

Saint Katharine Drexel Youth Group
Lesson Plan for August 23, 2015
Summer Celebration and Freshmen Welcome Event

Overview

Teens will be welcomed to the youth group with a large, outdoors festival. There will be plenty of time to socialize, outdoor games and inflatables, dinner, and prizes. Teens will then be encouraged to return to youth group during the winter and spring months.

Objectives

Mind – Teens will brainstorm ideas with their teams to improve their chances of winning and will compete in a popular culture trivia contest.

Body – Teens will be very active outdoors playing a game of tag, competing in relay races, and playing on an inflatable obstacle course.

Soul – Teens will recognize that many of their peers attend the church and will hopefully see the parish youth group as a place to make new friends and grow closer to Christ.

Growth

This is primarily a **COMMUNITY** lesson.

Esteem – Teens will learn about the value that youth group can play in their personal growth.

Community – Teens will meet new friends and grow together through team contest and activities.

Faith – Teens will be welcomed into the parish youth group and encouraged to participate in the weekly gatherings to share and develop their faith.

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Agenda

2:00 – 4:00: SET-UP (*prior to arrival of teens*)

Arrival and set-up of inflatables

Set up volleyball and bring other games upstairs

Prepare ring toss and playing cards and so forth

4:00 – 4:45: FREE TIME (Outside)

Teens will have free time outside (youth room closed).

4:45 – 5:00: POST-APOCALYPTIC ZOMBIE TAG (Outside)

Teens will compete individually to survive a zombie attack.

Teens will be marked as 'uninfected' by having a tag clothes-pinned to their shirt. If a zombie rips your tag off, you become a zombie and run around trying to tear tags off others.

To begin, all teens are marked and stand randomly within the coned playing area. An adult will 'infect' the first wave by removing the tags for one or more teens. At the signal, the zombie teen(s) will try to tear the tags off the uninfected human players.

All players must stay within the coned playing area. The last surviving human is the winner.

5:00 – 5:05: INTRODUCTION (Outside)

Brian will address the teens and officially welcome them to the event. Brian will introduce the other adults, briefly explain what youth group is, and give a run-down of what we'll be doing for the rest of the event.

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5:05 – 5:40: GAMES (Outside)

Teens will earn tickets by winning events. These tickets are then put into a basket and will be used to draw winners at the end of the event.

(5:05 – 5:15) BALLOON RACE (5min prep; 5min race)

Each teen will get a playing card. On the signal, they must find their matching partner, place a balloon between their backs, lock arms, and race towards the finish.

(5:15 – 5:30) SKI RACE (5 min prep; 10 min race)

Each teen removes his or her right shoe and throws it into a pile. The adults will sort the shoes into teams of 4 who will compete in a race on wooden skis. Due to limited skis, teams will likely compete in heats. Winners advance to finals.

(5:30 – 5:40) LIFESAVERS RACE (5 min prep; 5 min race)

Each teen will be given an Easter Egg with a color and a number. The teens will separate into a red team and blue team and stand in numerical order. Each teen will be given a toothpick to place in their mouths. #1 will then place a Lifesaver candy on the toothpick. At the signal, #1 must pass the Lifesaver to #2's toothpick. Hands must be kept behind your back. If dropped, pick up and continue, but with a 5-second penalty. The first team to pass the Lifesaver to the end wins.

5:40 – 6:15: DINNER and FREE TIME (Dining Hall and Outside)

6:15 – 6:35: TRIVIA CONTEST (Lobby)

TRIVIA CONTEST

Teens will compete by grade to answer random trivia questions. To 'buzz in', teens will throw rings onto a post. The team with the first ring on the pole gets to answer. A correct answer earns points, an incorrect answer loses points. If incorrect, the team with the second ring will answer and so forth. Teams will only have 10-15 seconds to throw their rings and only 5 seconds to answer.

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6:35 – 6:45: TESTIMONIALS (Youth Room)

Select seniors will share testimonials about why they enjoy coming to youth group and why they believe that the freshmen and sophomores should also attend.

6:45 – 6:55: PRIZES (Youth Room)

Tickets will be drawn from the bucket and prizes awarded.

6:55 – 7:00: FAREWELL (Youth Room)

Brian will thank all the teens for attending and make announcements.

Announcements

1. All teens are encouraged to join our Facebook group and follow our Twitter account. We will post upcoming events, photos, and other bits of news and information.
2. Our next meeting will be next Sunday, August 30th from 6pm to 9pm in the youth room. Our upperclassmen will be available for an open Q & A to answer questions freshmen may have about high school.