



KEYSIS
2011-2012
CALENDAR & GUIDE

**Multi-Parish Catholic
Youth Ministry Program
for Teens**

Greater Decatur Area

Dear Parents & Friends

Thank you for your support of Keysis Teen Ministry! This year has a lot in store for the teenagers. We are working very hard to ensure that all of our activities are quality, meaningful experiences.

Please keep us in prayer throughout the year, especially on Sunday Nights during our Keysis meetings. God has been pouring exceptional amounts of grace down upon the teens!

What is Keysis?

Keysis is the multi-parish Catholic youth ministry program for the greater Decatur area.

It's a community where all are called to deepen their love for Christ and His Church. It is open to all teenagers, Catholic or non-Catholic.

The ministry is guided by an enthusiastic team of adults from Decatur parishes with the support of pastors, parents, and other adults.

The ministry provides opportunities for spiritual growth through fun weekly gatherings, relevant teaching of the Word, retreats and trips, Holy Mass, and service in our community.

The Core Team

The ministry is guided by an enthusiastic team of adults called the Core Team.

Our Core Team for this year is:

- Diane Couri
- Deb Furman
- Zach Gooding
- Deacon Kevin Richardson

Team members belong to various Decatur parishes and work with the support of our pastors, parents, and other adults.

The Core Team's role is to work with your teens to bring them closer to Christ. The Core plans the Keysis meetings, Masses, retreats, social activities... pretty much anything related to Keysis.

Feel free to contact any of us throughout the year if you have comments, questions, concerns, or would like to be involved in this exciting ministry.

Peace and All Good!

Deacon Kevin

Keysis Youth Ministry
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KEYSIS CONTACTS

The Core Team

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Stay Up to Date Online



facebook

Search on Facebook
for "Keysis Decatur" and
"Keysis Decatur Parents"

Keysis Website

There's lots of information,
event information, calendar
dates, photos, and more on the
Keysis Website at:

<http://www.keysis.net>

Scan the
bar code
with your
smart
phone to
go to the
Keysis Web
site.



Get Text Updates...



We also send regular
text messages to teens
and parents reminding
everyone about upcoming
events. We've found that it's a
perfect way to communicate
with our Keysis teens.

Scan the
bar code
with your
smart
phone, sign
up, and
you can get
the TXT messages too!



Or, sign up at:

<http://trunc.us/Zk6tp7>

What's "Keysis" mean?

You might be wondering what "Keysis" means. Well, it's a shortened version of "catechesis", which refers to a passing on of the faith.

Getting Together

Our **Keysis meetings** are held in the St. Thomas Church Community Center – we have our own Keysis Room!

We meet most Sunday evenings from **6 to 8 p.m.** Check the calendar in this guide for specific dates and other events.

Don't worry about calling ahead or registering, just show up! New teens join us every week. You will be warmly welcomed!

Permission Forms

A completed, signed permission slip is required for every teen who wants to participate in a special Keysis activity or trip. This is a requirement of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois.

Our permission slips can be downloaded from the Keysis website. Click on the "Downloads/Links" menu item at the top of the Web page.

At Keysis Meetings and Activities...

- Be yourself
- Make everyone feel welcome
- Put your cell phone away
- Participate
- Be positive and have an open mind
- Be respectful
- Take serious things seriously
- Listen to others during discussions
- Treat others as you want to be treated
- No judging or putdowns
- Sharing is caring
- Watch your mouth
- No physical violence
- Appropriate contact only
- Don't gossip
- What is said at Keysis stays at Keysis
- Include everyone
- Have FUN!



Use OneCause to support Keysis

Keysis has joined OneCause — a simple fund-raising program that helps us support Keysis Youth Ministry when we shop online.

Here's how it works:

Start your shopping at [OneCause.com](https://www.onecause.com), click to your favorite stores, and you'll automatically contribute up to 20% of your eligible purchases to Keysis Decatur, at no extra cost to you.

So every time you buy clothes, shoes or even plane tickets, you can save money and help Keysis! It's so easy.

Help make a difference to our city wide Catholic Youth Ministry program in Decatur by joining OneCause today.

You're going to buy stuff anyway... Make it count! And please pass the word along to your family and friends.

**Don't worry
about
anything;
instead
pray about
everything.
Tell GOD
what you need
and thank
Him for all
He has done.**

Philippians 4:6

SEPTEMBER 2011

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3 First Saturday - Eucharistic

Adoration followed by breakfast at McDonald's 8:30 am

4 No Youth Group

5 Labor Day

11 **Work Camp Participant Meeting**, 5 p.m.

