



Youth View

February 2017

Read on for more information about youth events and cool Catholic facts!

Discerning Our Vocations

Our recent Vocations Night with Father Thom Hennen was a success! On Saturday, January 21, several of our parish youth gathered to learn more about discernment and their vocations.

Father Thom encourages us not to ask ourselves big questions about our vocations such as “Can I really do this for the rest of my life?” Instead, we should ask ourselves “bite-sized” questions like, “Can I go on this discernment retreat?” or “Can I spend a year in the seminary to see if I’m truly called to the priesthood?”

Many thanks to Father Thom for his wisdom! Also thanks to Father Beckman and Deacon Reha for attending and sharing their vocation stories.

If you are interested in learning more about vocations, there are prayer cards from Father Thom available in the rack in the West Entrance. You might also consider attending the National



Institute on Religious Life’s youth meeting at Mundelein on Saturday, April 22! For more information or to register, please contact Ellen Poliskey by April 7. The event is free for all youth between the ages of 15-25.

March Schedule

K-5 youth activities: Activities will take place every Sunday at 9:15 & 11:15 a.m. in conference room.

Middle school youth meetings: Wednesdays, March 1 & 15, at 7:30 p.m. in conference room.

This year’s Diocesan Junior High Retreat is Sunday, March 19, at Regina. The theme is “iThrist.” Contact Ellen Poliskey by March 10 for more information or to register!

High school youth meetings: Wednesdays, March 8 & 22, at 7:30 p.m. in conference room.

Middle and high school game night: On Wednesday, March 29, join us in the parish hall for an hour of fun and games. ☺

“The best thing for us is not what we consider best, but what the Lord wants of us!”

-St. Josephine Bakhita

Feast day celebrated February 8

Meet the Saints

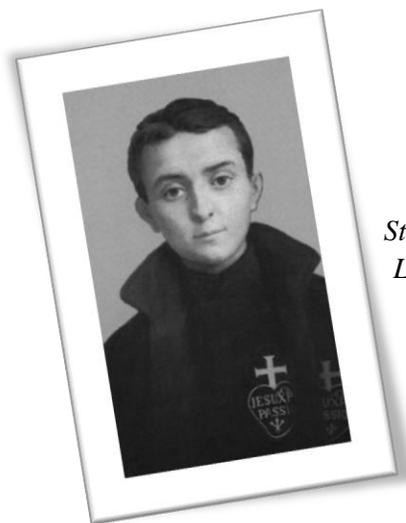
St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows

Feast day: February 27

This great saint was born Francis Possenti in Assisi, Italy, on March 1, 1838. He was healed from serious illness after promising to join a religious order if his health improved. However, he forgot his promise once he had recovered. But Mary would not let him neglect this promise: while taking part in a procession honoring Our Lady, he was filled with a great desire to dedicate his life to God in the Passionist order. Francis joined them at the age of 18, taking the name “Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows.” He demonstrated a great love of prayer and the poor. He died at the young age of 24.

St. Gabriel tells us, “Love Mary! She is lovable, faithful, constant...She does not look to see what kind of person you have been. She simply comes to a heart that wants to love her.”

St. Gabriel, patron of youth, pray for us!



*St. Gabriel of Our
Lady of Sorrows*

Subscribe Now!

To receive monthly email updates about our youth activities, please contact Ellen Poliskey at icstwencym@diodav.org. Emails will include a copy of these newsletters and a detailed schedule of the upcoming month's activities.

March for Life Recap

Last month, several youth attended the National March for Life in Washington, D.C. Here Maylee reflects on her time at the March:

“The March for Life was a great experience, just like last year. The 16+ hour bus ride actually felt short! Upon arrival, we had Mass and fell into our beds (AKA the floor). We were able to visit the Holocaust Museum while in Washington, which was very interesting and sad. My mom thought it represented a good parallel to abortion. The Opening Mass at the National Basilica was great. I think the Basilica is so beautiful! There are about twenty different side-chapels with different statues and images and I just loved it! The rally before the March included many great speakers, like Mike Pence and Kelly Anne Conway. Throughout the whole trip and during the actual March, I was continuously astounded by the number of people. It was just amazing!”



Lenten Advice from Pope Francis

Lent begins on March 1! In his Lenten Address, Pope Francis encourages us to use these 40 days to recognize the incredible gift of the Word of God and the value of every human being.

Reflecting on the parable of Lazarus and the rich man, Pope Francis says “when we close our heart to the gift of God’s word, we end up closing our heart to the gift of our brothers and sisters.”

As Lent begins, let’s ask ourselves how we can make our hearts a perfect dwelling for God and His Word. How can we respect the value and dignity of every person we meet?