

St. Mary's Youth Messenger

E-mail us at: youthgroupstmarys@gmail.com



"The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel." Isaiah



YOUTH MASS!!

Every first Sunday of the month, our Youth Group participates in the 12 pm mass. This is a great way to get involved in parish life and meet new friends. We are always looking for help from readers, gift bearers, and greeters. If you are interested in helping out please send as an email or visit our facebook page: **St. Mary's Church Youth Group**

A message from the team:

Throughout the liturgical season of Advent we await joyfully for the birth of Jesus. Each week together, as a community we light the advent wreath, we anticipate Christ's coming. During the busy month of December our schedules can quickly fill up with shopping, Christmas parties, and exams. Christ calls us to take time to remember that "Jesus is the reason for the Season". We can do this with simple acts of kindness or finding a special time in our busy days for prayer. Also, during this season, please remember to bring non-perishable food items for our St. Vincent de Paul Christmas collection at the back of the Church

Sincerely, The Youth Team

SMYG Christmas Party!
January 5

'Tis the season for a night of festive fun with the St. Mary's Youth Group. Come join us in our new Youth Group location of the third floor of the rectory. Feel free to wear your 'ugly Christmas sweaters'. This is a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new ones!

Check out our facebook page: St. Mary's Youth Group for more information
Stay tuned for more news on this event!

Faith Fun Fact:

Poinsettias- The Mexican Flower of the Night

Ever wonder where our favourite Christmas plant, the Poinsettia, comes from. Legend has it... that long ago on Christmas Eve, a poor child in Mexico made his way to the Church. He was sad because he had no gift to offer Christ the child. He humbly knelt outside the church and tearfully told the Lord how he wished to offer him a gift. Springing up from the ground by his feet was a bright red blooming plant. He took the plant and to Christ the child. Since then "the flower of the holy night" spread throughout the country blooming every Christmas. The flower reminds believers of the spirit of Christ's birth.



Calendar

Youth Mass: Every first Sunday of the month

Christmas Party: January 5, St. Mary's Church

Check out our new bulletin board at the back of the Church for some great photos from World Youth Day Madrid

Saint of the Month: Juan Diego

Feast day: December 9

Did you know? Juan Diego lived a simple life as a farmer and laborer near Mexico City. One day he began his long walk to daily mass when he heard music and saw a glowing cloud encircled by a rainbow. A woman's voice called him to the top of the hill. There he saw the Virgin Mary and she asked Juan to tell the bishop build a church on that site. The bishop asked Juan to bring proof of the Lady's identity. Before Juan could go back to the Lady, he found out his uncle was dying. Hurrying to get a priest, Juan missed his meeting with the Lady. The Lady, however, met him on his path and told him that his uncle had been cured. She then told Juan to climb to the top of the hill where they first met. Juan was shocked to find flowers growing in the frozen soil. He gathered them in his cloak and took them at once to the bishop. Juan told the bishop what had happened and opened his cloak and the flowers fell to the ground. The flowers were Castilian roses (which were not grown in Mexico). The image of the Mary was miraculously imprinted inside Juan's cloak. Soon after, a church was built on the site where our Lady appeared, and thousands converted to Christianity. **Our Lady of Guadalupe** was declared the patroness of the Americas.

Juan Diego, Pray for Us!

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Pray for Us!



