

The Youth Voice

Who am I?

This is a question that is ever present in my life. Even when I think I have it all figured out, I find myself back to the beginning trying to answer the question, "Who am I?" During Lent we will have followed a path of questions like this one on our Lenten Journey to Christ. Other topics have been Community and Sacred Scripture. Upcoming will be Metanoia March 5th, and the Easter Mystery March 12th. I hope you will make time on these Wednesday evenings at 6 pm to take part in these round table discussions with youth & adults who will lead us into Holy Week, and perhaps even answer that question... "Who am I?"

Maunder Thursday Prayer Vigil Overnight

The Overnight will begin with an all parish potluck dinner at 6 pm, followed by a 7 pm service which All overnight participants are required to attend. This will not be your typical overnight. Youth 8th - 12th grade will be in charge of every hour throughout the night. We are inviting other youth groups to participate with us. There will be other prayerful activities that will take place during the night, and we will end the overnight at the conclusion of the Good Friday Noon service.

Youth Mission Trip, Chicago, June 22 - 28

The youth (8th - 12th Grade) and parents met to discuss two possible mission locations, and it was decided that Chicago will be our destination. There will be ongoing planning meetings for the mission trip on Sunday mornings at 10 am in St. Bernard's room upstairs on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month. All are welcome to help in the planning of this important ministry. We will need to secure our number of participants by the middle of March for planning purposes. Commitment forms will be available on the youth board in the Parish Hall or by contacting Sheila Foster. Everyone who would like to participate on the mission trip will need to fill out a form and return it by March 16th.

Teens Encounter Christ Retreat Weekends

The Northern Teens Encounter Christ Weekend is planned for March 28th - 30th at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Duluth. Please watch your mail & e-mail for more information. TEC candidate forms will be posted on the youth board in the Parish Hall. Forms must be signed by a member of our clergy, so please plan ahead. St. Paul TEC information will be posted when it arrives. Youth in 9th - 12th grades are encouraged to attend a TEC weekend. Retreat Weekends help youth go farther with their faith, and create an environment that helps youth share their faith with the St. John's community.

Actors Needed

The wonderful thing about worship is that it is filled with so many wonderful stories. During the Easter Vigil service at 5 pm Saturday, March 22, and during the Easter Day service at 10 am Sunday, March 23, we'll have the opportunity to tell stories. We would like to do this with drama. If you or your family members would like to participate in either service, please contact Sheila Foster or sign up in the Parish Hall. There are roles for readers, roles for those who would like to dress up, & roles for those who like to make noise. We'll tell the Creation story at the Easter Vigil, with readers and noise makers, and through drama and storytelling we'll tell the story of Israel's deliverance at the Red Sea. On Easter morning we'll tell the Gospel story

Matthew 28:1-10 through a tableau. There is an opportunity for everyone.

Jr. High Youth Group 6th - 8th Grade Meetings

During Lent the Jr. High Youth Wednesday night meetings (with Sheila Foster & Max Stevenson) begin with participating in the 7 pm Eucharist. Following at 7:30, we will have topical conversations around "What makes us different? What makes us Christian?" Jr. High Youth also meet on Sunday Mornings at 10 am in St. Angelico's Room with Kathryn Schneider and Kelly DeSmet.

Sr. High Youth Group 9th - 12th Grade Meetings

Sr. High youth meet in St. Bernard's Room, but when the group has been smaller they have met in the Youth Office at 10 am Sunday mornings. The 1st & 3rd Sundays are being used for mission trip planning, and the other Sundays are being planned and led by the youth with either games or topical conversations. There will be no meetings on Sundays March 16 or 23.

Why Worship?

Has anyone ever asked you, "Why do you go to Church?" or, "Why don't you go to Church?" It's a common question in my world. I could say, "It's something I've always done." Even when I was in college I went to church. That's the time when they say most young people stop going to church. I'm finding more and more of the young people I know that have been very active worship participants in their high school years tend to seek out a worship community even when they head off to college. Hmm. I wonder

