

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:

- March for Life
- Festival of Praise
- 2nd Knights of Columbus Fund-raiser Breakfast for the Youth Group

MARCH FOR LIFE, MATT MAHER, AND YOUTH RALLY – WASHINGTON DC: JANUARY 23-24

Fifteen Youth and 4 Chaperones attending the March for Life trip from January 23-24 in Washington DC.

The youth enjoyed a mass in Arlington celebrated by the Bishop of the Diocese of Arlington, followed by a keynote by Bob Rice and a concert by popular Christian Catholic music artist, Matt Maher.

The following morning we joined 30,000 other Catholic youth between the Verizon Center and the D.C. Armory for a Youth Rally! We were fortunate enough to have tickets for the Verizon Center, where Cardinal Wuerl of the Archdiocese of Washington celebrated

mass. Hundreds of priests were available for confession

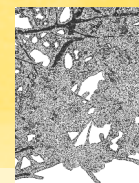


Pictured above, beginning with the back row from left to right: Paulette Leonard, Ben Fitton, Spencer Kirchen, Charlie Long, Carli Kirchen, Avery Hall, Taylor Hall, Anne Rowell, Joe Gantz, Chelsea Long, Cristin Freeman, David Gantz, Diane Kirchen, Nicole Kirchen, Abby Hobbs, Lexi Stumpe, Bridgette Trunzo, Shelsi Webb, and Laura Masters

and hundreds participated in the sacrament. It was certainly inspiring to witness the

faith of so many young people. Two of our youth – Ben Fitton and Anne Rowell were chosen to meet our Bishop DiLorenzo and got to speak with him.

We then joined over 300,000 people on the March for Life to defend the dignity of all human life – particularly the unborn. In the very large crowd we even met up with our seminarian, Christopher Hess (newly ordained to the diaconate as of February 19, 2011!!) who took our group picture (above).



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Festival of Praise	2
Youth Group Meetings	2
Youth Group Christmas Party	2
Christmas Shopping Drop-Off	3
Confirmation Preparation	3
Upcoming Events	3
Youth Member Spotlight	4

SECOND KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FUNDRAISER "VALENTINE" BREAKFAST, BENEFITTING THE YOUTH GROUP

Nearly 20 youth group members came to volunteer at our second fundraiser meal. The Knights of Columbus generously gave of their time and money to sponsor this meal for the second time.

This breakfast, held on February 13, 2011 between the two masses on Sunday Morning, had a "Valentine's Day" theme – with candy, rose petals and red table cloths. Around 100 parishioners came to support our youth group!

A special Thanks to the Knights of Columbus, Volunteer and parent-Karen Blackard for all of her help and support, and all of the youth group members – especially the ones who woke up so early to meet at 7:45am!

**FIRST FESTIVAL OF PRAISE AT ST. ANNE'S,
WITH IGNITE! PRAISE AND WORSHIP BAND!!
FEBRUARY 4TH**

Around 60 people, young and old, attended St. Anne's first ever Festival of Praise in the church! John Hopke and his band traveled all the way from Charlottesville, VA- St. Thomas Aquinas Parish- to lead the event with music. This highly talented band reverently sang for Jesus during the adoration hour.

Three priests, including Fr. Tim, listened to

confessions; Mr. Jarod Trunzo gave a witness talk about his unique journey of faith as an athlete and his vocation as a husband and father. Fr. Tim gave a great homily, connecting the theme of the evening "ignite" and our theme as a youth group- "If you are what you should be, you will set the world on fire" ~St. Catherine of Siena; which is printed on the youth group's hoodies and long-

sleeve t-shirts.

The focus of the evening was the Eucharist- the CCC explains that "the Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith."

In the future, we hope to schedule similar events, led by our newly formed youth band. Keep your eyes opened for this upcoming event in the next few months.



St. Anne's teens gather together to pray by the Eucharist during Adoration.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING AT OUR MEETINGS

*"For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be."
Matthew 6:21*

This quarter, our Senior High youth group has been meeting on Sunday nights from 6:00pm-8:15pm and the Junior High continues to meet on Sunday mornings from 9:45-11:15am (between the two masses). The theme this quarter is "Theology of the Body for Teens."

The Junior High meetings are mostly discussion about pertinent issues concerning topics centered around Theology of

the Body and how they apply to teens in the world today. The Senior High meetings are composed of several DVD's on the topics compiled and led by Mr. Jason Evert- a renowned chastity and apologetics speaker, his wife Crystalina Evert, and Jason Butler. After each video we have a discussion.

The teens have also been working on spirituality assessments, feedback forms, and

an art project...Ms. Leonard- Art and Religious Education teacher for the Junior High at St. Anne's School, led a collage art project for the Senior High. Each teen looked through magazines and chose images that they felt applied to their personal characteristics. Each collage is meant to be a snapshot of who they are as persons. The collages will be used to decorate the hall of the Brady Center.

**YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY -
DECEMBER 19**

The Senior High Teens decorated a Christmas tree with candy canes and they decorated the Brady Center with other Christmas decorations in preparation for Christmas.

24 youth attended the Christmas party on December 19, 2010 at the Brady

Center.

The youth enjoyed a variety of different Christmas foods (including stale Walmart Christmas cookies- sorry about that- sometimes it's NOT good to try to save money). In the Junior High meeting room, we enjoyed

watching "Elf" and in the Senior High room we watched "A Christmas Story." Many of the teens played a variety of different board games and just had fun hanging out together.



Youth Group members enjoy spending time together and playing games at our Christmas Party.

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



Dante Schmitz, headlining the 2011 Spring Music Fest at St. Mary's in Johnson City, TN

On **March 12, 2011** the youth group and people of all ages are invited to attend St. Mary's first ever Spring Music Fest, headlined by Dante Schmitz. We will carpool from St. Anne's or you may travel individually to St. Mary's. Please join us for this exciting event!

On **Thursday March 31st** in the evening, the Jr. and Sr. High youth members are invited to attend a retreat led by NET Ministries. Details to follow.

On the **first Wednesdays of April and May** the Jr. and Sr. High will attend

Parish Family Night. The **other Wednesdays in April** will be "Girls' Nights." A special day in May will be designated for the young men in the group. Details to follow in the coming months.

Remember: Confirmation will be held at St. Anne's this year on Saturday, **May 21st at 2:00pm**. Please plan to attend and support the new confirmands who will be fully initiated into the Catholic Church.

C H R I S T M A S S H O P P I N G D R O P - O F F
A N D Y O U T H G R O U P P E N A N C E
O P P O R T U N I T Y



Youth Group members volunteered their time at the Brady Center on December 22, 2010 to provide a babysitting opportunity for the parents of the parish to drop their kids off so they could go out Christmas shopping.

On Monday December 20, 2010, the youth group mem-

bers were offered an opportunity to go to confession at the Brady Center Chapel before Christmas along with the opportunity Fr. Tim offered to the parish on the following Thursday. Several youth stepped up for these opportunities for the Sacrament.

The Sacrament of Confession

is not only required at least once yearly by members of the Catholic Faith, (it is suggested that everyone goes once per month) but it provides an irreplaceable opportunity for graces to carry out the Christian call to follow God and his will for us in our daily lives.

"Freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought."

-Pope John Paul II

C O N F I R M A T I O N P R E P A R A T I O N

Several Tuesday nights during the months of February and March are dedicated to classes for those preparing for Confirmation.

This year, we have 9 confirmands enrolled in the Confirmation preparation program and who are anticipating Confirmation on May 21, 2011.

The classes include a comprehensive study on the most important teachings of the Catholic faith, using various materials that pull from the Catechism, Scripture, and Tradition in the Catholic Faith.

Part of Confirmation Preparation is for the students to individually determine whether or not they are ready to receive the

Sacrament of Confirmation. Please pray for the 9 young men and women as they continue to learn more about their faith and to discern.





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

St. Anne's Catholic Church
350 Euclid Avenue
Bristol, VA 24201

Phone: 276-591-5376

E-mail: btrunzo@stannes-bristol.org

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

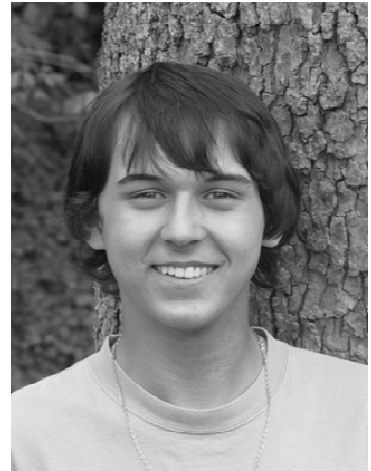
Y O U T H G R O U P M E M B E R S P O T L I G H T

Meet Benjamin Fitton!!!

Benjamin "Ace" Fitton is a sophomore at John Battle High School. He is an honor roll student, outgoing and musically talented. He is currently involved in the school production "Guys and Dolls" in which he is playing the role of "Nicely-Nicely Johnson". He is very committed to his Catholic faith and especially drawn to the Rosary

which is his favorite form of prayer. Benjamin is an active youth group participant and enjoys altar serving and serving in any capacity at St. Anne's.

Benjamin is also St. Anne's Youth Band Coordinator. If you are interested in joining, please let him know of your interest!



Benjamin Fitton
Sophomore at John Battle High School