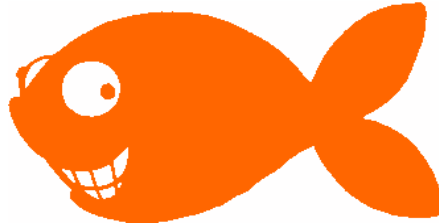


# Go Fish

a newsletter for adult youth ministry leaders

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

Mt. 4:19



Mar & Apr  
2008

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



*From the Director...*

## MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup> --- NOT JUST ANOTHER DAY



Many people will wake up on March 4<sup>th</sup> and approach it just like they might approach January 4<sup>th</sup> or February 4<sup>th</sup>. But March 4<sup>th</sup> can be SO MUCH MORE! I have been celebrating March 4<sup>th</sup> for many more years than I'd like to admit. Why March 4<sup>th</sup>? Well, basically, it is the only day in the year that compels you to action; namely MARCH FORTH! Celebrating this quirky day has been a rich blessing for me because not only has it been an inspirational day for me, I have learned that as I share this day with others, the blessings are shared as well.

Here are just a few examples of how people around the country celebrate March 4<sup>th</sup>:

- A friend from New York held a dinner party with good china, fine linens, and sterling silver
- A friend from Baltimore chose to embark on a multi-mile hike instead of her usual Nordic track routine
- A friend in Texas chose that day to kick up her Mary Kay business to the next level

In addition to these fun inspirational activities, I have received reports of deeper changes:

- When a friend of mine shared the message of March 4<sup>th</sup> with a co-worker, the co-worker decided to quit smoking on that day!
- One year, I shared March 4<sup>th</sup> with a colleague of mine, who then learned that she lost her job. She told me that she clung to the hope of "marching forth in faith" and that sustained her until she landed another job!
- In 2005, a Wichita Eagle journalist wrote an article about my celebration of March 4<sup>th</sup>. She later learned that another journalist read the article and it changed her life!

I started celebrating March 4<sup>th</sup> as a teenager growing up in Omaha. I needed something to get me through the dreary winter days up there. I had no idea at the time how God would use this endeavor to bless the lives of countless people. As my friends move all over the world, March 4<sup>th</sup> continues to spread. It has been celebrated in Italy, New Zealand, Japan and Egypt!

I do not yet know how I will celebrate March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008, but I know it will be a great day! Sometimes I send home-made cards. Sometimes I just send out email greetings. Sometimes I buy flowers for my co-workers. Perhaps I will finally move forward on my long-standing dream of developing a March 4<sup>th</sup> website.

So, how will *you* celebrate March 4<sup>th</sup> this year? My prayer is that you find one area in your life that is calling to you to make a positive step and then march forth into it!

HAPPY MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup>!!!



## WHAT'S DIFFERENT THIS YEAR?

1. **Saturday** morning Mass at 9:00 a.m.
2. The conference registration table has **MOVED**. This year you will find it closer to the hotel registration counter, across from the gift shop in **Consulate 3**. *This is the room where we held the adult mixer last year.*
3. Our keynote speaker is Tony Melendez
4. The house band will be the Toe Jam Band (Tony's tour band)
5. We will have 3 exhibitors offering items for sale. Sacred Heart Gifts will be back again with all kinds of Catholic items, Tony Melendez will have CD's etc. and Newmartyr T-Shirts from Chanute.
6. The conference isn't during Lent so you can load up on chocolate, just don't eat it on the way (see item 1)

## REMINDERS

1. Conference registration opens at 8:00 a.m. in Consulate 3.
2. Warm-up music begins at 8:45 a.m. followed by Mass at 9:00.
3. Normal check-in time for hotel guest rooms is 4:00 p.m. Please do not unload your luggage when you arrive in anticipation of your rooms being ready. The hotel will be working as hard as they can to have rooms ready as quickly as possible.
4. If you are bringing a banner you need to bring a banner stand for it.
5. Sunday morning breakfast is on your own. FYI: the hotel breakfast brunch on Sunday morning is \$11.95 per person. Super Wal-Mart is 1.8 miles away and Krispy Kreme donuts is 3.4 miles.
6. Sunday morning Mass with Bishop Jackels is at 11:00 a.m.



