



**Youth Ministry E-Date - February/March 2009
Diocese of Rochester**

ATTENTION PARISHES & SCHOOLS:

Please Print for the Parish Youth Ministry or Campus Ministry Contact

**"Do small things with great love."
Mother Theresa**



ADOLESCENT CATECHESIS ROUNDTABLE

As we prepare for the upcoming new curriculum for adolescent catechesis it's good to touch base with the youth ministry leaders and catechetical leaders in parishes who have direct contact with young people in High Schools.

We welcome your input at one of the following gatherings:

February 10, 2009 - Pastoral Center

after the Interministerial Gathering on Chastity

February 24, 2009 at All Saints Parish, Corning

from 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

February 26, 2009 - St Mary's, Waterloo

from 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

February 26, 2009 - St Joseph, Penfield

from 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

There is plenty of information on the new Adolescent Catechesis process on the NFCYM website

<http://www.nfcym.org/resources/components/adocatechesis/pac.htm>

National Catholic Youth Conference

DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED FROM MARCH 1, 2009 to APRIL 1, 2009

No Foolin'!

Information is on line at <http://www.nfcym.org/>

Diocesan Forms are available as attachments:



Cost Breakdown for NCYC 2009.pdf forms B, C, D, F, G, H J and code of conduct.doc Form A.doc



The ORB Challenge

Here's how it works:

- ~ Parish Youth Ministries decide to participate in the ORB Challenge
- ~ Let your parish know that you are participating
- ~ Youth Ministry Leaders e-mail Youth Ministry Office to "register" for the challenge by February 25th, 2009
- ~ Challenge runs from Ash Wednesday (Feb 25) to Good Friday (April 10).
- ~ Each week young people are encouraged to make contributions to ORB every time youth gather. Every time money is collected, be sure to get it to the parish office, ask for a receipt then e-mail the YM office with that amount.
- ~ Postings will be graphed at days end on the Wednesday of each week and sent out to those parishes.
- ~ Youth Ministry Leaders can access the Operation Rice Bowl website at <http://www.orb.crs.org/> for a variety of **FREE** Resources.
- ~ After all money is collected, Parishes must send a check to Operation Rice Bowl.
- ~ Last posting date is April 13th.
- ~ Youth Ministries who collect the most money for Operation Rice Bowl by April 13th will receive \$100 in their scholarship fund.

There are already several parishes involved. It's a simple way to live Matthew 25.

Souper Bowl of Caring

Thousands of dollars have been collected for local food pantries across the 12 counties of the Diocese of Rochester! Congratulations to all the Parish Youth Ministries who collected money to feed those in need in our own communities! Good Work!!!!

FOUNDATIONS - Leadership Week

February 15-20, 2009 at Camp Stella Maris
Foundations is a leadership opportunity for young people in high school who would like to explore leadership essentials. During the week long experience youth will identify personal strengths, learning styles, Catholic Identity, moral decision making, Prayer that lasts a lifetime and their call to ministry.

There is still a few spots left for young people eager to sharpen their leadership skills. Cost is \$225.

Forms are available at

<http://www.dor.org/ec/youthministry/programsandevents/YouthLeadership.htm>

Preparing for the Year of St. Paul

The Year of St Paul begins June 2009 and continues through June 2010
Here is a list of some Youth Friendly resources that you may want to use as you prepare for next year. These resources are

from St. Mary's Press. Some are absolutely FREE! Take a look you might just see something you'd like to use.



Some Great Resources for Young People.doc

<http://smp.org>

The James Rice Memorial Essay Contest

The need to build communities of connection is a theme heard at all levels of society. Our schools, neighborhoods, cities, nation and, indeed, the world, are transformed when bridges of understanding are built among diverse groups.

The James Rice Memorial Essay Contest, sponsored by the Interfaith Forum of Rochester, is designed to encourage and empower high school students to develop strategies and visions for creating a culture of respect and harmony. Students are invited to write an original essay, describing and reflecting on their own experiences and to explore practical ideas for promoting understanding and cooperation among people from diverse backgrounds in the Rochester area.

As youth leaders, please consider how you may promote this opportunity with the high-school aged members of your organizations. As a suggestion, here is a brief summary of the essay contest that you may wish to copy and paste for any correspondence; it includes the electronic links to the website for the contest:

“Building Community: Bridging Our Differences”

is the theme of the 6th annual essay contest, sponsored by the Interfaith Forum of Rochester. The contest is open to all students, grades 9-12, who are enrolled in a school program in Monroe County.

Essays must be submitted by March 31, 2009 on line at our website. <http://rice-essay.org/>. All contest information and guidelines including the electronic submission form are available on the [website](#). A printable poster about the contest is available [*HERE*](#) for downloading. Essays will be read by judges from the Rochester area representing diverse backgrounds. Results will be announced and cash prizes will be awarded at the awards ceremony in May 2009.

You may wish to remind students that area libraries and librarians are available as resources for computer access and assistance with this online process.

For further information, please contact the Contest Administrator,

Karen Keenan by email: kkeenan@frontiernet.net or by phone: 585-202-7534.

NOTE:

March Impact Retreat has been Cancelled.

E-Dates is monthly e-mail newsletter prepared by Sue Versluys, Coordinator of Youth Ministry for the Diocese of Rochester, NY. For more information on upcoming programs, visit the Diocesan Youth Ministry website at: <http://www.dor.org/ec/youthministry/> or e-mail versluys@dor.org or phone at (585)-328-3210 or 800-388-7177 ext. 1279