



Our Lady Queen of Peace

SPOTLIGHT ON YOUTH

2009-2010

WELCOME to the 2009-2010 “*Spotlight on Youth*” newsletter, created to keep everyone aware and up to date on what is happening with youth ministry here at Our Lady Queen of Peace. As the youth minister, I am truly looking forward to the upcoming year working with ***YOU THE TEENS*** to create and build a program that everyone will find worthwhile, exciting and fun.

This is an exciting time within our parish as we watch the new church being constructed and grow together as a faith community. As Our Lady Queen of Peace becomes a model for the Vibrant Parish Life program that is currently taking place, I would like to see a youth ministry program built with that same vision. I am encouraged and edified by what I have seen from the youth of this parish. There is an excitement and enthusiasm from everyone that leads me to believe we can and ***WE WILL*** be able to do something special with youth ministry.



I welcome any and all youth in the area to join me in creating a relaxed environment where teens have the opportunity to grow in their faith, while having fun with friends and other area youth. Please feel welcome to participate in as many of the planned events as you possibly can. Also remember that you are always encouraged to invite friends and family to attend with you. Many who have participated in the past have shared that the social interaction, fellowship shared, and bonding that happens with other teens is the most enjoyable aspect of the program. In order for that to continue and grow ***WE NEED YOU!***

I look forward to seeing you,

Peace,
Dean



Mark Your Calendars With These Upcoming Youth Events

September 27th “Kick-Off” Event

Join us as we kick off the 2009-2010 season with an evening of fun and games. Meet new people or see old friends as we split into teams for a couple of activities that will include *SOME COOL PRIZES*. Pizza and pop will be served. Bring your ideas as to what you would like to see, as we will discuss and plan for some future events. One lucky participant will also receive the *SPECIAL GRAND PRIZE!* Plan on attending and bringing a friend!

October 24th “Spooktacular Nights” @ Rockin-R-Ranch

This was a big hit last year so we are doing it again. We will join the youth from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton at the Rockin-R-Ranch for an evening that includes a hayride, haunted barn, private picnic area for our group and bonfire

November 8th “Youth Night” *

December 6th “Youth Night” *

January 10th “Movie Night”

This event is also a favorite from past years. We choose a popular movie (whether comedy or drama) and show it while popping popcorn. Bring a large pillow or bean bag chair to relax in while watching the movie.

February 6th Tobogganing

We will, once again, join the youth from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton for an evening of tobogganing at the Strongsville Metro Parks (hot chocolate included of course)

March 7th “Youth Night” *

April 18th “Youth Night” *

May 16th “Youth Night” *

*All “Youth Nights” will be from 7-9 pm at Erie Street Hall, with the exceptions of October 24th & February 6th. Those events are off site with times to be announced.

Never be afraid to try and fail



“I’ve missed more than 9,000 shots in my career. I’ve lost more than 300 games and 26 times I’ve been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. Throughout my life and career, I’ve failed, and failed, and failed again. And that is why I succeed.”

Michael Jordan



The National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) is an exciting, biennial three day experience of prayer, community, and empowerment for Catholic teenagers. The schedule will include sessions and workshops addressing a wide variety of teen issues as well as liturgies, reconciliation, concerts, a dance, and comedy club. There will also be a thematic park incorporating traditional exhibits with interactive educational and recreational activities.

NCYC is the largest Catholic youth gathering in the United States, with up to 30,000 young people attending from all over the country. Four teens from our parish will be making this pilgrimage to Kansas City, Missouri this November to attend this conference. Please pray for these youth that they may get the most out of their trip and grow closer to Christ. They are:

Erin Keyse Zakery Page Thomas Plas & David Schmitz

“It really scares me how smart the devil is. He doesn’t just jump in your face and say, “Here I am!” No, he disguises himself and becomes like a slow leak in a tire. One day the tire is fine; then one day it’s flat, and you didn’t even notice it happening.”

Sean Forrest

Do Not Fall Into These Traps!!

Youth Groups Are Boring - Not so! We already have some cool stuff planned like hay rides and tobogganing, plus a “Movie Night”. We will be doing some activities with other parishes so that you might meet other youth in the area. Plus, you are always welcome to bring your ideas for future events and be a part of the planning. ***This is YOUR youth group!***

I Won’t Know Anybody There - What better way to meet other teens, like yourself who have a strong faith, than in a relaxed environment. Plus, you are always welcome to invite a friend to come with you (they do not even have to be a parishioner of Our Lady Queen of Peace).

Come and be a part of something special!

Contact Dean at the parish office for more info

Our Lady Queen of Peace's Vision Statement For Youth Ministry

The youth ministry at Our Lady Queen of Peace parish is for high school age teens interested in developing a community that provides opportunities for social interaction and meaningful participation in the life of the Church and civic community. The program includes liturgies, social events, retreats, service projects and programs geared towards teens.

In developing a deeper understanding of the Catholic faith, the youth ministry is guided by three goals:

1. To foster the total spiritual and personal growth of each young person
2. To draw young people to responsible participation in the life, mission and work of the faith community
3. To empower young people to become disciples of Jesus Christ, who witness to their faith by living and working for justice, peace and human dignity

We welcome all area teens and their families who wish to participate in any and all of the youth ministry events.



Photo taken from a past youth retreat

“Do not let your life be like a shooting star, which lights up the sky for only a brief moment. Let your life be like the sun that always burns brightly in the heavens, bringing light and warmth to all those on earth.”

Matthew Kelly

***Grow in your faith
Make new friends
Have fun!!!!!!***