## DEVELOPING COMPREHENSIVE YOUTH MINISTRY A STEP-BY-STEP RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

*In the last GoFish issue, I used the analogy of building a house to explain how to develop a comprehensive youth ministry program. As I am writing this it is the season of Lent, and so I am naturally thinking of food (fasting and food can be two sides of the same coin!) So, let's look at comprehensive youth ministry as preparing a meal:*



### STEP ONE—DECIDE ON THE MENU

My dear mother cooked supper for nine people every single day for many, many years. And it seemed as though every night, one of her seven children would ask the fateful question: “What’s for dinner?” And we would invariably get that “look” that told us to scoot out of the kitchen quickly. While it may not be so easy to come up with a meal plan every night, it is much easier to create a menu for your youth program. How? By asking the young people what they want and need. Be sure to ask questions that help them dig a little deeper than their perceived needs of fun and games. For example, how can the church help you grow in your faith? How can the church help you live as a Christian in today’s complicated world? Create a survey and collect the information you need to help you create a balanced and nutritious “meal” for your youth.



### STEP TWO--CHECK THE PANTRY

OK, so it took a while to gather that info, but now you have a fairly good idea of what will be on the menu. It may be quite a bit. Don’t panic! There is no need to start from scratch. The food channel has a show called “Semi-Homemade” in which the cook uses some ready-to-eat ingredients and adds some fresh ones of her own. So, what do you already have in the “pantry” at your church? Are the youth already involved in some areas? What about the Confirmation program? Are they volunteering for Vacation Bible School? Do some already sing in the choir or help out as altar servers? These ingredients can easily compliment some fresh activities and programs that help tie everything together and connect to parish life. Begin by communicating and coordinating with the adults responsible for these other areas.



### STEP THREE—FIND YOUR SOUS CHEFS

Disclaimer: I am not a culinary snob. I didn’t know what a sous chef was until I saw the movie “Ratatouille.” (For those who haven’t seen that movie, sous chefs are like assistant chefs who prepare different sauces and specific dishes in a restaurant. These are very helpful people to have around when you a putting together a fabulous meal.) So, find those folks in your parish (both youth AND adults) who may be particularly good at preparing one of the items on your menu. As my mom knew, many hands make light work. I was always in charge of peeling potatoes and assembling the pickle tray.

### HELPFUL TIP: IT’S IN THERE!

Just like all the spices in Prego spaghetti sauce, the background material, interest surveys, program ideas, and tools for recruiting and training may all be found in your **Adult Youth Ministry Leader Handbook and Resource manual**. And, as always, the staff of the Youth Office is available to assist you in putting together a feast for your parish youth. Bon Appétit!

# TRAINING AND TOOLS

## **APRIL 12 – STEWARDSHIP CONFERENCE**

Church of the Magdalen, 9:00 am – 5:30 pm

Registration is \$15 and includes lunch

Fr. Jarrod Lies will be offering a special workshop at the conference, entitled “Encouraging a New Generation of Stewards: Stewardship Among Generation Why(Y).” This workshop will explore the key components of generational development leading to a clearer understanding of the strengths of this current generation. We will explore trends and ideologies that foster a generous response of stewardship among today’s young Catholic faithful.

For more information and to register, contact the Stewardship Office.

## **APRIL 26 – WHERE FAITH IS FORMED: Exploring the settings for catechesis**

St. Mary, Derby 8:30 am (check-in) – 3:00 pm

Registration fee is \$45 and includes lunch, refreshments and workshop materials

This workshop will help you implement systematic, lifelong catechesis for all of the members of your parish. Discover the resources for catechesis in your parish; Utilize all of the settings for faith learning; Explore the many ways people learn about their faith; create a plan for developing your parish’s faith formation curriculum.

