

Thank You from Santa Claus

The 41st Operation Santa Claus culminated on Christmas Eve as Bishop McFadden celebrated Mass for over 1000 at the Drexelbrook, Drexel Hill. Earlier in the day, over 650 teens dressed as Santa and elves delivered toys to nearly 700 families. Santa (and OYYA) send a huge thank you to everyone who organized a toy drive, donated a gift, assisted with toy pick ups, volunteered at the wrapping center, helped at the satellite centers and delivered toys on Christmas Eve. The project was a tremendous success thanks to the overwhelming generosity of thousands of Catholics across the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. May your blessings be many in 2009!

THE GATEWAY at Our Lady of Lourdes **A Monthly Gathering for 7-12 Grade Youth** **Nine First Friday's September-May**

Next Up: February 6, from 7:30 PM - 10:00 PM

Celebration of the Mass, Reconciliation, Sacred Heart Devotion & Coffee House including Music, Games, Speakers, and more!

Open to all Archdiocesan Youth!

Coffee House is Potluck Style - Bring a snack or a drink!

"Those who shall promote this devotion shall have their names written in My Heart, never to be blotted out."

-From the Promises of Our Lord to St. Margaret Mary

Food Fast Retreat

Friday, March 27 - Saturday, March 28

7:00 PM Friday to 12:00 Noon Saturday

Cardinal Bevilacqua Center

2646 Kensington Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19125

Cost: \$10/Student Open to High School Youth

Registration Deadline is Monday, March 16

Anchored in the call to justice and solidarity, Food Fast is a Catholic education program for high school youth. Through a 17-hour fasting experience, Food Fast is designed to...(1) connect catholic youth with issues faced by their peers in the developing world through the lens of Catholic social teaching. (2) Challenge young people to consider how their engagement of the world, perspectives and lifestyles can make a difference. (3) Empower youth to take action based on the principles of solidarity and justice.

Vocation Awareness Week - January 11-17, 2009

Friday, January 16, 7 - 9:30 PM - An evening at the seminary with Cardinal Rigali, where young men can come to hear about vocations, watch a video, and participate in Holy Hour. For more information contact: Bobby Murphy, Program Coordinator, Vocation Office for the Diocesan Priesthood at 610.667.5778 or visit www.HeedTheCall.org

Youth Ministry Resource Spotlight:

The mission of [MyCatholicVoice](http://MyCatholicVoice.com) is to capture, index and share the rich tradition of the Catholic Faith - using the best Internet technologies and social networking capabilities. It is a combination of iTunes, YouTube and social networking capabilities designed specifically for the needs of the global Catholic Church.