11 **Keysis Meeting**, 6-8 pm

18 **Keysis Meeting**, 6-8 pm
"Keysis Keys and Handprints"

25 **Keysis Family Mass, Meal, and Meeting**

Mass at 5 pm

Meal and Meeting 6-8 pm

Keysis Family Mass

Holy Mass is the central mystery of our Catholic Faith. One of the ways we give our love back to God is to fully participate in the Mass.



Teens and families from every parish are invited to the Keysis Family Masses at St. Thomas Church on the last Sunday of each month. There are months when a Keysis Family Mass is not planned, so please check the schedule.

The Masses are planned and led by the Keysis teens. The celebrants are Fr. Rick Weltin and Fr. Joe Molloy.

How about inviting another teen to join you and see what Keysis is all about? A meal and regular Keysis meeting follow after Mass! Come hungry! Leave happy!

OCTOBER 2011

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- 1 **First Saturday - Eucharistic Adoration** ; then breakfast at McDonald's -- 8:30 am
- 2 **Life Chain**, Downtown, 2:30 - 3:30p.m.
- 2 **Keysis Meeting**, 6-8 pm
- 9 **Keysis Meeting**, 6-8 pm "Can of Worms" Session
- 10 Columbus Day
- 15-16 **Fall Camping Trip**
- 16 No Youth Group
- 23 **Keysis Family Mass, Meal, and Meeting**; Mass at 5 pm Meal and Meeting 6-8 pm
- 22-24 TEC Retreat 229
- 30 **Costume Bowling** at Pla-mor Lanes instead of regular Keysis Meeting
- 31 Halloween

Fall Camping Trip!

We're going camping! Join us on the fall camping trip for Keysis, October 15-16 at Hidden Springs State Forest near Clarksburg, 10 miles southeast of Shelbyville.

There are so many cool things for us to do: hiking, volleyball, a guided nature trail, horseshoes, fishing, and more! Plus a few surprises that we have cooked up!



The group campsite where we'll stay has a huge amount of space that we'll have all to ourselves. It includes shaded areas for tent sites and a sunny grassy field for activities.

We will need adults to drive and camp with us. Also, ask around for tents! As soon as we know how many people are going, we'll provide more specific information about what to bring, etc.

Hope you can join us for this fun weekend. Respond to the Facebook invitation!

NOVEMBER 2011

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5 **First Saturday - Eucharistic**

Adoration followed by breakfast at McDonald's 8:30 am

6 **Keysis Meeting, 6-8 pm**

11 Veterans Day

13 **Keysis Meeting, 6-8 pm**

20 Day of Reflection, at Holy Family Church, Open to all parishes, 9am - 3pm

20 **Keysis Meeting, 6-8 pm**

24 Thanksgiving Day

27 **Keysis Meeting, 6-8 pm**

1st Sunday of Advent

Helping Keysis Grow

Here are some ways you can help teens in the Keysis Ministry grow in their faith in Jesus and as young Catholics:

1. **Prayers** – We can never have enough prayer. Would you become a prayer warrior for Keysis and pray for our teens on a daily basis?



2. **Get Involved** –

Adult involvement is vital to the success of the program. Adults from every Decatur area parishes are needed to help with various aspects of Keysis: coordinating events, helping to cook meals on Sunday Family Mass evenings, music ministry, sharing your faith – and much more!

3. **Spread the Word** - Let other families and teens know about the Keysis Ministry. Encourage them to try it – even just once! Chances are that they'll be hooked. Catholic teens benefit from sharing their faith with each other and hearing and seeing the lived faith of caring adults.

DECEMBER 2011

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3 **First Saturday - Eucharistic**

Adoration followed by
breakfast at McDonald's
8:30 am

4 **Keysis Meeting, 6-8 pm**

"Can of Worms" Session

2nd Sunday of Advent

11 **Keysis Meeting, 6-8 pm**

3rd Sunday of Advent

18 **Keysis Meeting, 6-8 pm**

4th Sunday of Advent

25 No Youth Group

25 Christmas Day

St. Nicholas Families

Last year we began what we hope will be a Christmas Keysis tradition: Keysis members



joining together to provide Christmas presents for two local families in great need – our St. Nicholas Families.

We'll start shopping for them on the 19th. Bring your cash or check donation to Keysis meetings before that date.

Make checks payable to "Keysis Decatur" and mark "St.

Nicholas Family" in the memo.

Open a Can Of Worms

Once every month or so our Keysis Meeting takes the format of an open forum called "Can of Worms." This popular program provides teens a place to bring questions on a variety of topics to be discussed. The "Can of Worms" sessions are interesting, lively, honest, and candid. Questions take all forms, from issues on church, faith, family, school, and friends.

