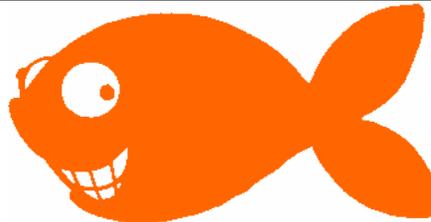


# Go Fish

a newsletter for adult youth ministry leaders

On the Web at [www.cdowk.org/yyam](http://www.cdowk.org/yyam)

Mt. 4:19



Jan & Feb  
2008

For more details on any of the following, contact the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministries (316)269-3930



## Casting into Deeper Waters

By Christine Edmonds

The Way of Peace



*“And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful.” (Colossians 3:15)*

### A NEW YEAR OF OPPORTUNITIES

As we begin this year of 2008, I pray that you will know peace in your hearts and in your life.

Each New Year brings us an opportunity to grow and deepen in our spiritual journey and in our ministry. In this issue of GoFish, you will find articles that invite you to “take the next step” in your own ministerial path, as well as a “building blue print” for youth ministry that can help you evaluate and strengthen the youth ministry efforts of your parish.

### BUILDING PEACE THROUGH OUR PARISH FAMILY

Everyone longs for peace, but where can we find it? In his message for the celebration of World Day of Peace (January 1), Pope Benedict XVI cites the family unit as the model for building peace in the world.

From his message:

**“I invite every man and woman to have a more lively sense of belonging to the one human family, and to strive to make human coexistence increasingly reflect this conviction, which is essential for the establishment of true and lasting peace.”**

To the degree that we can live together in harmony as a human family, we strengthen the way of peace in our world. Developing and nurturing our parish family is one very important way to help teach our children how to live in peace. In a world that is focusing more and more on individualism and isolationism, our parish youth ministry can be the oasis of community that fosters peace in times of chaos.

### DEVELOPING RELATIONSHIPS

It probably goes without saying that to create a sense of parish family requires developing relationships with and among young people. Youth ministry is more about relationships than programs. The programs merely provide ways to strengthen the relationships. And it is through healthy Christian relationships that discipleship, and ultimately peace grow. As you reflect on your youth ministry and your own spiritual growth, keep in mind the value of relationship-building, and use it to evaluate your progress.

### REJOICE AND BE GLAD

And as you reflect on your peace-building efforts through youth ministry, don't forget to be thankful for the many wonderful gifts that our good Lord has provided in willing volunteers and committed youth who are devote themselves tirelessly to these efforts. For all of your efforts, I do rejoice! Many you recognize many blessings in this New Year!

# Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference Awards

Help create a “shiny moment” in the life of an outstanding young person and/or adult you know who has been actively involved in youth ministry this past year. Take the time to nominate someone, so that we may ALL join in acknowledging their gifts!

**These three award forms are due to the Youth Office by Feb. 22.**

## **PARISH YOUTH MINISTRY LEADER AWARD**

This purpose of this award is to recognize adult youth ministry leaders who are strong advocates for youth; excellent role models; appropriate mentors and guides. To be eligible they must have worked with a parish or regional youth ministry for at least two years will be eligible.

## **BISHOP MARK K. CARROLL PARISH AWARD**

Bishop Mark K. Carroll, Bishop of Wichita from 1947-1963, established the Catholic Youth Organization in our diocese and was a strong supporter and advocate for youth. This award will be given to the outstanding newly-established, or re-established, parish youth ministry that models enthusiasm, creativity, initiative and sensitivity to the needs of the parish youth.

## **PARISH RECOGNITION AWARD**

The Parish Recognition Award is given to the parish youth ministry that demonstrates effective youth ministry practices by incorporating the eight components of youth ministry in a way that is meaningful and relevant to the particular needs of youth.

**These two award forms are due to your Regional Coordinator by Feb. 8**

## **THE LIGHT OF CHRIST AWARD**

The purpose of this award is to recognize a youth’s four-year involvement in church work at the parish, regional, or diocesan level. It will be presented to one male and one female senior from each region. Involvement in school or other activities will not be considered in selecting the recipient. Each parish may nominate two high school seniors, one male and one female, for this award.