For more information and to register, contact the Religious Education Office

## **APRIL 26 – THE DRUG CULTURE: WHAT PARENTS AND EDUCATORS NEED TO KNOW**

Spiritual Life Center, 8:30 am (check-in) – 12:15 (followed by lunch)

Registration fee is \$40 and includes lunch

This morning workshop offers parents, teachers and any adult who works with teens new insights into an old topic: drug use, abuse and prevention. Dan Oblinger brings his personal and professional expertise to bear in this workshop examining the issue of drugs and their abuse in light of Catholic teaching. The workshop offers attendees a unique perspective on drug abuse, including practical skills for identifying drugs and recognizing signs and symptoms of drug abuse. This material is crucial for any parent or any adult catechizing middle or high school aged Catholics, no matter how large or small the parish or community. The program concludes with a vision for reshaping the issue to help adults and youth alike to lead lives of virtue and sobriety. Come join us for this crash course in the drug culture -- a powerful force of evil as old as the devil himself.

To register, contact the Spiritual Life Center at 316-744-0167

## **MAY 13 AND 14 - ALL ABOUT YOUTH MINISTRY ACCESS**

May 13 – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, 7 pm -9 pm

May 14 – St. Vincent de Paul, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon

Question: Where can I find a one-stop shop for youth ministry?

Answer: Youth Ministry Access comes very close! YMA contains tons of activities for middle and high school youth, with step-by-step instructions. There are volumes of activities for each of the eight components of youth ministry that include one night (2-hour) events, special events, weekend events, family events, and parish events. Would you like to learn more? There will be two FREE opportunities in our diocese to learn how Youth Ministry Access works. Look for the flyer in this issue of GoFish.

Register by emailing Ann Marie Eckert at [annmarie@cmdnet.org](mailto:annmarie@cmdnet.org)

## **LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR YOUTH**

New this summer! There will be three different leadership training days for high school youth who are involved in youth ministry and CYO. Mark your calendars now for a session near you!

June 22 – Regions 4 & 5

Aug 9-10 – Regions 2 & 3

Sep 07 – Region 1



# RESOURCES



## 1) [www.calltodiscipleship.com](http://www.calltodiscipleship.com)

This is a new website (still under construction) sponsored by Harcourt Publishing. It includes information for comprehensive and systematic catechesis; easy-to-use planning and formation; innovative communication tools; and tons of resources. If your parish is challenged by high school catechesis, you may want to check this out.

## 2) [www.spiritandsong.com](http://www.spiritandsong.com)

Scroll to bottom of page to access their online juke box. Youth can create personalized playlists and more! (I listen to the jukebox while working at the computer!)

## 3) [SQPN](http://www.sqpn.com)

Their first season of **That Catholic Show** is available on DVD. These are great 5-7 minute discussion starters all about the vibrant Catholic faith. To view samples of That Catholic Show, go to [www.sqpn.com/?cat=35](http://www.sqpn.com/?cat=35)

## 4) [Catholic Youth Bible Triple Challenge](http://www.smp.org/ItemSamplers.cfm?ItemNum=4320)

Saint Mary's Press has the Catholic Youth Bible Triple Challenge on CD-ROM. The game has bible questions ranging from easy to difficult, and will help youth explore the scriptures. To view a sample of the game, go to [www.smp.org/ItemSamplers.cfm?ItemNum=4320](http://www.smp.org/ItemSamplers.cfm?ItemNum=4320)



## ON CONFIRMATION

“The Church must make every effort through a revised and revitalized catechesis to ensure that adolescents do not view their preparation for and reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation as the end of their formal catechesis.”

(National Directory for Catechesis 48D)

# THE ANCHOR

By Joel Arnold



Oh that sly Chris Edmonds. It has been a few months since I've written here, my excuse being general busyness. So Chris emails me asking if I wanted to write an article this month, and then made a suggestion that she knew I couldn't refuse: "I hear you saw the movie *Bella*. Why don't you write something about movies?" I love movies, so the dangling carrot of an idea was irresistible. I do feel a little manipulated though. Be forewarned everyone, Ms. Edmonds knows our weak spots and is not above preying upon them.