JANUARY 2012

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- 1 Keysis Meeting**
New Year's Day
- 7 First Saturday - Eucharistic Adoration** followed by breakfast at McDonald's 8:30 am
- 8 Keysis Meeting, 6-8 pm**
14-16 TEC Retreat 230
- 15 Keysis Meeting, 6-8 pm**
- 16 M.L. King Jr. Day
- Keysis Visit at McKinley Court Nursing Home**
9-11 am & Lunch at McD
- 22 Keysis Meeting, 6-8 pm**
- 29 Keysis Family Mass, Meal, and Meeting**
Mass at 5 pm
Meal and Meeting 6-8 pm

Visiting McKinley Court

We're going to visit residents at McKinley Court Care Centre on Monday,



January 16. It's Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, so there's no school. We've had a blast in the past! The grandmas and grandpas greet the teens with such excitement.

Balloon creations by Keysis are always a source of many smiles. Look forward to lots of lively discussion and laughter, reading, card playing, storytelling, and sharing of artwork.

We will visit with residents from 9-11 and then go to McDonald's for lunch at the corner of North Water Street and Pershing (near St. Teresa). We should be finished by 1 p.m. If you're planning on joining us, please let us know to expect you by responding to the Facebook invitation!

FEBRUARY 2012

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4 **First Saturday - Eucharistic**

Adoration followed by
breakfast at McDonald's
8:30 am

5 **Superbowl Keysis**

2-3:30 pm

12 **Keysis Meeting, 6-8 pm**

19 **Keysis Meeting, 6-8 pm** "Can of Worms" Session

20 Presidents Day

22 Ash Wednesday

26 **Keysis Family Mass, Meal, and Meeting**

Mass at 5 pm

Meal and Meeting 6-8 pm

Can a Question Be a Prayer?

Lent is a season of introspection and asking questions. It offers lots of opportunities for looking at our spiritual life, taking up new spiritual practices, and asking ourselves "Where is God calling me in the days ahead? "

Can a question
be a prayer?

Think about it.

Most prayers
are questions:

Why God? How

God? When God? Who God?

We've only to look to the book
of Job or many of the Psalms to
know this was true of our
spiritual ancestors.

Sometimes, it's enough to ask
the question and accept that
easy answers are not part of
what we can expect from God.
But perhaps if one person's
prayer can be a question,
another person's prayer can be
an answer.



MARCH 2012

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3 First Saturday - Eucharistic Adoration followed by breakfast at McDonald's 8:30 am

3-5 TEC Retreat 231

4 Keysis Meeting, 6-8 pm

11 Keysis Meeting, 6-8 pm

17-18 C.I.A. Retreat
Sat-Sun

18 No Youth Group

25 Keysis Family Mass, Meal, and Meeting
Mass at 5 pm
Meal and Meeting 6-8 pm

CIA Service Retreat

The **Catholics in Action (C.I.A) Retreat** on March 17-18 encourages teens to spend the day Saturday giving their time for people in need in the Decatur area.

Among other things, we may be visiting elderly parishioners, sorting and distributing food and clothing, painting and cleaning up for a worthwhile project, and serving meals at the Good Samaritan Inn.

The retreat provides opportunities to live out and also reflect upon the Gospel message of "whatever you have done for the least of my brothers, you have done for me." (Matthew 25:31)



APRIL 2012

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- 1 **Keysis Meeting** and Palm Sunday Candlelight Stations of the Cross, 6-8 pm
- 7 **First Saturday - Eucharistic Adoration** followed by breakfast at McDonald's 8:30 am
- 8 Easter Sunday
No Youth Group
- 15 **Keysis Meeting**, 6-8 pm
- 22 **Keysis Meeting**, 6-8 pm
"Can of Worms" Session
- 29 **Keysis Family Mass, Meal, and Meeting**
Mass at 5 pm
Meal and Meeting 6-8 pm

Candlelight Stations of the Cross

One of our favorite and most moving prayerful moments of the year is the Palm Sunday Candlelight Stations of the Cross in St. Thomas Church.

The large, bare wooden cross is carried by a Keysis member to each station, leading dozens of teens holding candles and chanting in the otherwise darkened church. You have to experience it.

The **LORD**
does not look
at the things
people look at.

People look
at the
outward
appearance,
but the
LORD looks
at the heart.

1 Samuel 16:7

MAY 2012

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27	28	29	30	31		

5 First Saturday - Eucharistic Adoration followed by breakfast at McDonald's 8:30 am

6 Keysis Meeting, 6-8 pm

13 Mother's Day

No Youth Group

20 Keysis Meeting, 6-8 pm

Mt. Zion H.S. Graduation

St. Teresa H.S. Graduation

27 Pentecost

27 No Youth Group

28 Memorial Day

BYOB to a Keysis Small Bible Study Group

BYOB—Bring Your Own Bible – to a small group meeting and learn about Scripture in a fresh way. We'll meet for about 45 minutes, maybe before our Keysis meeting or at another day and time that works for the group members.



