



ANCHOR

MICHIGAN CATHOLIC
MIDDLE SCHOOL CONFERENCE

This one-day event aims to engage middle school youth in their Catholic faith through dynamic speakers, interactive sessions, and meaningful shared sacramental experiences. The goal is to inspire and deepen their understanding of faith while fostering connections with peers.

Hosted by: The Diocese of Grand Rapids in partnership with the Archdiocese of Detroit and the dioceses of Gaylord, Kalamazoo, Lansing and Saginaw.

Keynote Speakers: Brian Greenfield and Emily Wilson Hussem

Who: Middle School Youth Grades 6-8

When: Saturday, March 15, 2025, 9 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. (Includes Mass obligation)

Where: Grand Rapids Catholic Central High School, 319 Sheldon Blvd. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Cost: \$40.00 per ticket (Optional \$10 lunch and/or \$10 T-shirt may be ordered separately. See your registrant acknowledgement email.)

Participation information:

All registrations must go through a group leader (e.g. a parish, school or family) Individual registrations are not allowed. The individual registering a group becomes the group leader (e.g. youth minister, teacher or parent). Creating a group will allow the group leader to manage multiple attendees, including the purchase of general admission tickets as well as lunches and t-shirts as desired.

To be added to a previously registered group, please contact your parish or school.

Youth may **NOT** attend on their own without an adult. Groups must maintain a ratio of two adults for every 10 youth. Please ensure your registration includes the appropriate number of adult chaperones for the number of youths you have registered.

Schedule:

9 a.m. - Doors open (For Registration)

10 a.m. - Programing begins

12 p.m. - Lunch

12:50 p.m. - Programming resumes

2 p.m. - Snack

4 p.m. - Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

5:30 p.m. - Programming Concludes

Consent Forms and Liability Waivers:

Group leaders must follow their diocesan safe environment policies including training, background checks and the obtainment of both adult and minor consent forms. Additionally, the "Anchor attendee document" must be completed for each group and presented at registration the day of the event. Find form here or in acknowledgement email.

Photo/Video Release Notification:

All attendees will need to sign a media relations/promotions release form for the Anchor event. The form can be found at this link.

Refunds and Cancellations:

All ticket, lunch and T-shirt sales are final.

Parking:

Free parking for personal vehicles is available in the diocesan parking ramp and on Goodrich Street SE. Bus parking will be at an off-site location for the day.

Hotel Block:

Group leaders are invited to reserve a room(s) for this event through Fairfield Inn & Suites in Grand Rapids. See link in acknowledgement email.

Fairfield Inn & Suites-Grand Rapids North
620 Center Drive NW
Walker, MI. 49544

Lunch: Participants can bring their own lunch or box lunches (sandwich, chips and water) are available for purchase in advance for \$10 per person. Lunch will NOT be available for purchase the day of the event. Deadline for pre-ordered lunches is noon on February 21, 2025. See link in acknowledgement email.

Bags and Coolers:

Group leaders may carry a backpack, but it will be searched upon entering the building. No minors should bring a bag into the building.

Group leaders are asked to put all lunches brought from home in a cooler with the group name on it to be stored in a designated place until the lunch break. Coolers will be searched upon entry.

T-Shirt Information:

Anchor T-shirts: \$10 each. Adult, unisex sizes, small-XXL available.

T-shirt sales must be purchased under group leader's name and email for distribution purposes. All T-shirt sales are final and due by noon on February 21, 2025. See link in acknowledgement email.

T-shirts will NOT be available for purchase the day of the event.

For more information, please contact: Christine McCarty – cmccarty@grdiocese.org