

The Rock

S A I N T A N N E ' S Y O U T H G R O U P

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Diocesan Youth Conference
- Rafting
- Ziplines and Horseback Riding

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DIOCESAN YOUTH CONFERENCE – JULY 29-31

The Diocesan Youth Conference was held this year in Richmond at the Convention Center as it has been in years past. Seven Senior High Youth from St. Anne's attended this year and everyone had a powerful experience.

The Diocesan Youth Conference includes a Keynote Speaker—this year it was Jackie François. On Friday after we arrived, the Ignite Praise and Worship Band led a high-powered night of praise and worship to kick-off the weekend.

Saturday was a full day of various conferences for the

youth; a mass led by our diocesan Bishop DiLorenzo;



**From Left, Front Row: Laura Masters, Cristin Freeman, Abby Hobbs, Meta Grayson, Lexi Stumpe
Back Row: William Arthur, Thad Branch**

and two of our youth were invited to attend a question and answer session with the bishop as well. The youth also had the opportunity

to attend confession and most of our youth from St.

Anne's chose to receive this sacrament. Later in the day, everyone was given a break to have fun on the inflatables! But still, that wasn't the best part. Everyone agreed that the best part of the entire weekend was Adoration of

the Blessed Sacrament on Saturday night, with inspiring music by the Ignite Praise and Worship Band that enhanced the experience.

The powerful weekend concluded with mass on Sunday morning. We look forward to doing it again next year!

RAFTING – JUNE 1

The youth group went on a rafting daytrip to kick off the Summer! In total, 11 youth attended. This trip was a good starting point for rafting trips in the future.

I think the youth had even more fun squirting each other

with water guns than they did rafting! The water was cold as it usually is in the Watauga

River, but still a few brave people decided to jump in for a swim!



YOUTH GROUP TRIP: ZIPLINES AND HORSEBACK RIDING JULY 6

Our Youth Group July activity was a daytrip to Sevierville, TN to ride the ziplines of the Smoky Mountains and Horseback Riding through the mountains as well provided by Adventure Park and Five Oaks Riding Stables. Due to space limits, we also had to limit the number of attendees, but eight youth from St. Anne's were able to attend

and had a great time! First we rode the ziplines- a canopy tour with a total of six lines. From the ziplines we could see the skyline of the Smoky Mountains in the background. Both the ziplines and horseback riding provided breathtaking views. After the ziplines we were all tired, but had just enough

energy left to enjoy the 5-mile horseback ride. The trees provided a nice shade from the hot weather, but we had a beautiful sunny day.



From left: Macie Frazier, Natalie Monyak, Helena Kaul, Monica Kaul, Eli Brake, Thad Branch, Abby Hobbs, Kathryn Hopkins

“Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct in love, in faith, in purity.”

1 Timothy 4:12

SUMMER SERVICE PROJECTS: RIVER'S WAY

This Summer, St. Anne's Youth Group teamed up with Tom Hanlon and River's Way to serve at a day camp for youth with disabilities. Three of St. Anne's youth decided to volunteer for a week in June, but they enjoyed it so much that they decided to continue to volunteer after that initial week.

This service activity gives our youth from St. Anne's a

chance not just to do service for youth with disabilities, but also to interact with them as equals and to learn that beauty truly lies in the hearts of those that often the world rejects.

This River's Way camp started in the beginning of June and continues throughout the Summer. The youth get a chance to participate in ice-breakers, art activities, swim-

ming, exercise, eating together as a family, and just having the opportunity to interact in a healthy and loving environment where people acknowledge and respect their dignity as human beings.



Pictured above from left: Amanda Freeman, Cristin Freeman, Meta Grayson- volunteering at River's Way day camp for youth with disabilities.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AT ST. ANNE'S

Several of our teens also volunteered at the Vacation Bible School at St. Anne's. Some of the one's who volunteered were Cristin Freeman, Meta Grayson, Amanda Freeman who also served at River's Way. Vacation Bible School was a week in mid-June that gathered school-

aged children from 4 years old up to 6th grade. Helena Kaul and Monica Kaul are recent "alumni" of VBS's of years past. This year they came back to volunteer as well.

