

St. Elizabeth's Youth Group Newsletter

Early Fall 2023

Welcome

Welcome Everyone to another exciting school year. I trust that you and your family had a wonderful summer full of rest and adventure. I have an engaging year plan for the youth group w/ Sunday class, Wednesday hangout nights, fundraisers, and weekend activities. I hope you and your teen(s) will join us for at least some of this excitement.



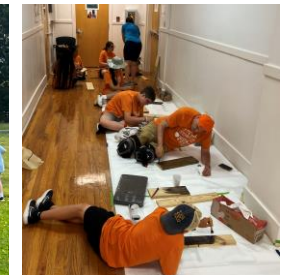
For those that don't know me, my name is Mrs. Vicki Johnson. I have been the youth minister here at St. Elizabeth's now, going on my 3rd year. I have been a catechist for over 20 years at 6 different parishes and received my certification in the fall of 2019. I have been happily married to my husband, Nick, for 23 years. We have 4 wonderful children, Tyler 22, Genevieve (Genna) 19, Josephine (Josie) 15, & Carl who is soon to be 14. I enjoy ballroom dancing w/ Nick, tending my vegetable garden (when I have time), and cooking for my family. I know how to play cello, I'm just not very good anymore.

Recap



Over the summer this year, we had some service we completed, some spiritual enrichment, and some fun building community. At the end of June, 6 teens and 3 adults of the youth group went to a so of work camp called Alive in You that took place in Knoxville at the cathedral. We had a service project working at HeadStart centers building natural playgrounds for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers. At the end of the workday, we came

together w/ the other youth groups and had some worship and competition time. By the end of the week, everyone was ready to go home and sleep in their own beds knowing that good had been accomplished for those less fortunate and we are on our way to building a strong community.



Our annual pool party at the beginning of the school year was held at my house. Three families including mine participated in swimming, games, fellowship, and food. Hopefully more can join us next year.

We had our first hangout night of the school year. Four teens enjoyed learning a little about our faith w/ a short video from Fr. Mike Schmitz on "Why be Catholic not just Christian?" Later they went outside and had fun completing an obstacle course. Our next hangout night will be Wednesday, October 18th. We will watch another video from Fr. Mike on "Motivation to go to Mass" and begin working on our Luminaries Fundraiser. Hope you can be there.



Parishioners in Need of Prayer

We are all one family of believers in Christ. He wants us to pray w/o ceasing for one another. The following need prayers of healing and are willing to share their names in print w/ our parish family. This by no means does not mean that others might need prayer but are shy about sharing. So let us lift one another up in prayer daily.



Manny Bandarra, Thea Bratton, Louis Clark, Joel Dean, Lynda Gamache, Jose Gonzales, Chuck Muraski, Jimmy Townsend, Margaret Vines, Ed & Linda Yarwood, Fr. Jesus, Marian Gradle, & Linda Snow

Please also keep the souls of the recently departed in your prayers with their families who are mourning their loss.

Herman Stout (Katie Taylor's grandfather), Roman Cirillo (Larry Cirillo's brother), Thomas Zamora Aguirre (Fernando Zamora's dad), Bonnie Gouge (Rachel Nagy's mom), Joan Cahill, & Jerry Hailey

Thank You So Very Much



I want to give a BIG THANK YOU to the following for their help w/ youth group:

Our AIY Parish Speakers- Deacon Carner, Ms. Murphy-Walters, & Mr. Putnam, THANK YOU FOR YOUR WISDOM & FORTITUDE. Your gift of self helped us dig deeper into ourselves and have a more fulfilling experience.

Our AIY Chaperones who gave a week of their time to allow us to grow in Christ through service, & worship. Thanks Mr. & Mrs. Burke what troopers you are.