## **REGIONAL OUTSTANDING CATHOLIC YOUTH AWARD**

Each parish may nominate two people, one male and one female, as the parish outstanding youth for the 2007-2008 year. Nominees may be freshmen, sophomores, juniors or seniors. The region reviews the entries and selects one male and one female as recipients of this award.

All forms are available on our web-site:  
[www.cdowk.org/yyam/conference](http://www.cdowk.org/yyam/conference)

## DCYB Application

### **DIOCESAN CATHOLIC YOUTH BOARD**

Do you have any youth that show outstanding leadership qualities? If so please encourage them to apply for the DCYB. Each of the 5 regions of the diocese select two young people to represent the needs and interests of that region. The selection of these representatives will take place during the Regional Gatherings at the Conference. Qualified candidates must be at least a sophomore by Fall 2008 and must complete and return the Diocesan Catholic Youth Board Application to the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministries by **Feb. 1, 2008**.

# *Souper Bowl of Caring*

Feb 3, 2008



**This is your souper bowl of caring—Stir it up!**

1

Register at [www.souperbowl.org](http://www.souperbowl.org) or call 1-800-358-SOUP

2

Collect donations on or near Super Bowl Sunday

3

Report your collection total to the Souper Bowl of Caring

4

Donate 100% to the charity of your choice

*(For more info on this event, contact the Youth Office)*



# IF YOU BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME



## YOUR YOUTH MINISTRY “HOUSE”

What does your youth ministry “house” look like? This is not just a “where” question, but also with whom, how and why. Perhaps you have a house that is quite old and outdated, and is in need of some updating and repairs. Or maybe you have a house that isn’t quite finished because other builders started construction but left without leaving any of the blue-prints. Or it may be the case that you simply ran out of materials (i.e., volunteers and/or money.) As a new year begins, it is good to survey your youth ministry house and evaluate how it is holding up!

## DO YOU HAVE A HOUSE OR A TENT?

Many parishes offer a series of unrelated programs for youth, but haven’t taken the next step to create an intentional youth ministry. While it perfectly fine to put up a tent to meet the immediate needs of the parish youth, don’t forget that the tent is a temporary structure. You cannot stay in the tent for very long. People will eventually find other places to call home. If you take the time to build a sturdy youth ministry “house”, it will always be filled with enthusiastic youth.

## A RECOMMENDED BLUE-PRINT

The bishops’ document, *Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry* offers a nice blue-print for how to build your youth ministry house. This document describes themes and components of a parish ministry and how it works in concert with schools and the larger community. These can all become the building blocks of your plan. Copies of this document are available from the Youth Office.

## GOOD THINGS TAKE TIME

Creating a building plan that meets the needs of your particular youth, and establishing the foundation necessary all takes time. And time is a precious commodity in this day and age. We seem to have more time available to us because of modern technology, but the time gets consumed by other pressing needs. Borrowing from Stephen Covey’s time management language, are we spending too much time with the “Urgent But Not Important” items and not enough time with the “Important But Not Urgent” items? Building a systematic, intentional and purposeful youth ministry is not urgent, but it is very important and worth the time taken!

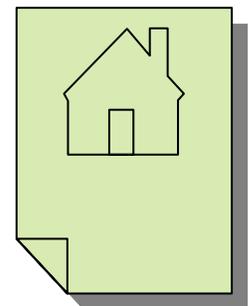
## THE BISHOPS’ BLUE PRINT FOR YOUTH MINISTRY

### FOUNDATION: Three goals of Catholic Youth Ministry

- Form disciples of Jesus Christ
- Develop meaningful participation of youth in the work of the Church
- Foster the personal and spiritual growth of young people

### WALL-CONSTRUCTION/ROOM LAY-OUT: Eight components of Youth Ministry

- |                    |                           |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Advocacy           | 5) Justice and Service    |
| Catechesis         | 6) Leadership Development |
| Community Building | 7) Pastoral Care          |
| Evangelization     | 8) Prayer and Worship     |



### MATERIALS:

Activities that are: developmentally appropriate; family-friendly; intergenerational; multicultural and involve community-wide collaboration; leadership development and flexible and adaptable programming.

