



## CHURCH OF SAINT DOMINIC

Hello 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents,

Welcome back! I hope you and your student had a relaxing and rejuvenating summer. I understand that heading back to school is a time of transition, filled with possibilities, opportunities, and challenges! Please know that you are in my prayers and that I ask God to give you the patience, the wisdom, and the calm nerves to help you through this time!

As many of you know, we offer a Junior High Youth Group here at St. Dominic. While we understand that students receive an excellent faith foundation in your homes, we strongly encourage you to get them involved in the Junior High Youth Group. Our JHYG at St. Dominic is an excellent way to continue fostering your child's faith development. Our focus in JHYG moves from learning the "whats" and the "abouts" of Catholic faith toward the "hows" of living our Catholic identity. In the 7<sup>th</sup> grade we work on skills like stress management, building strong friendships, the ups and downs of adolescence, how to achieve helpful prayer life, and encountering God in new and unexpected ways. In the 8<sup>th</sup> grade we focus on putting our faith into action for the common good, discussing topics of poverty, hunger, environmental stewardship. All these topics are focused around the past Sunday's Gospel.

This year, we hope to save you time and reduce our carbon footprint by implementing online registration. This link <https://stdominicym.wufoo.com/forms/w1v38y6u1beu79k/> will take you to the registration form. You will also be able to access this form by going to the parish website. In the form, we ask you to please upload a "school-type" picture of your child that will be used for our main hall display and our class roster. What we need is an image of your child(ren)'s face, not a full body picture. Finally, you will have three options to submit payment: online, in person, or mail. Please note the deadline for registration is Friday, August 19th.

Attached to this email is the Youth Ministry calendar. In general, Junior High Youth Group will follow the same schedule with 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade alternating every other Wednesday, once a month social event (TGIF! Night) on Friday evening, and once a month service event on Saturday mornings.

On Sunday, Sept. 18th from 10 - 11 a.m. there will be an important parent meeting in the cafeteria. The topic of this meeting is Praesidium, a safe environment program for parishes with the focus of keeping our children safe from sexual predators. It is a series of lessons for children in grades K-8 that the Diocese of Cleveland requires us to implement in our Religious Education program. The second attachment to this email offers some more information about your very important role in keeping children safe. Thank you for your careful attention in this matter.

The following Sunday, Sept. 25 we will offer two parent meetings from 10-11am or 12:15 to 1:15pm. You need only to attend one. We hope all parents will take the time to come and meet your child(ren)'s teachers, gather some pertinent information and reconnect as we begin the new year. We will also be asking parents to sign up to volunteer for one of the Junior High Youth Group classes, so please bring your calendar.

It is a privilege to serve you and your families at St. Dominic! I look forward to making this year spiritually fruitful for all involved.

If you have any questions or if I can be of any help to you in this time of transition, please don't hesitate to be in touch.

Sincerely,

Jillian Zaczyk

# St. Dominic Junior High Youth Group 2016-2017

## September

18	Parent Meeting*	10-11am
25	Parent Meeting	10am
25	Parent Meeting	12:15am
28	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm

## October

05	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
12	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
14	TGIF! Night	6-7:30pm
19	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
12	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
22	Project Serve Jr.	TBD
26	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm

## November

02	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
04	TGIF! Night	6-7:30pm
05	Project Serve Jr.	TBD
09	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
16	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
30	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm

## December

07	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
10	Project Serve Jr.	TBD
14	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm

## January

04	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
11	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
13	TGIF! Night	6-7:30pm
18	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
25	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
28	Project Serve Jr.	TBD

## February

01	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
03	TGIF! Night	6-7:30pm
08	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
15	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
18	Project Serve Jr.	TBD
22	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm

## March

01	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
11	Project Serve Jr.	TBD
15	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
22	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
24	TGIF! Night	6-7:30pm
29	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm

## April

05	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
26	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm

## May

03	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade JHYG	7:15-8:15pm
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All events will take place in the Youth Room unless otherwise announced.

\*First parent meeting is Diocesan Praesidium training teaching parents on signs of sexual abuse.

\*\*CAVs game to be added in the spring. Reservations will be due in the fall.

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