Important Reminder: Safe environment

It is mandated by the USCCB that all adults go through a background check and safe environment training. This is an important way to help keep our children safe. Our diocese has chosen CMG Connect platform to administer Safe Haven-It's Up to You program to fulfill its safe environment training. This training and background check needs to be completed once every 5 years. It is completely online and is available in English and Spanish. This program replaces VIRTUS which no longer is accepted as of July 2020. If there are some issues logging in or other personal problems with the program, please see me I will do my best to help. This is for the safety of all of our children, yours included. The link is available through the Diocese's website and included here please complete this training.

<https://dioknox.org/safe-environment>



Diocese Encouraged Events

The following events have been shared by the diocese as ways for Middle & High School students to connect with one another through Christ. All those interested or w/ questions please contact Mrs. Vicki Johnson.

Holy Fire-Nashville

Who?: Middle School Students When?: Sat., Oct 21, 2023 9:30am-5:30pm, Mass @4pm

Where?: Dio. of Nashville Catholic Pastoral Center, McGavock Pike, Nashville, TN

Cost?: \$45/person (optional Chick-fil-a lunch available for purchase)

Chastity Project Double Feature w/ Jason Evert

Who: Parents, Teens (13+), & all adults

When?: Sun., Oct. 22, 2023 3:30pm-7:30pm

Where?: St. John Neumann Catholic Church, St. John Court, Knoxville, TN

Cost?: \$25./person

SEARCH for Christian Maturity

Who?: Opened to all High School Juniors & Seniors

When?: there are 5 different retreat weekends in the following months-Oct., Dec., Jan., Feb., & March

See Mrs. Vicki Johnson if interested in further details.

Announcements

I will be unavailable September 25-29th as I will be at a Youth Ministers Conference in Chattanooga. Please keep me in your prayers.

Also, the Ladies Guild is needing us to help with baking for their annual Christmas Bazaar. Baked goods can be dropped off in the basement on Friday, October 13 between 9am and 3pm. Please try to help them out.



Eucharistic Miracles

As Catholics, we are a Eucharistic people. We profess in our creed at Mass that we believe in the TRUE Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. The bread and wine of Mass REALLY become Jesus' Body and Blood. Many have either forgotten or don't really believe in this amazing miracle that happens at EVERY Mass. The USCCB wanted to remind Catholics of our profession of faith in the Eucharist so they decided to create a 3-year reawakening of our passion for Christ in the Eucharist. Year 1 was to come from the diocese. Year 2 is to come from the parish. For the transition between Year 2 & 3 there will be a National Eucharistic Congress held July 17-24, 2024, in Indianapolis, IN. The entire country has been invited to join. I'll share more on that another time. Year 3's focus is to come from individuals having been set on spiritual fire for the Eucharist.

This year is the second year of the National Eucharistic Revival put forth by the USCCB. As the 2nd year, the focus is to come from the parish level. In response, Carl decided to share a different Eucharistic Miracle during class as a way to share his passion for the Eucharist and his faith. I was so inspired I thought we all would benefit from his passion. Here is a brief synopsis of the 1st seven miracles that he is going to share w/ the class. For more info, please check out the following website which Carl used for reference. www.beliefnet.com/faiths/catholic/7-amazing-eucharistic-miracles.aspx

Aug. 27- Weiten-Raxendorf, Austria: In 1411 a thief stole a consecrated host from church. During getaway, it fell on the ground and broke. Days later, A woman found the host encircled in bright light and picked it up. She noticed it was knitting itself back together again by bleeding threads of flesh. Later a church was built at the site.

Sept. 10- Bordeaux, France: In 1822, during Adoration Jesus appeared in the Blessed Sacrament. The priest reported seeing our Savior's head, arms, & chest in the middle of the circle. He was animated smiling, and blessing those witnessing the event. It was even reported that Jesus spoke saying "I AM HE WHO IS." The monstrance is still venerated in the same chapel to this day.

