

# Faith Formation

St. Joseph Catholic Church

December 2017

## Upcoming Events At A Glance

Dec. 13th Christmas Concert – NO PSR  
Dec. 17th Advent Penance Service  
Dec. 20th - Jan. 3rd No PSR classes. Blessed Christmas!  
Jan. 16th-21st March 4 Life Youth Bus Trip

## CYM



CYM No CYM in December! Blessed Christmas!

CYM are looking for parents/families/parishioners to help with meals and possible projects in the future! We would love to have you participate! We would like to start a meal plan calendar. CYM is held the last Wednesday of each month from 7-9pm in the cafeteria. If your family would like to make, serve, and clean up a meal for our youth please contact Lila Stuhlsatz or Laura O'Neal.

Catholic Youth Ministry seeks to empower our young people to live as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today by drawing them into active participation in the life and mission of the Catholic Church. The components incorporated each month are: Faith formation, Community life, prayer and worship, and justice and service.

*"Hope is not merely a wish that something good might happen – It is a firm confidence and desire that the promises of God will be fulfilled."*

We live in a culture that produces hopelessness with astounding consistency. But as people of faith, Christmas infuses us with hope - a hope that comes from experiencing the promises and presence of God in Jesus.

## Adult Faith Formation



### Best Advent Ever!

Advent is a time to slow down and get closer to Jesus. Short inspiration videos, practical tips, real life stories. I highly encourage you to sign up for FREE, it's easy and comes right to your email. <https://dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever>

Looking for volunteers to run adult formation classes. Possibly small groups. Have possible suggestions and free materials through Catholic Diocese of Wichita. Please contact Jamie Lange if you are interested in being a leader or committee member.

## Opportunities in the Diocese and Surrounding Areas

Dec. 8 and 9th Christ Life Conference SLC  
Dec. 9th Dirt Retreat St. Paul U Parish Wichita  
Dec. 15th Fiat Ministries Retreat for youth SLC  
Dec. 15th-16th Advent Silent Retreat 7pm SLC  
Dec. 15th Theology on Tap Dinner/ Dance 6:45 Cathedral  
Dec. 18th Fishing for souls 7-10 SLC  
Dec. 28th Cathedral Adoration and WAM 7:30-10:30  
Dec. 30th Eve of the Eve Dance 7pm St. Mary's Derby  
Dec. 31st- Jan. 1st New Year's Eve Marian Retreat SLC  
Jan. 8th Theology on Tap 7pm Loft 150  
Feb. 17-19 TEC SLC

Visit our parish website for more information on CYM, PSR, Faith Formation locally and surrounding events.

[www.stjoecs.org/faith-formation](http://www.stjoecs.org/faith-formation)

## Celebrating Advent

There are a number of ways to celebrate Advent besides simply lighting the Advent candles. Honest repentance and prayer, however, are essential to faithfully observing what is the beginning of the Catholic year.

One way to celebrate is to go to confession and take a friend who has not been in a while. Make it a warm and welcoming experience for them.

Hosting a Christmas party, not for close friends but for members of the community and those in need, is another way to celebrate the season. Invite friends you have not seen in a long time, or perhaps someone with whom you had a disagreement.

If you are in the position to really bless someone, help someone in need with a utility bill, or help a family that may be struggling to have a Merry Christmas with gift cards to a grocery store and a department store. However the Holy Spirit acts upon you be sure to demonstrate it. You will have a merry Christmas yourself if you reach out and help someone who cannot repay you. What a blessing!

## Focus on Jesus

Advent is also an excellent time to focus our children's attention on Jesus instead of on presents. Be an example to them by fasting, praying as a family, and repenting. Show them the true spirit and joy of Christmas by doing for others and having a humble attitude. Go to daily Mass if possible. Any and all Christ-entered activities should be encouraged.

As Catholics, we long for Jesus and His coming again. We can become confused during this season because of our culture and materialism. Do not lose faith. Keep Catholic traditions alive in your home and in your heart with the amazing knowledge that He redeemed Himself for you. Never forget it. He will never forget you.

Have a blessed Christmas and New Year.

This is an excerpt from [www.catholicstand.com](http://www.catholicstand.com)

About the Author: Karen Reep

Karen Reep is a Catholic wife and mother to seven children from our parish. She teaches catechism to the tenth grade girls of our local parish.

*Favorite websites*

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Dynamic Catholic

<https://dynamiccatholic.com/>

*You tube it! <<<<>>>> Life Teen Inc*

*"Man can live forty days without food,  
about three days without water, about  
eight minutes without air, but only one  
second without hope."*

*-Unknown*