mass

Easter 4/5/26 11:00 am Mass

Pentecost 5/24/26 11:00 Mass

Corpus Christ 6/4/26 11:00 Mass & Procession



Youth Musicians and Singers can join the choir on the Youth and Family Mass, too!

Become a RE Pilgrim of Hope



We're also looking for catechists and classroom aides! If you feel called to serve, please join us for an informational meeting on August 13. It's a beautiful opportunity to grow in faith while guiding the next generation of disciples.

Coming Soon!

TO OUR RELIGIOUS CLASSES

Our very own publications:

My Massport



MASS MONTHLY ATTENDANCE
RECORD INCLUDING DAYS OF HOLY
OBLIGATION



NAME: _____

*Mark
YOUR
Calendar*
**sacramental
Sunday**
09/14/2025

Coming in September Newsletter

- *Parish Festival
- *1st RE Session
(More Wednesdays Added)
- Sacramental Sunday
- *1st Sacrament and Confirmation
meeting for parents and
candidates
- Our 1st RE Fundraiser of the new
school year

Saint Feast Days for August

August 1: Memorial of St. Alphonsus Liguori | Start of World Youth Day celebrations

August 4: St. John Vianney

August 5: Feast of Our Lady of the Snows

August 6: Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord

August 8: Feast of St. Dominic

August 9: St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (St. Edith Stein)

August 10: Feast of St. Lawrence (deacon and martyr)

August 12: Feast of St. Clare

August 14: Feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe

August 15: Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

August 20: Feast of St. Bernard

August 21: Feast of St. Pius X

August 22: Memorial of Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

August 23: Feast of St. Rose of Lima

August 24: Feast of St. Bartholomew

August 25: Feast of St. Louis of France

August 27: Feast of St. Monica

August 28: Feast of St. Augustine

August 29: Memorial of the Passion of St. John the Baptist

August Family Challenges

Spend time drawing your heart and include the symbols that you want to be represented.

Attend Mass on at least one of the August feast days!

Plan a cookout for your family and friends in honor of Saint Lawrence, patron saint of grill cooks. His feast day is August 10th.

Make a sacrifice this month that benefits another person. Saint Maximilian Kolbe, who gave up his life to save someone else's life, has his feast day on August 14th

**Receive Holy Communion on August 15th, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
Have some prayer time for family members that may have fallen away from the church in honor of Saint Monica's feast day on August 27th.**

Most importantly, go to confession and confess anything and everything impure in your heart.



August is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

The month of August is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart. Since the 16th century Catholic piety has assigned entire months to special devotions. The month of August is traditionally dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The physical heart of Mary is venerated (and not adored as the Sacred Heart of Jesus is) because it is united to her person and is the seat of her love (especially for her divine Son), virtue, and inner life. Such devotion is an incentive to a similar love and virtue.

This devotion has received new emphasis in this century from the visions given to Lucy Dos Santos, oldest of the visionaries of Fatima, in her convent in Tuy, in Spain, in 1925 and 1926. In the visions Our Lady asked for the practice of the Five First Saturdays to help make amends for the offenses committed against her heart by the blasphemies and ingratitude of men. The practice parallels the devotion of the Nine First Fridays in honor of the Sacred Heart.

On October 31, 1942, Pope Pius XII made a solemn Act of Consecration of the Church and the whole world to the Immaculate Heart. Let us remember this devotion year-round, but particularly through the month of August.

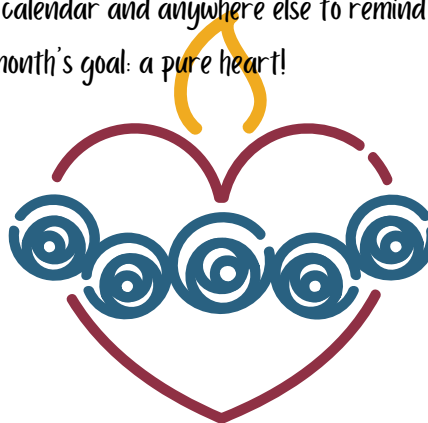
Excerpted from The Prayer Book by Reverend John P. O'Connell, M.A., S.T.D. and Jex Martin, M.A.

The Immaculate Heart of Mary is surrounded by a saintly glow. Her heart is crowned with flowers, pierced with a sword, and has the Holy Spirit's fire flowing out of it. It is certainly full of grace, purity, and carries the sorrows of Christ's Passion.

We sin because we love something, at least temporarily, more than we love God. This month it's time to ask Mary's intercession for a pure heart. Just like Mary was a tabernacle, sacred and pure, for Our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to be temples of the Holy Spirit.

Mary, Immaculately Conceived, was pure and saw God Incarnate. As Matthew 5:8 tells us, the pure in heart will see God. I would even say that we can see God in others who are pure in heart.

Draw her heart on your calendar and anywhere else to remind you of this month's goal: a pure heart!



Family Activities to Celebrate the Immaculate Heart of Mary

- ♥ Wear the Miraculous Medal for the entire month
- ♥ Create a home altar honoring the Immaculate Heart
- ♥ Engage children by making heart-shaped cookies or cake
- ♥ Have children make Immaculate Heart greeting cards
- ♥ Begin the First Five Saturdays devotion
- ♥ Spend time in prayer with the Prophecy of Simeon
- ♥ Pray the Seven Sorrows Rosary
- ♥ Consecrate yourself to the Immaculate Heart



God's peace & blessings,

Brenda McLean & Sandra Jefferson

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