Sept. 17- Montserrat, Spain: In 1657, a young girl asked the Abbot at the monastery to say 3 masses for her father to free his soul from purgatory. At the 1st Mass, during consecration, the girl saw her dad kneeling among flames at the step of the altar. At the 2nd Mass, her dad was dressed in a colorful suit standing next to the deacon. The 3rd Mass, she saw him wearing a white suit. At the close of Mass, she expressed seeing her father go to heaven.

Sept. 24- Eten, Peru: On the feast of Corpus Christi in 1649, an apparition of the Child Jesus appeared in the Blessed Sacrament. A few weeks later again the Christ Child appeared in the Blessed Sacrament dressed similar to the Mochican people (South American Natives). Also, during the 2nd apparition many saw 3 small united white hearts representing the Trinity's presents in the Eucharist.

Oct. 1- Betania, Venezuela: 2 related miracles happened in the same place w/in 7 yrs. of one another. In 1991, during the Eucharistic prayer of Mass, the Chaplain of the shrine noticed after breaking the large host into 4 parts and consuming one piece a red spot. The red substance emanated like blood from a wound. The blood was tested and matched the Shroud of Turin. (It was AB+.) Later in 1998, a pilgrim witnessed 30 sec. of a pulsating heart bleeding inside the HOST appearing "as if in flames". This miracle was caught on video.

Oct. 22- Island of Tumaco, Colombia: In 1906 there was an earthquake that caused tsunamis along the Colombian coast. The residents asked the pastor to lead a Eucharistic procession as the waters rose and began destroying the island. After a short prayer, the pastor led the people to the shore w/ the Blessed Sacrament. He calmly raised the monstrance and traced the sign of the cross. The tsunami immediately receded and the sea returned to normal levels. The people gave praise.

Oct. 29- Chirattakonam, India: In 2001, during Adoration a likeness of Jesus crowned w/ thorns appeared on the Blessed Sacrament after reading John 20. This passage where Jesus appears to Thomas. All in attendance were stunned silent and some even began to cry.

Youth Group Sunday Class: Altaration Session Outline

Aug. 20- Welcoming Connections

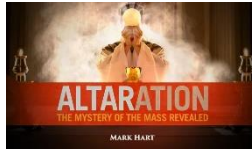
Sept. 10- Session 1, Part 1 Review (pp.6-7)

Sept. 24- Session 2, Part 1(pp.13-16, &19,

Oct. 1- Session 2, Part 2(pp. 17,20-27, &Segments 2&3 video)

Oct.22- Circle of Grace (safe environment)

Oct. 29- Session 3, Part 1(pp.29-32, Segments 1 &2 video)



Aug. 27- Session 1, Part 1 (pp.1-4 & Segment 1 video)

Sept.17-Session1,Part 2(pp. 4-11 &Segments 2&3 vid

&Segment 1 video)

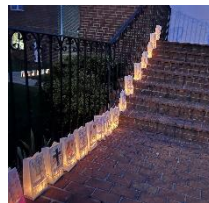
St. Elizabeth's YG Upcoming Activities for 6th grade and up

Hang-Out Nights from 6-8pm

Sept.20-Why be Catholic Not Just Christian? /Games

Oct.18- Motivation to Go to Mass /Prep Luminaries

Nov. 15th- Why Confess My Sins to a Priest? /TBD



Other Activities

Oct. 29th: Escape Room

Nov. 11th: Memorial Luminaries

Dec. 10th: Parish Movie Night

Class Saint of the Week for Aug.- Oct.

Aug. 20- St. Pius X

Sept. 10- St. Thomas of Villanova

Sept.24- Guardian Angels: Gabriel,

Oct.1- TBA

Oct. 22- TBA

Oct.29- TBA



Aug. 27- St. Monica &St. Augustine

Sept. 17- St. John of Chrysostom

Michael, &Raphel

Wishing the Following a VERY Happy Birthday

July

8th-I. Beinaime

August

6th-Y. Mendez

30th-D. Burke

October

9th- C. Johnson

17th- Deacon Carner



To Contact the Youth Minister

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Email: vickipandemonium@gmail.com