# CHOOSE LIFE!

**Send-off Mass for the March For Life Pilgrims**

**Friday, January 18, 2008**

**6:00 pm**

**St. Mary's Cathedral**

**Open to everyone in the diocese**

**Show your support for life**

**Enjoy a GREAT homily by Bishop Jackels**

**Give our pilgrims a proper diocesan send-off!**

## QUOTE FROM THE NATIONAL STUDY OF YOUTH AND RELIGION

“...one of the most important things that adults who are concerned about how teenagers’ religious and spiritual lives are going to turn out can do is to focus attention on strengthening their own and other adults’, especially parents’, religious and spiritual lives.”

*(Soul Searching, by Christian Smith, p.267)*

Holy Family Marion County delegates at NCYC 2007





## YOUTH MINISTRY IDEA: SENIOR CITIZEN VALENTINE MEAL



*(This idea was submitted by Diane Coomes from St. Francis Parish in St. Paul, KS)*

**Material:** Turkeys, broth, rolls, salads, desserts, potatoes, green beans, dressing ingredients, coffee, tea, flowers, door prizes, candy, paper for flyers.

**Description:** We do this around Valentine's Day. We put flyers up around town for the senior citizens and let them know it's FREE. We deliver the food to the elderly who are unable to get out. We give door prizes, fresh flowers and candies to those who attend.

For the food, we have the officers/youth council members each bring a 12-15 pound turkey with broth. Each class is responsible for bringing something. For example: Freshmen – rolls; Sophomores – desserts; Juniors and Seniors – side salads. The CYO buys the ingredients for the dressing, mashed potatoes, green beans, coffee and tea.

This is wonderful for the elderly. They truly love it. The youth serve them, and do the cooking and cleaning with adult supervision.

## NCYC GROUP PICTURE



# STEWARDSHIP AND TEENAGERS

On November 14, 2007, during their Fall meeting, the USCCB [Statement on Stewardship and Teenagers](#) was approved by the US Bishops. The statement, developed by the Ad Hoc Committee on Stewardship of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, is available in both English and Spanish on the USCCB website <http://www.usccb.org/bishops/StewardshipTeens.pdf>, or through the [USCCB Publishing Department](#).



**St. Mary Derby Delegates at  
NYC 2007**

## Soldiers for Christ



*“My appeal to you today, young people...is this: do not waste your youth. Do not seek to escape from it. Live it intensely...You, young people, are not just the future of the Church and of humanity, as if we could somehow run away from the present...The Church needs you, as young people, to manifest to the world the face of Jesus Christ, visible in the Christian community. Without this young face, the Church would appear disfigured.”*

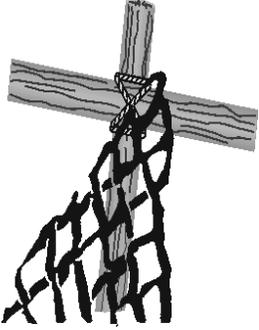
*-Pope Benedict XVI to Youth in Brazil*

# TAKING THE NEXT STEP

Congratulations! You are involved in youth ministry. I hope that your “yes” to this wacky and wonderful ministry has already produced graces in your life. In the spirit of embarking upon a new year, may I invite you to take the next step in your ministerial journey?

If you are	The next step	How to get there
a member of the adult team in a parish youth ministry or CYO	Enroll in adult training and/or formation for personal growth and to enhance your role as a mentor to youth.	Explore adult education opportunities in your parish; check out some books from the Youth Office on adult spirituality and youth ministry; attend a seminar or retreat at the Spiritual Life Center ( <a href="http://www.slwichita.org">www.slwichita.org</a> ); take an online course through the University of Dayton Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation ( <a href="http://vlc.udayton.edu">http://vlc.udayton.edu</a> .)
the lead adult of your youth ministry or CYO	Learn how to become a more effective coordinator of a comprehensive youth ministry model	Learn about comprehensive youth ministry ( <a href="http://www.nfcym.org/catholicym/index.htm">http://www.nfcym.org/catholicym/index.htm</a> ); request an Adult Youth Ministry Leader Handbook from the Youth Office; attend one of the orientation classes for new youth ministry leaders offered through the Youth Office; subscribe to Youth Ministry Access through CMD ( <a href="http://www.cmdnet.org">www.cmdnet.org</a> ) for seasonal ideas to use in a comprehensive model.
the coordinator of a comprehensive, vibrant ministry that fosters young disciples	Teach others how to strengthen their own youth ministries	Contact the Youth Office to find out how you can become part of a team of adults that will travel throughout the diocese to train other adults and youth in youth ministry.