Movies can stir up strong emotions in us. They can inspire and renew us. Their power lies in the simple notion that ideas have a great impact when depicted in a combination of sound and sight. This is why movies can be a very useful tool in youth ministry. Besides the automatic lure that anything electronic has on Generation ADHD, movies can more effectively expound upon almost any topic. Which are they more likely to remember, an explanation of heroic virtue and the meaning of true sacrifice, or watching a clip of Sam and Frodo's journey in the *Lord of the Rings*?

Unfortunately, when it comes to movies, we also know there is a lot of \_\_\_\_\_ out there as well (You can fill in that blank with a negative word of your choosing). These movies can tear us down and weaken us. So how do we pick out good films in the first place? How do we judge the merit of movies? I'm adapting Aquinas here, but I like to use the **3U Criteria**.

First, is a movie **Universal**? Does it contain something that everyone can identify with, whether that be a theme of love, war, trust, abandonment, etc? *The Mission* addresses my two favorite movie themes, brokenness and redemption. *Return to Me* is the best romantic comedy I've seen because it conveys a story of true love with genuine humor. *Life is Beautiful* shares a moving example of a father sacrificing for his son. *The Shawshank Redemption* is all about holding on to hope while seeking our freedom. And who can forget the climax of *It's a Wonderful Life* when we learn about true friendships?

Second, is it **Unique**? Does it bring something different to the table, through acting, direction or writing? I still remember seeing *Mary Poppins* for the first time on the Wonderful World of Disney and how the magical story captured my imagination. More recently, *The Incredibles* exploded off the screen combining action with a story of a family sticking together.

Finally (and most crucially) does it **Underline or Undermine truth**? Does a movie point out that good is beautiful or evil is degrading? Or does it glorify sin and tell us a lie against the sanctity of life or the holiness of sex? This is where I worry the most for today's teens. The movies that are marketed towards them are overflowing with deception about what will bring them happiness. Even worse, the humor in these movies desensitizes them to the fact that serious sin is really occurring.

(continue on page 7)

*(continue from page 6)*

The truth that a movie underlines will not always be pretty. *Hotel Rwanda* is the harrowing account of the genocide that occurred in that country in the early 90s. The violence that the movie contains is haunting, but important lest we forget. The movie also shares a stirring message about hope and courage amidst so much suffering and opposition. *In America* is also based on real events, this time the story of an immigrant family and the struggles they face in New York City. Both movies are quite raw at times, but in their honesty they have unforgettable lessons to teach.

The ten movies above are from my personal all-time top 10. Several are rated R and would NOT be appropriate for using in class. *Mary Poppins* is rated G and I would equally recommend not using that unless you want to lose all credibility. But my wife and I have recently seen two movies that immediately made us think how great they would be to use with our parish youth group: *Bella* and *Amazing Grace*. They each demonstrate making decisions guided by Christian virtue. *Bella* was indeed a beautiful movie. Its small budget, first-time director and rookie actors all succeed despite the odds against them in telling the rich, yet simple story of a waitress that finds herself pregnant and the cook that befriends her. I've heard it described as "a love story without the romance" and "One day where three lives are changed." *Amazing Grace* chronicles the true story of one legislator's valiant work to abolish slavery in England. It has obvious pro-life parallels. So I'd like to conclude this treatise on cinema with a call for interaction. What are your favorite movies and why? What movies do you use in catechesis? Email your responses to me at [theanchorgofish@yahoo.com](mailto:theanchorgofish@yahoo.com) and I'll report on all your helpful ideas next time!



*Christ is Risen!  
He is Risen, Indeed!*

*Here is the reason for our hope and joy! Life Eternal!  
This is the good news we share with our young people.  
All of us here in the Youth Office would like to  
wish you and your families  
a very happy and blessed Easter.*

*Chris, David, and Theresa*



Come and learn more about...

# Youth ministry ACCESS

An online subscription delivering  
dynamic Youth Ministry Programming for  
Middle School and High School Young People

Save \$25 on  
your new or  
renewed  
subscription!

