

Holy Cross . . . a place where YOUth belong

Youth Ministry News

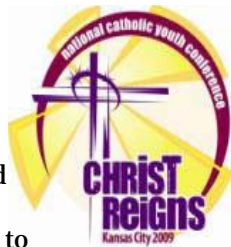
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Holy Cross Youth Ministry Commission is committed to empowering the youth of our parish by nurturing and affirming their gifts, talents and self-esteem.

We're going to NCYC!!

Four teens from our parish will represent Holy Cross at the National Catholic Youth Conference in Kansas City, MO in November. These teens attended the Serra Leadership Institute this summer and are excited about continuing their journey in faith and service by making this pilgrimage. The whole community will be asked to support them in prayer, and join with them in spirit by participating in their fund-raising activities. This is a first for our parish! Congratulations to Angie, Charmille, Elaina and Rosie!



Buy Stock in our Pilgrimage!

Contact Angie, Charmille, Elaina or Rosie for more information.

Youth Office closed
from August 5-24

Welcome to all High School Teens

Welcome to our incoming freshmen and all returning high school students!! I hope you are having a wonderful summer and break from school. It won't be long before we are gearing up for another year of fun and faith-filled activities. Mark your calendar for our welcome back event on **Sunday evening, September 13, beginning at 6:30 p.m.** in the Parish Hall. We want everyone to have an opportunity to get back together and meet our newest high school students. We look forward to seeing you there.

Want to know what is going on?

There is a lot going on in Youth Ministry; this newsletter is one way to keep you informed. Please pick one up at the beginning of each month and keep the monthly calendar on your refrigerator or somewhere you will see it. Updates can be found in the "Youth Ministry Corner" of the weekly parish bulletin or in the kiosk outside of Church. All of this information is also available online at our parish web site: www.holycrosssantacruz.com. Just click on "Faith Formation" and then "Youth Ministry."

Confirmation and Youth Ministry Registration

- Registration materials will be mailed to returning Confirmation candidates this week.
- Confirmed teens will receive an invitation to be part of the Youth Committee this week as well.
- These registrations can be returned to the Youth Ministry Office before August 30.
- Registration for teens interested in beginning Confirmation preparation will be available at the Parent-Teen Meeting on **Sunday evening, August 30**, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Teens wishing to be confirmed in the Spring of 2011 must attend this meeting with a parent.
- Please call the Youth Ministry Office after August 24 if you have any questions.

The 2009-10 Youth Ministry/Confirmation Schedule is attached to this newsletter.

A Note to Parents

Parent involvement is crucial to the success of any youth ministry program. Our mission is to empower our teens, nurturing and affirming their gifts, talents and self-esteem, forming them into disciples of Christ in the world today. Parent volunteers are needed in many capacities, from leadership roles to one-time activity helpers. The more you are involved in the life of the parish and your teen's activities, the more they will be involved. An opportunity to sign up will be given at the parent meeting in August.

Holy Cross Parish Sacramental Preparation Policies for Youth and Teens

Preparation to receive any sacrament is a two year process. Candidates for receiving Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation) are expected to be active in the parish and its Religious Education programs. This means attending Mass on a regular basis and participating in the Saturday or Sunday Religious Education Program (elementary or middle school), or the Junior High or High School Youth Group. During the second year of the preparation process, specific preparation for the sacrament takes place. There is a service component and weekend retreat that is part of the Confirmation preparation process.

Help Wanted Volunteer Opportunities for Teens

Many colleges are looking for extracurricular activities and leadership positions that you have been involved in, let us help you expand your horizons.

Hospitality Team: (Open to all teens)

Help to set up, serve snacks, and clean up after Sunday night Confirmation and Youth Ministry events. Should be able to arrive early and/or stay after meeting.

Youth Leadership Team

(AKA the Youth Committee):

Help plan, organize and lead social activities including: Welcome back night, Parish Carnival Booth, Bonfire, Trust Walk, Dinners, Movie Nights, Caroling, other Social Events. Meet as needed to plan events.

Confirmation Mentor: (Confirmed teens only)

Journey with another teen in their Confirmation process. Participate in Confirmation sessions.

Retreat Team: (Confirmed teens only)

Help to plan and facilitate Confirmation Retreat Days, Weekend Confirmation Retreat and/or other retreats for parish youth. Should be able to attend and participate in the planned retreat.

Help Wanted – Adult Volunteers

By our Baptism, all are called to help build the Reign of God here on earth. How are you called to serve?

It takes all of us to make Youth Ministry at Holy Cross an outstanding program.

Confirmation Sponsors:

Must be at least 16, confirmed, and a practicing Catholic.

Drivers/Chaperones:

Transport youth to outings, for service projects, on retreats. Must be fingerprinted and complete diocesan driver form.

Parent Session Coordinator:

Coordinate refreshments for and facilitate parent sessions on Confirmation session nights (materials provided).

Hospitality Coordinator:

Helps to coordinate snacks and birthday cakes for Sunday night meetings.

Service Coordinator:

Plans and coordinates service projects for teens and other parish members to participate in.

Diocesan Confirmation Guidelines

By diocesan guidelines:

- Confirmation is a two year process for baptized teens who will be 16 at the time of Confirmation, or have finished their sophomore year in High School.
- Parents and sponsors are part of the Confirmation preparation process.
- Active involvement in the parish is expected (attending Mass and participating in the life of the parish).
- Apostolic Service is an essential part of the preparation and should include service with adult mentors as well as with other teens.
- Each year of preparation includes a retreat day and at least one interview with the Confirmation coordinator. The second year also includes a required weekend retreat for the candidate.
- The date for Confirmation is set by the bishop's office and is usually after Easter, in April or May.

August Saints

Check out these famous people who are role models for us as Catholic Christians:

- August 1 – St. Alphonus Liguori
- August 2 – St. Eusebius of Vercelli
St. Peter Julian Eymard
- August 4 – St. John Mary Vianney
- August 6 – Feast of the Transfiguration
- August 7 – Pope St. Sixtus II and companions
St. Cajetan
- August 8 – St. Dominic
- August 9 – St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross
- August 10 – St. Lawrence
- August 11 – St. Clare of Assisi
- August 13 – Pope St. Pionian
St. Hippolytus
- August 14 – St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe
- August 15 – The Assumption of the Virgin Mary
- August 16 – St. Stephen of Hungary
- August 18 – St. Jane Frances de Chantal
- August 19 – St. John Eudes
- August 20 – St. Bernard of Clairvaux
- August 21 - Pope St. Pius X
- August 22 – Queenship of Mary
- August 23 – St. Rose of Lima
- August 24 – St. Bartholomew, Apostle
- August 25 – St. Louis of France
St. Joseph Calasanz
- August 27 – St. Monica
- August 28 – St. Augustine
- August 29 – Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist