

SUMMER

OF

FAITH

# **WELCOME OF THE 2021 SUMMER OF FAITH CHALLENGE JUNIOR HIGH VERSION!**

**Your challenge is to spend the full 31 days of July getting better acquainted with the Diocese, your parish, your faith, your family and friends and most importantly yourself!!**

**Attached is a listing of 31 things that YOU can do to accomplish this. For each thing you complete, color the corresponding number on your game grid.**

**Some things require completion on a CERTAIN DATE while most of them are a DAILY task for you to complete.**

**After completion, you will submit your grid and your challenge results (pictures and paperwork) and be entered into a drawing for an AWESOME PRIZE! (There will be a FIRST Prize & SECOND Prize given in each age group.**

## **JUNIOR HIGH CHALLENGE**

**Challenge is for youth in grades 5-8 in any one of our parish Religious Ed Programs or our Catholic Schools. For this age group adult “assistance only” is permitted.**

- 1 Fill out the form on the back of the challenge grid!
- 2 We are currently celebrating the Year of St. Joseph! Complete at LEAST one puzzle in one of the five booklets
- 3 Convince your whole family to attend Mass together. Get a family picture!
- 4 Take a picture of you doing something patriotic OR write a short paragraph on what freedom means to you.
- 5 Sit in silence for 10 minutes with no distractions. Listen to the quiet and open your mind, heart and spirit to Jesus talking to you. Afterward, write down your thoughts and feelings from that reflective time.
- 6 Feast Day of Maria Goretti - – Patron Saint of Catholic Youth, Girls, and Teens. Find her story online and think about how you can be as faithful as she was in your faith. Write a couple paragraphs.
- 7 Find out the **FULL NAME** of your **Parish Pastor**. Make him a card or write him a THANK YOU note for all that he does for your parish and give it to him. (Take a pic of the card or note!)
- 8 In honor of St. Joseph the worker, plan an act of service for someone and then write a short reflection about it and how it made you feel.
- 9 In our diocese we are blessed to have two Cathedrals (**Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament** in Altoona, and **St. John Gualbert Cathedral** in Johnstown) and a Basilica (**Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel** in Loretto). Take a picture of yourself in front of one of them. (Extra points if you can do two or all three)
- 10 With parent’s permission, chose a family, friend or neighbor who is homebound and could use a visit from you. Visit them!
- 11 Take a selfie of yourself (and family?) n the doorway of your parish with the inside of church behind you so we can see it!
- 12 God wants us to laugh and have fun! Take a picture of you doing something fun in the summer sun!
- 13 Do a household chore that you never LIKE to do. Do it with a smile and thank God you have a home! Talk about what you chose and why.

- 14 Feast of St. Kateri Tekakwitha. Look her up online and draw her picture OR write something interesting about her.
- 15 Clean out your closet drawers and find nice things you no longer need or want and donate them to the needy. Take a pic!
- 16 Go to a Parish Picnic or Festival your own or another parish!
- 17 The Holy Family was supported by the love and care of St. Joseph. Show your Father or a Father figure your love by telling how much you appreciate their love and care!
- 18 Celebrate and support the Sacrament of Marriage by attending the July 18<sup>th</sup> Mass for married couples. Get a picture with a married couple at the Mass and/or one with Bishop Mark!
- 19 Get a picture with your Pastor at the Parish.
- 20 Feast of St. Apollinaris - Look his story up online. In remembrance of his unending witness of faith, make a small sacrifice today that would follow something Jesus would ask of us (give up a treat for the day, give your sibling the remote and let them chose. Give up something for another)
- 21 Tell someone how SPECIAL and IMPORTANT they are to you. Someone who really needs it! Pray for them too!
- 22 Go to confession and appreciate the gift of Grace God gives us through the Sacrament of Reconciliation!
- 23 Attend a parish function (festival, picnic, etc) (your own parish or another) and get a picture!
- 24 Did you ever hear, "Count Your Blessings?" We sometimes dwell on the bad things in life. Make a list of all of the wonderful blessings in YOUR life, and say a prayer of Thanksgiving to God!
- 25 Make a pilgrimage with family or friends to St. Joseph Chapel in Harts Sleeping Place near Carrolltown. Say a prayer in the chapel for someone in need, and take a picture in front of the Chapel.
- 26 Feast of St. Joachim and Ann, Grandparents of Mary – Reminds us of what an important part our grandparents play in our faith life as they did in the life of our blessed Mother, Mary. Take a picture with your grandparents or another special grandparent(s) you know if yours are not available.
- 27 When you are at Mass. Look at all the "jobs" that others do during Mass. What would you like to do some day when you are old enough? Write a short paragraph on that ministry (job) and why you want to do it.

- 28 Go for a walk in the woods to appreciate God's creation. Take a picture of yourself in nature.
- 29 Today is the memorial of Saints Martha, Mary & Lazarus, who were friends of Jesus. Friends are important. Choose three good friends and plan on spending time with them. Take a selfie with your three friends!
- 30 Write a short letter to Bishop Mark telling him something you like about your parish and/or the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. Mention you entered this contest for an extra point! Take a picture!
- 31 Take a selfie holding the "Summer of Faith Challenge Sheet" or draw your own!!

***SUBMIT ALL ENTRIES NO LATER THAN AUGUST 5, 2021  
TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE PRIZE DRAWING!!***