The discussions will be broken down into 3 to 6 meetings per series. This way you can commit for as often as your schedule allows.

Sometimes we'll focus on a theme; other times we'll look at a whole book of the Bible such as the Book of Tobit, which features angels, demons, fish guts and bird poop. What else can you ask for? Well, there's also the story of the love between a father and a son; and a man and a woman.

JUNE 2012

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

2 First Saturday - Eucharistic Adoration

followed by breakfast at McDonald's

3 Keysis Meeting, 6-8 pm
Senior Blessing Night

10 No Youth Group
Corpus Christi

10-16 CHWC Workcamp
Twin Cities, MN

17 Father's Day
No Youth Group

23-25 TEC Retreat 231

24 Keysis Meeting, 6-8 pm

Catholic Heart Mission Trip to Twin Cities

We're off this month on a Mission Trip Adventure. From June 10-16, we'll be travelling to the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul for a week of service that will be life changing!

We'll join over 300 teens to surround the Twin Cities community with the love of Christ, through daycare center work; at the homes of elderly, disadvantaged or disabled residents on home revitalization; and homeless shelter help.



Whatever the Lord has in store for you will be an INCREDIBLE uplifting time, making new friends, and learning what living the Gospel really means!

JULY 2012

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- 1 Keyis Meeting**
6-8 pm
- 4 Independence Day
- 7 First Saturday - Eucharistic Adoration** followed by breakfast at McDonald's
8:30 am
- 8 Keyis Meeting, 6-8 pm**
- 15 Keyis Meeting, 6-8 pm**
"Can of Worms" Session
- 21-22 Road Trip!**
Destination TBD
- 22 No Youth Group
- 29 Keyis Meeting, 6-8 pm**

Road Trip to... Somewhere!

We are planning another Keyis Weekend Road Trip for July 21-22, 2012. It was



such a fun way to break up the summer of 2011 – and for many of our recent graduates, it would be their last Keyis event.

Last year we drove to St. Louis for an exciting weekend getaway. We visited the Arch, the City Museum downtown, ate a tremendous amount at a buffet, celebrated Mass at the St. Louis Cathedral Basilica, and spent Sunday afternoon at the St. Louis Zoo!

We'll make the July 2012 just as memorable! If you have ideas for our destination -- share them at a Keyis meeting!

**A little
faith left
in the hands
of GOD can
turn into big
results.**

AUGUST 2012

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- 5 **Keysis Meeting**, 6-8 pm
- 12 **Keysis Meeting**, 6-8 pm
- 18 **Back-to-School Lock-in**
4pm Sat – 8 am Sun
- 19 No Youth Group
- 26 **Keysis Meeting**, 6-8 pm

Back-to-School Lock-In

The 4th Annual Keysis Back-to-School Lock In is coming! Save the Date! Tell your boss this is IMPORTANT and you need the night off! Clean your room so your mom will let you come!



All Keysis teens are welcome to attend KEYSIS Lock-in Event. Join us for 4:30 pm Mass, the Open Mic time, snacks, fun games, gym time, Chicken Nugget dinner, more snacks, flashlight hide and seek, games, volleyball tournament, Rock Band, movies and more!

Check the Keysis Facebook page for the event invitation and then respond that YOU'RE COMING!





A handy reference list of emergency numbers

KEEP IT WITH YOUR BIBLE USE IN CASE OF EMERGENCY!

When in sorrow	call John 14
When people fail you.....	call Psalm 27
When you have sinned	call Psalm 51
When you are angry.....	call Ephesians 4:25-32
When you worry	call Matthew 6:19-34
When you are in danger	call Psalm 91
When God seems far away	call Psalm 139
When your faith needs stirring	call Hebrews 11
When you are lonely and fearful	call Psalm 23
When you grow bitter and critical	call I Corinthians 13
When you feel down and out	call Romans 8:31
When you want peace and rest.....	call Matthew 11:25-30
When the world seems bigger than God	call Psalm 90
When you want Christian assurance	call Romans 8:1-30
When your prayers grow narrow or selfish	call Psalm 67
When you want courage for a task.....	call Joshua 1
When you think of investment and returns	call Mark 10
If you are depressed	call Psalm 27
If your pocketbook is empty	call Psalm 37
If you are losing confidence in people	call I Corinthians 13
If people seem unkind	call John 15
If discouraged about your work.....	call Psalm 126
If self pride/greatness takes hold	call Psalm 19
If you want to be fruitful.....	call John 15
For understanding of Christianity	call II Corinthians 5:15-19
For a great invention/opportunity.....	call Isaiah 55
For how to get along with fellow men.....	call Romans 12
For Paul's secret to happiness	call Colossians 3:12-17
For dealing with fear.....	call Psalm 34:7