No matter how you currently serve in the world of youth ministry, this is the year to take the next step in developing and sharing your leadership skills. If you open your heart to the Holy Spirit, you may be delighted with where the path leads, and there will be grace sufficient to support you along the way!



## CAUGHT IN THE NET

*He said to them, "Cast your net over the right side of the boat, and you will find something."*

*John 21:6*

I pray that your Christmas was blessed with joy and that your new year is off to a good start. With the holidays behind us we look ahead and see that it is only a month until Lent begins. With Ash Wednesday coming on February 6, some of you might be looking for Lenten resources.

A good starting point when looking for any youth ministry resources is the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry web-site. The NFCYM participates in the mission of the Catholic Church by advocating for and supporting Catholic youth ministry on the national, diocesan, and local level. One of the ways they do this is through the conferences they host, NCYC for youth and the NFCYM for adults. Another way is through the many resources available on their web-site.

**Web-site of the Month:** <http://www.nfcym.org/resources/components/prayerworship/lent.htm>

This is a sub-section of the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry web-site. They have links to several web-sites with an abundance of Lenten resources. There is an on-line retreat from Good Ground Press and Creighton University's *Praying Lent* which offers daily Lenten reflections. The Center for Ministry Development link will take you to a 23 page PDF of resources from CMD.

Be sure to check out the *Understanding Lent* site of St. Anthony Messenger for an explanation of Mardi Gras and an FAQ about Lent. They also offer 3 different Stations of the Cross including *The Way of the Cross—on Your Block* which your youth group can say/create as you walk around your parish neighborhood.

Perhaps the gem of the whole page is *Blessed Are the Peacemakers - A Lenten Session Encouraging Young People to Fast from Violence* created by the NFCYM. This is a ready made two-hour session that "will lead young people to reflect on the many types of violence that exist in the world and in their lives today, culminating in a prayer experience inviting them to commit to fasting from violence during the season of Lent. A series of six weekly follow-up prayer and journal reflections is included as a resource that can be e-mailed to those who commit to the fast. Each reflection highlights one of the six types of violence that is reviewed within the session itself."

Until next time, "keep on casting your net to the right side of the boat."

[walker@cdowk.org](mailto:walker@cdowk.org)

[www.cdowk.org/yyam](http://www.cdowk.org/yyam)



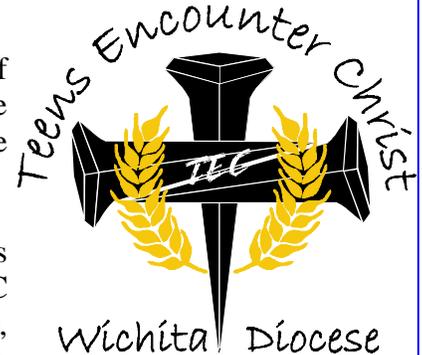
# TEC and Clay Retreats

## TEC - Have You Tried It?

Teens Encounter Christ, twenty-four years in our diocese and still not just for teens. What is it about TEC that has kept it going strong for all these years in our diocese and over 40 years nationwide? What is it about TEC that keeps people like Claudia Green, Bill Gress and Fr. Andy Kuykendall, who all served on TEC #1, coming back to serve over and over again? The same thing that has kept our Catholic faith going strong for over 2,000 years, it's centered on Christ's Paschal Mystery.

The strength of TEC in our diocese is due in large part to the strength of it's adults. The strength of those adults comes from having the opportunity to witness the effect that a real encounter with Christ can have on a youth.

As I said at the beginning, TEC is not just for teens (high school juniors and seniors), it's also for adults who work with youth. If you go on a TEC weekend will you be obligated or expected to serve on a future TEC? No, but that door will be open to you, adults just like the youth have to be a candidate on a TEC before they can serve on one. Some adults come on a TEC weekend just to find out what it is like, so that they can better promote it to the youth in their parish.



If you would like to know more about TEC, call David at 316-269-3928, he would be glad to talk to you about it. On the other hand, you could just go ahead and take the plunge, send in your application and be prepared to have a closer encounter with Christ. Applications are available on our web-site [www.cdowk.org/yyam/TEC.html](http://www.cdowk.org/yyam/TEC.html).

