



CAMP SANCTA MARIA

*Wholesome Recreation
in an Atmosphere of Christian Faith*

CSM GROUNDS & FACILITIES

Camp Sancta Maria is blessed to occupy 96 acres of natural wooded property. We are located six miles west of I-75 in the city of Gaylord, on M-32. Our grounds border two inland lakes: Lake 27 and Martin Lake. Since CSM's beginnings in 1933 there have been many changes to our buildings and facilities. We continually strive to renew and upgrade our grounds and facilities.

ST. GERARD MAJELLA—CHAPEL: Central to our camp day is our chapel, dedicated to St. Gerard Majella. The whole camp community gathers to begin each day with Mass, which is led by our resident chaplain. The homily of the day is aimed at young people, taking into account their life experiences. We are blessed to enjoy the Lord's Risen Presence in our tabernacle and all our chapel liturgies enjoy a very powerful expression of sacred music. We make every effort to ensure that campers understand what is happening during Mass when they are in chapel.

At the end of every day, we meet up again in the chapel to reflect on our busy day. We pray the Liturgy of the Hours and include a testimony talk by one of the senior counselors—some of whom are seminarians. Campers benefit from seeing their counselors—the ones who made them laugh in the mess hall or helped them on the sports field—as a prayerful young Christian. On Thursday nights we enjoy Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction.

BLESSED VIRGIN MARY GROTTA: Ever mindful that CSM is entrusted to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, our expression of faith is not confined to our time in chapel. Twice per day, before lunch and before dinner, we stop our activities to pray the Angelus, a prayer invoking our patroness, our Blessed Mother, and recalling that Jesus came among us in the flesh.

ST. PAUL—CORRAL: One of our campers' favorite places at camp is the corral, which is dedicated to St. Paul. At the corral, we house approximately 20 horses throughout the summer. Whether a camper has years of riding experience or has never sat on a horse, they are sure to spend some of their most exciting hours at camp learning about, caring for, and riding these magnificent animals.

Safety is a #1 concern with all of CSM's activities. Our corral instructors are all trained according to the Equestrian Management, American Camp Association (ACA), and State of Michigan standards.

FRONT OF THE HILL: The "FOH" as we call it, is where our campers gather for sports activities, including basketball, baseball, soccer, target sports, and more.

Thanks to some generous benefactors, we were able to add a pair of World Cup regulation size soccer goals.

Our archery range was demolished and reconstructed and, thanks to the State leadership of the Knights of Columbus, we augmented our target sports with the gift of some air rifles. We built a second range in the proximity of our archery range, and sun shelters were donated and installed in 2018 by a group of generous benefactors.

Thanks to Home Depot, our baseball dugouts were replaced before our 2018 season opened.



CAMP SANCTA MARIA

*Wholesome Recreation
in an Atmosphere of Christian Faith*

CSM GROUNDS & FACILITIES

ROPES COURSE: CSM's ropes course includes 28 elements, or stations, that enhance team building skills, teach group problem solving, and help campers overcome their personal fears. We also have a rock wall and a zip line. Campers love the rush of climbing to the top of the rock wall, and zipping back to the ground!

Our ropes course instructors are all trained by and supervised according to the State of Michigan and American Camp Association (ACA) standards in ropes course licensing.

BEACH: CSM's beach is one of the busiest places at Camp. We enjoy our own private bay on Lake 27.

From swimming to kayaking and canoeing, from fishing to the water trampoline, from beach volleyball to beach Olympics, the beach is a great way for our campers to cool off from the hot summer sun!

All activities are supervised by Red Cross trained and certified staff to ensure the safety of our campers.

CAMPER CABINS: Campers stay in a cabin with other kids their own age. Cabins house between 10 and 24 individuals, and campers sleep on bunk beds. Each camper is provided shelving to store personal items.

The beauty of cabin life is that campers come from all different sizes of family, from city to suburb to country, from being only children to one of a dozen siblings and everything in between—and they're all in the cabin together. Cabins are very simple, yet sound, structures. Camper cabins prove that one can have great joy in the midst of simple surroundings!

MESS HALL: The CSM Mess Hall, the Maria cabin, can seat up to 150 people at a time. Meals at camp are served family style, with counselors seated at each table with campers. Our kitchen staff is ServSafe certified, and we currently enjoy high ratings in our health inspection. Some of the American Camp Association's (ACA) standards are stricter than the State's standards.

Since our campers play hard, they need nutritious food for their bodies. Our vision is to supply both nutritious and good tasting food. It is not an exaggeration to say that most of our campers will probably eat better at Camp than they do at home.

BATHROOM FACILITY: CSM's bathroom and shower facility is in the process of a multi-year facelift, including new roofing and lighting; new showers, changing rooms and flooring; and new sinks, countertops, and toilets.

HEALTH OFFICE: CSM understands the responsibility we have to care for our campers' well-being. Our health center is staffed with a nurse and Red Cross trained assistants. We keep a full stock of supplies to safely deal with all minor cuts and scrapes, and treat coughs and colds.

CSM has a good working relationship with the local walk-in clinic and Otsego Memorial Hospital, a short drive away. Should the need occur, parents would be informed of any occasion when the camp nurse feels a camper should be referred to either of these facilities.