

Youth & Children's Voice

8th Grade Rite of Affirmation - 9 am Sunday, February 1

We invite all 8th graders & their families to participate in the Rite of Affirmation liturgy. What is this Rite & why do we have this opportunity? As youth go through various life stages we acknowledge their growth in wisdom, maturity, & faith; as a faith community we recognize the steps through faith. In 8th grade (age 13-14), youth are moving into independence from their parents. At the Rite of Affirmation we can all gather around them to recognize they're not little kids anymore, and recognize their growth and our role as a community of supporters & guides on their faith journey. Many of them will make the next step of committing to the study of scripture, tradition, & reason in our confirmation preparation process in the Fall.

Parents & youth will meet in the Nave at 8:30 am for a rehearsal.

Special Youth Music Rehearsal – 11:30 am Sunday, February 1

Matt Anderson will lead a special rehearsal for youth who attended 2008 Music Camp. Meet in St. Cecilia's Room for this refresher course on the Festival music. We'll also put together Festival folders & organize robes for the event.

Diocesan Youth Music Festival - 4:30 pm Saturday, February 7

Everyone is invited to hear the many young voices of our Diocese at a Festival Service at 4:30 pm at St. Mark's Cathedral in Minneapolis. This year's Festival will include the ringing of the St. John's bells as well as the participation of our Youth Choir. This is a beautiful service which will include more than 100 youth voices, a chamber orchestra, & our St. John's musicians. We hope to see you there.

Please contact Sheila Foster for more information, 651/429-5351 ext. 12 or Youth@stjohnwilderness.org.

Celebrating Our Faith Through The Arts (COFTA)

COFTA is a drama arts group for 4th – 12th graders. We've had great success with drama offerings during the 9 am liturgy. Our goal is to share at least 1 drama per month. We'll also be preparing for the Easter Vigil & Easter Day Eucharist. It's not too late to share in this adventure. We always seek new actors & creative ideas. Many of our dramas are written by the youth in a "think tank" environment. They regard their projects as a service to the community and have a ton of fun in the process. Please come join us. Ask any participant for more information about COFTA: Maxine K, Marcella K, Elizabeth K, Sarah S, Hannah S, Wayne T, Zoe F, Sydney F, Toby F, Annalee B, & Joyce S. We also seek more adults to become involved in the program. If you have an interest in drama or creative arts please contact Sheila Foster for information about how you can help.

Great Northern Teens Encounter Christ

TEC is a spiritual renewal weekend for 9th – 12th grade youth, who attend the weekend once during their high school as a candidate. Candidates arrive at 10 am on a Friday and participate in a weekend that is all about "YOU". Candidates are asked to leave all of the worries about school, friends, family, tests, & all the things that can weigh a young person down and commit to a weekend that for some will transform the rest of their lives. Many youth continue to stay involved in TEC as team members, who provide all of the care of the candidates over the weekend. The #1 rule for the team is that the weekend is for the Candidates. I ask that if you are a high school youth and have not yet been a TEC Candidate, that you consider making this the time. The Spring Northern TEC will be held here at St. John's, and I would like to see every youth possible participate in the weekend, March 27th – 29th.

Don't Forget these dates

February

- 1** 8:30 am rehearsal for
9 am 8th Grade Rite of Affirmation
11:30 am Youth Music Festival rehearsal
4:30 pm "Souper Bowl" Party
- 7** 10 am Diocesan Youth Music Festival (St. Mark's Cathedral)
Festival Service begins at 4:30 pm
- 18** 5:30 pm Mardi Gras Celebration & Pot Luck
7pm burning of palms & worship
- 25** **7 pm Ash Wednesday Service** (no COFTA)

March

- 5** TEC Team Meeting
Overnight here at St. John's
- 18** 5:30 pm St. Patrick's Celebration Dinner and 7pm Worship (no COFTA)
- 26** Great Northern Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) here at St. John's through the 29th

Weekly Events

Wednesdays 6 – 7:30 pm

CAP (Children's Activity Program) ages 3-7, & COFTA (Celebrating Our Faith Through the Arts) 4th– 12th grades. (Grades 2+ may join Youth Choir.)

Sundays 10 am

education for children, Jr. High (grades 6-8), Sr. High (grades 9-12), & adults (Parlor, mail floor)

