



Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

Religious Education & Youth Ministry

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January 20, 2012

Dear Parents:

This letter has several purposes; I want to share some of my excitement in watching the youth group grow and pass along my gratitude for your assistance in helping to make all of this happen. I am also writing to ask for your continued support in a couple of ways.

I would like to start out by stating the obvious; the Nativity Youth Group is growing! The numbers in the past year have increased drastically. Many of your own children may have begun to take part in the group – attending the JH Lock-In, coming to one (or more) of the Open Gym Nights, helping at Youth Mass, participating in the Music Group, signing up for service events, joining our YouCat study, signing up to attend a retreat, and more. It is amazing to see how excited the teens are to take part in the various activities.

I also need to say thank you to each of you, for driving your children to events and encouraging them to attend. A special thank you goes out to the parents who have helped chaperone different events – with the Lock-In and the Open Gym Nights.

At the same time, I am asking for each of you to consider volunteering to help chaperone an Open Gym Night, maybe with another parent that you know. At this point Open Gym Nights are every other Friday, meaning that there are approximately 10 more Open Gym Nights taking place before the end of the school year. If you have not signed up to chaperone one, I ask you to do so. It is merely 2 hours of hanging out one Friday night, helping keep the chaos contained... and it can be a great opportunity for you to be present with your teen, even for a short period of time. When you receive an email about Youth Ministry events and you see that there is an Open Gym taking place, if you are free and willing to volunteer please send me an email to make me aware of that. I will be sure to confirm your availability. Thank you in advance for your consideration!

Now, as is the case with most things, financial support is a must to keep things running and to help them to continue to flourish. So, I wanted to pass along information about a fundraiser that is currently taking place. This summer a group of teens and I created “Nativity Youth” shirts, which are on sale for \$12 a shirt. (See below for pictures.) For those who may not know what Matthew 18:12 refers to, it is the verse in which Jesus asks his followers, “What is your opinion? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them goes astray, will he not leave the ninety-nine in the hills and go in search of the stray?” The “01” on the back of the shirt is a reminder to the teens that they are the “01” that Christ would leave 99 for.

We have shirts in three available adult sizes – Small, Medium, and Large. They are navy blue and made out of 100% Preshrunk Cotton. If you are interested in purchasing a shirt, please bring Stephanie your money and pick up the shirt in the Rel. Ed/Youth Ministry Office or at an Open Gym Night. There are only a limited number of shirts available at this moment, so get your shirt now!

Thank you, again, for your support, prayers, suggestions, and encouragement – all of which are vital to the Youth Ministry program. Know that you and your family are in my prayers! If there is anything you need, please feel free to contact me. Take care and God bless!

-Stephanie N. Moss

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