Children that attend VBS participate in various activi-

ties, such as art projects, games, and lessons; but most importantly, VBS is geared towards leading children to get to know Jesus and form a relationship with Him like a friend.



We have many exciting upcoming opportunities:

U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

September 11: Youth Group Parent Meeting- 9:30am

Youth and Parents are asked to attend the parent meeting and youth will briefly meet in the Brady Center following the meeting.

September 18: First day of regular meetings for youth group:

9:45-11:00am for JH and 6:00-8:15pm for SH

September 24- Youth Group Picnic for youth and their parents and siblings.

October 1: Diocesan trip to Busch Gardens- no regular meetings on Oct 2nd.

Deadline to sign up is mid-September. This activity gives youth the opportunity to get together with other youth around the diocese and to have a lot of fun!

October 23: Fundraiser Brunch in the Great Room

No regular youth meetings.

S U M M E R F A M I L Y M O V I E N I G H T C O N C E S S I O N S

The youth group had the opportunity to raise a little money this Summer by selling concessions at four of St. Anne's Family Summer Movie Nights.

This year we had a great movie line up of recently released DVDs. They included: Chronicles of Narnia: Voyage of the Dawn Treader, Despicable Me, Tangled, Nanny McFee Re-

Turns, The King's Speech , and Gulliver's Travels, among others.

Family Summer Movie Nights are held outside, weather-permitting (or in the Parish Life Center if it doesn't), and is projected on a large inflatable movie screen. These nights give families the opportunity to spend time with others in the

community and to relax and have a good time. Come next year and don't forget to bring your lawn chairs!

A special thanks to Karen Blackard and the Kaul Family who helped so much on the youth group Friday concession nights and to all of those who supported the youth group by purchasing concessions!



"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men."

Colossians 3:23

S E N I O R S E N D - O F F B A C C A L A U R E A T E M A S S A N D B R U N C H

This year, 16 youth who are registered as members of St. Anne's Parish have graduated high school.

To keep up with tradition, St. Anne's once again offered a Baccalaureate mass at the regularly scheduled 10:30am mass on Sunday, August 7 followed by

a special brunch to celebrate their achievements.

Congratulations to Anne Rowell, who not only graduated but braved standing up in front of the entire congregation to receive a special blessing from Fr. Tim during mass!

Other active members of the youth group who graduated this year included Laura Masters and Julia McClintic.

John Hanlon, who received Confirmation this year, also graduated. Congratulations to all of St. Anne's Seniors!





**S A I N T A N N E ' S
Y O U T H G R O U P**

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Making a Difference...

St. Anne's Youth Group was created to serve the spiritual needs and growth of the teenagers of our community. The mission and goal of the Youth Ministry is to assist the youth in learning their Catholic faith, defending it, reaching out to others, and discovering the truth of their great need for God. The goal is to order their lives and relationships toward God, discover and desire His will and their true vocations, and to develop their identity as Catholic persons and followers of Christ.

Thank you so much for your prayers and support!

Sincerely in Christ,

Bridgette A. Trunzo

Y O U T H G R O U P M E M B E R S P O T L I G H T

Meet Abby Hobbs!!!

Hi I'm Abby Hobbs I'm a sophomore at Virginia High School and I enjoy a multitude of different athletics. I play tennis, I swim and also I am a member of the Virginia High School cheerleading squad.

I really enjoy going to St. Anne's youth group, I attend almost every weekend. Bridgette has really widened my knowledge of Pope John Paul II and Theology of the Body. I really appreciate all of the hard work and effort she has put forth in to this youth group, she has made this a more united

and fun youth group.

I have been on numerous trips with the youth group and they all have been extremely fun filled and packed with knowledge of our faith. My favorite trip would have to be the most recent one. The Diocesan Youth Conference in Richmond. It felt amazing to have so many people around you who have the same religious beliefs as you do. It gave me such a spiritual high and my faith is on fire and I plan on keeping it this way and not be afraid to show the world.



Abby Hobbs
Sophomore at Virginia High School