**In 2008 we will have TEC retreats in Wichita on Feb. 23-25, June 7-9 and Dec. 13-15.  
There will be a TEC retreat in Pittsburg on June 28-30.**

**Please encourage your juniors and seniors to attend a TEC retreat. Also, remind those who have already attended TEC to apply to serve on an upcoming weekend.**

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## CLAY



**CHRIST'S LIGHT IN ALL YOUTH**

**C. L. A. Y.**

CLAY (Christ's Light in All Youth) is a 22 hour retreat for freshman and sophomores in High School. In addition, adults who work with youth are also welcome to participate.

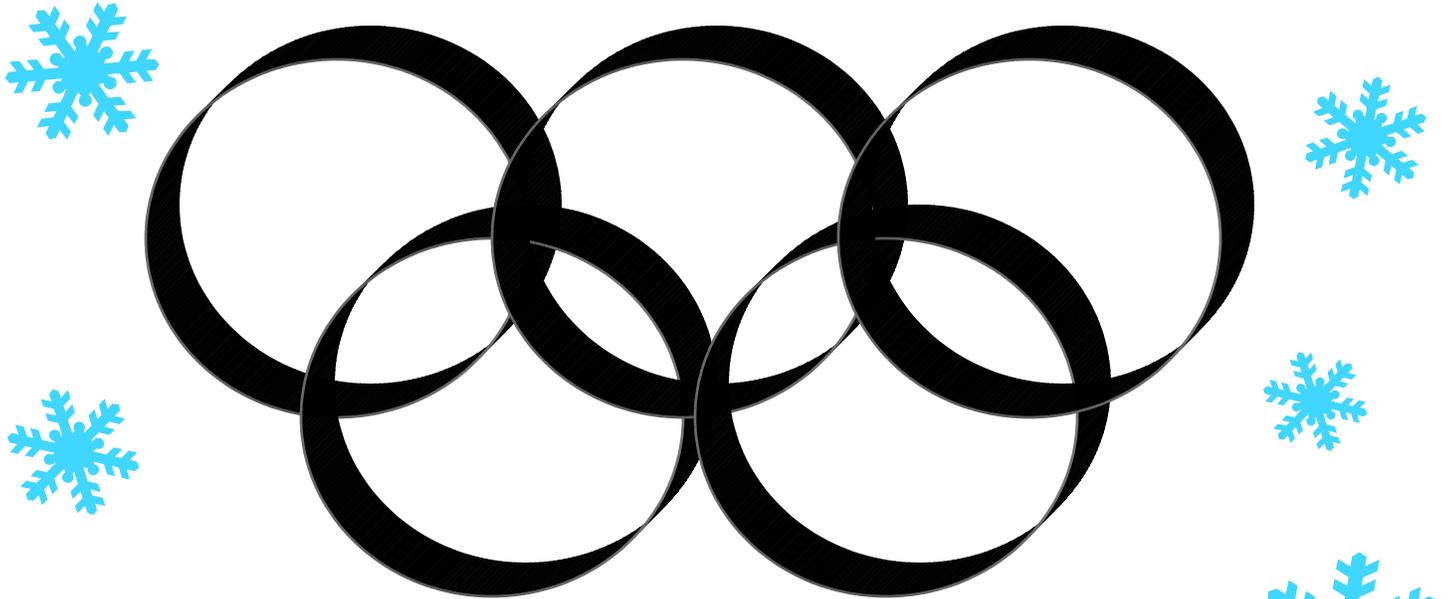
CLAY utilizes skits, small groups and lots of hands on work to promote a deeper understanding that we are clay in the hands of God the potter. The retreats are held in parish settings around the diocese and begin on Saturday at 6 p.m. and end Sunday at 4 p.m. The cost is \$45 and applications can be found on our web-site:

[www.cdowk.org/yyam/CLAY.html](http://www.cdowk.org/yyam/CLAY.html)

**The next CLAY retreat will be May 3-4 at St. James, Augusta.**

# CHAMPIONS OF FAITH

## WINTER OLYMPICS



**Holy Olympic rings! Young people from throughout the diocese are gathering for a day of athletic events inspired by the saints.**

**All proceeds will benefit unplanned pregnancy centers. This is a great way to follow up on the March For Life, learn about the saints, and how to “pray like a champion” all within a sports atmosphere!**

