

SAVE THE DATE- July 12, 13 and 14

For the

St. Anthony of Padua Parish Family Retreat and Campout

At the Buffalo Bill State Park in Cody, Wyoming

The parish family retreat was started several years ago to bring the parish family together in a family friendly, faith centered setting. The goal has always been to bring the parish as a unit together in a family atmosphere. The family is every member of Christ's Body of Believers, from the unborn to the aged, the married or unmarried.

There is something for every age group, from the youngest children with crafts, games and spiritual instructions, to the school aged with games, activities, friendly team competition, hikes and spiritual instruction, to the older groups with volleyball, horseshoes, hiking, dessert bake off and team competition involving everyone. Participants are assigned to a team and compete throughout the weekend in many different areas, with the winning team being awarded a team trophy that is challenged the next year and kept in our parish hall. Individual awards are given for watermelon eating contest, kite flying, dessert bake off and other activities.

The retreat is held at the Buffalo Bill State Park just a few minutes outside of the city of Cody. It is a breathtaking, awe inspiring setting that truly displays God's handiwork and provides for tent, RV and car camping. It is a family friendly campground and a short drive from the city of Cody for those who cannot or do not wish to camp, but still want to be a part of the daily activities.

The parish rents the Trout Creek Pavilion that provides an excellent setting to be in nature but still sheltered from the elements. The Knights of Columbus graciously provide breakfast Saturday and Sunday morning and the meat for our Saturday evening meal and there is a potluck for sides and desserts.

Spiritual lessons are given throughout the weekend in age appropriate groups by both the deacons and the laity. Mass is celebrated throughout the weekend and "field confession" is available throughout the weekend. Field confession is an open invitation to ask a priest to take a walk with you in the nearby fields or just sit and hear your confession.

Each evening the parish comes together to say the rosary, sing campfire songs and enjoy each other's fellowship around the campfire. This event is looked forward to every year and is opened to the community, so bring your family and your friends and enjoy a great weekend.

For more information and to sign up for the event please contact Tom Caudle by email, subject Parish Retreat 2019, at tomcaudle68@yahoo.com