

Holy Cross . . . a place where YOUth belong

Youth Ministry News

126 High Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
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December, 2011

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

Confirmation /Youth Events

Getting Ready for Advent

Sunday, November 27, 2011

6 to 7:30 p.m. ~ Meeting Room

* Note change of meeting time



Santa Cruz Area Catholic Youth Ministry LifeTeen Mass and Atomic Bowling

Sunday, December 4, 4:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Leave Holy Cross at 4:30 p.m. to carpool to St. Joseph's in Capitola for their LifeTeen Mass. End the evening with Atomic Bowling at Boardwalk Bowl. Cost: \$15 includes shoe rental, bowling, some pizza and some soda. Pre-registration and permission slips required!

LA Youth Day / Disneyland

Registration Deadline:

December 4

Registration forms and initial deposit of \$100 is due on December 4 for our annual trip to LA Youth Day: **March 21 – 24, 2012**

- We go as a group with St. Joseph's, Resurrection, St. John's and St. Michael's.
- Leave on Wednesday after school (4 p.m.)
- Return on Saturday afternoon (about 4 p.m.)
- Experience nationally known Youth Ministry Speakers and Musicians with over 12,000 other Catholic High School Students.
- Spend a day at Disneyland / California Adventure.
- Registration forms are available in the Youth Ministry Rack in the back of Church.
- Initial deposit due : \$100.
- Approximate cost: \$400.

Teen/Parent/Sponsor Confirmation Session

Sunday, December 11

6:30 to 8:30 p.m. ~ Parish Hall

Continuing our focus on "What's New About the Mass for Teens"



Service Opportunities

December 3 – 11:

HOLY CROSS

ADVENT GIVING TREE!!

- Bring a new toy or gift for someone between the ages of 0 and 14 to the Parish Giving Tree or our December 11 Confirmation Session.
- Cars, trucks, dolls, books, puzzles, coloring books, crayons, games, stuffed animals, clothing
- Infant diapers and toiletries as well



December 18: High School Youth Ministry Christmas Caroling

Join us as we bring Christmas cheer to the elderly in nursing homes or homebound.

- Meet in the Hall parking lot at 4 p.m. and return around 6 p.m.
- Family and friends are welcome to join us.
- Parent drivers are needed.
- Sign up to participate on December 11.



Thursday, December 22:

Church Cleaning

10:00 a.m. in Church

Clean pews, woodwork and windows in preparation for our Christmas celebrations. Takes about 1 – 1 1/2 hours.



Do you like History or Scrapbooking?

St. Francis Soup Kitchen is looking for someone to help organize and archive photos and news clippings . For more information contact Richard Crow (458-6712) or the Youth Ministry Office.

Remember . . . All Confirmation candidates are to be involved in at least 12 hours of apostolic service each year (parish, school, community). Reflection sheets for each service activity are to be filled out and returned to the Confirmation coordinator. Additional sheets are available on the website or from the Youth Ministry Office.

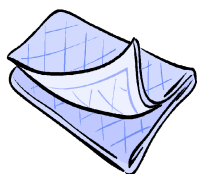
The Season of Advent



A new liturgical year begins on November 27 with the first Sunday of Advent. During these weeks before Christmas, we prepare our hearts and homes to welcome Christ. Here are some suggestions for getting ready for Christmas:

- Make an Advent Wreath for your home; pray with your family every night before dinner.
- Pick up an Advent Calendar just for teens, available in the Youth Ministry rack in the back of Church.
- Use your Confirmation Journal daily, read the gospel for the day, or a scripture verse, and write a brief reflection
- Celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation. Our parish Advent Reconciliation service is Tuesday, December 20, at 7 p.m. in the Church.
- Focus on doing good deeds for others; preparing your heart for Christ's coming.

Watch for our Winter Blanket, Poncho, Warm Clothing Collection



Coming soon . . . Get ready to share your blessings with the homeless and the needy in our community! Organized by members of our High School Confirmation Program.

Super Bowl Sunday is February 5

Get ready for

Super Bowl Take 'n Bake Pizza Sales

- Order forms will be available at the December 11 Confirmation Session.
- Take orders from friends and family.
- We will be taking orders after Masses in mid-January.
- Sign up to help make pizzas the morning of February 5
- For each pizza you sell, you get \$10 in Youth Ministry Bucks which can be used to pay for LA Youth Day/Disneyland, Confirmation Retreats, and other youth ministry related fees or events.
- This is our only general fund-raiser for Youth Ministry activities.



**Looking for a Confirmation Saint?
Check out December Saints on the
December YM calendar.**

December 8 is a Holy Day of Obligation



What does that mean?

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8 is such an important feast in our Church that it is like a Sunday ~ all Catholics are called to celebrate that feast by attending Mass! Masses on Thursday are at 8 :30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. in English and 7 p.m. in Spanish. There is NO vigil Mass on December 7.

Join in Other Parish Advent Traditions

December 3–11:

Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe

7 p.m. in the Mission Chapel

(except on December 8: before Mass in the Church)

A bilingual rosary will be prayed on the 9 evenings before the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, December 12.

December 12:

Parish Celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Mañanitas at 5 a.m.

Mass at 6 a.m.

Hot Chocolate and Pan Dulce in the Parish Hall at 7 a.m.

December 16-24: Posadas

The posadas take place the 9 nights before Christmas, remember Joseph and Mary searching for lodging on the night Jesus was born. These often take place in people's homes.

See the bulletin for more information on all of these activities.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Saturday: December 24

4 pm , 6 pm, Midnight

Sunday, December 25

10:30 am English, 12:30 pm Spanish

New Year's Eve Vigil for Peace

For several years, Holy Cross has hosted a vigil for peace on New Year's Eve. Consider

doing something different this

New Year's Eve ~ be a part of the vigil for peace. Watch the bulletin for more information as the date gets closer.