### Features

- ⇒ Olympic-inspired opening ceremonies
- ⇒ Pillow Jousts
- ⇒ Hole-in-One
- ⇒ Group Ski
- ⇒ Softball Throw
- ⇒ “Chariot” Races
- ⇒ Soccer goals and more!!
- ⇒ Champions of Faith: Baseball Movie!!  
(featuring testimonies from Catholic athletes)

### ENTRY RULES:

- 1) Must be between the ages of 14 –18
- 2) Register on-site for skilled & non-skilled events



### DETAILS:

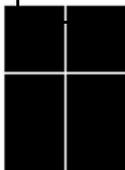
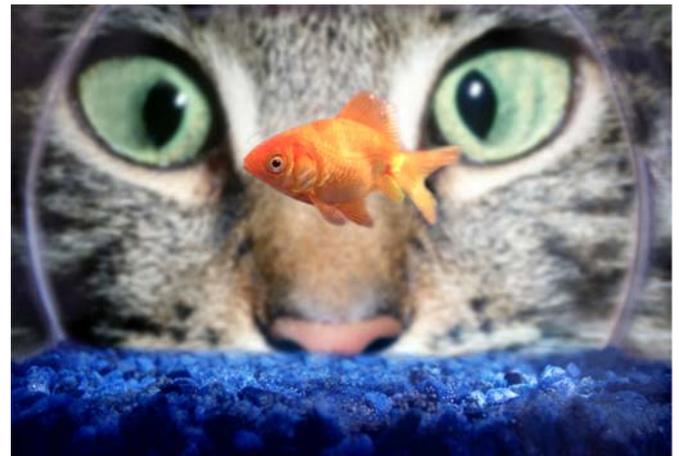
Date: Saturday, Feb 02, 2008  
Time: 1:00 pm—4:30 pm  
Where: St. Thomas Aquinas Church  
Cost: \$5.00  
Snacks & drinks provided

[Download this flyer here.](#)

# YOUTH MINISTRY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<b>JANUARY 2008</b>
01 – <i>Chancery closed for New Years Day</i> 05 – YYAM Council meeting 05 – TEC Congress planning meeting 06 – Con-TEC & TEC Adult Gathering 12 - Forming Young Disciples class 18 – Send Off Mass for March for Life 18 – March For Life in DC 21 – <i>Chancery closed Martin Luther King Jr.</i> 25-31 – NET (National Evangelization Team) visit 27 – Youth Ministry Orientation 1-4 pm, Youth Office
<b>FEBRUARY 2008</b>
01 - DCYB applications due 01-14 – NET visit continues 02 – Champions of Faith Olympics 03 – Souper Bowl of Caring 08 – Regional Youth Award Nominations Due 09 – Forming Young Disciples class 16 – YYAM Council meeting 22 – Conference Registration deadline 23-25 – TEC #115 – Wichita
<b>MARCH 2008</b>
04 – Do something FUN today! 08 – Forming Young Disciples Class 15 – YYAM Council meeting 21 – <i>Chancery closed for Good Friday</i> 23 – EASTER SUNDAY! Alleluia 29-30 – Diocesan Youth Conference – Airport Hilton
<b>APRIL 2008</b>
12 – Forming Young Disciples class 12 – Stewardship Conference w/Generation Y session 19 – YYAM Council meeting
<b>MAY 2008</b>
03-04 – CLAY retreat 10 – Forming Young Disciples class 14 – Youth Ministry Access workshop 26 – <i>Chancery Closed for Memorial Day</i> 30-June 1 – DCYB Leadership Planning Retreat
<b>JUNE 2008</b>
7-9 – TEC #116 – Wichita 14 – Forming Young Disciples class 28-30 – TEC #117 – Pittsburg

<b>JULY 2008</b>
04 – <i>Chancery closed for Fourth of July</i>
<b>AUGUST 2008</b>
02-04 0 TEC Congress, Spiritual Life Center
<b>SEPTEMBER 2008</b>
01 – <i>Chancery closed for Labor Day</i> 27-28- CLAY retreat
<b>OCTOBER 2008</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 2008</b>
27-28 – <i>Chancery closed for Thanksgiving</i>
<b>DECEMBER 2008</b>
04-07 – NCCYM in Cleveland 13-15 TEC #118 Wichita 25-26 – <i>Chancery closed for Christmas</i>



CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE  
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