This gathering introduces you to the many features of Youth Ministry Access and explores the ways in which this dynamic resource can enhance your current ministry efforts with young people.

Youth Ministry Access makes your job easier. This workshop introduces you to the many features of Youth Ministry Access, by providing specific and helpful ways to use this resource within your own parish or Catholic school ministry setting.

Come and check it out—ask questions, get free resources,  
enjoy some refreshments, and save on your subscription!

Diocese of Wichita

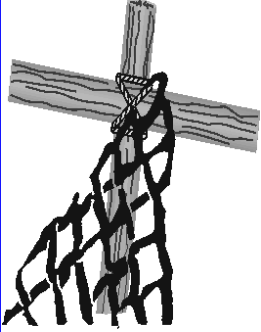
Tuesday, May 13, 2008 – 7-9PM  
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish  
645 North 119<sup>th</sup> St. West  
Wichita, KS 67235  
St. Maria Goretti Youth Room

OR

Wed, May 14, 2008 10AM-Noon  
St. Vincent de Paul Parish  
123 North Andover Road  
Andover, KS 67002  
Youth Office

This workshop is presented by Ann Marie Eckert and is sponsored by  
the Center for Ministry Development. There is no cost to participate.

Register by emailing Ann Marie Eckert at [annmarie@cmdnet.org](mailto:annmarie@cmdnet.org).  
Please indicate the date and diocese in your email.



## 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*

Wow, we are half way through Lent and our annual Catholic Youth Conference is just around the corner. After that it's proms, graduations and then good old summertime. The seasons keep changing, but the one thing that stays constant is the need for fundraising.

**Example:** The next National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) will be Nov. 19-21, 2009 in Kansas City, Mo. While that may seem like a long way off, come this September (2008) I'll be taking your hotel room bookings and deposits. Then next summer (2009) final payments will be due. So this summer is definitely the time to start working towards NCYC.

Whether your group is fundraising for your own needs or for charity it's always nice to have some fresh ideas to try. As you are checking out fundraising ideas keep in mind that what works well for one group may not work at all for another, no matter how well it's done. The time of year can also have an effect on the success of a fundraiser.

**Web-site of the Month:** [www.fundraising-ideas.org/DIY/index.html](http://www.fundraising-ideas.org/DIY/index.html) . This is the Do It Yourself section of the Fundraising Ideas & Products Center web-site. Here you will find over 150 fundraising ideas. A few of the ideas involve commercial companies, but the majority you can do on your own. A timely one to check out would be the "Fake Election" in which dollars count as votes for honorary positions. Spelling bee season is upon us, so you might want to take a look at the "Adult Spelling Bee" fundraiser.

If you click on the Home tab at the top of the page it will take you to the web-sites home page where you can find fundraising products from commercial companies. The listed product categories include wreaths, books, candy, cause related and cheesecake.

As with any fundraising and/or ice-breaker site, your sound judgment is required. Not everything listed will be appropriate for your group.

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)



### Web-Site Reminder

Tony Melendez will be the keynote presenter at the Diocesan Youth Conference.

Checkout Tony's web-site at:

[www.tonymelendez.com](http://www.tonymelendez.com)

# PUDDLES OF INFORMATION

## Youth Night with Fr. Stan Fortuna

WHO: All high school youth in the diocese  
WHAT: Youth Mass, snacks, talk and holy hour  
WHERE: St. Francis of Assisi Parish  
WHEN: Saturday, March 8, 2008  
TIME: 7:00 pm – approx. 10:30 pm

“[The] ‘Rappin’ Capuchin’ as he is known to some is an unstoppable force of nature. Now in his late forties, Fortuna has the energy of someone decades younger. His music ranges from jazz to Brazilian to hip hop. He speaks in an exuberant, non-stop, New York-ese. He is one of the original members of the Community of Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. Fr. Stan appears frequently on EWTN and has speaking engagements all over the world. You will NOT want to miss this event at St. Francis parish!

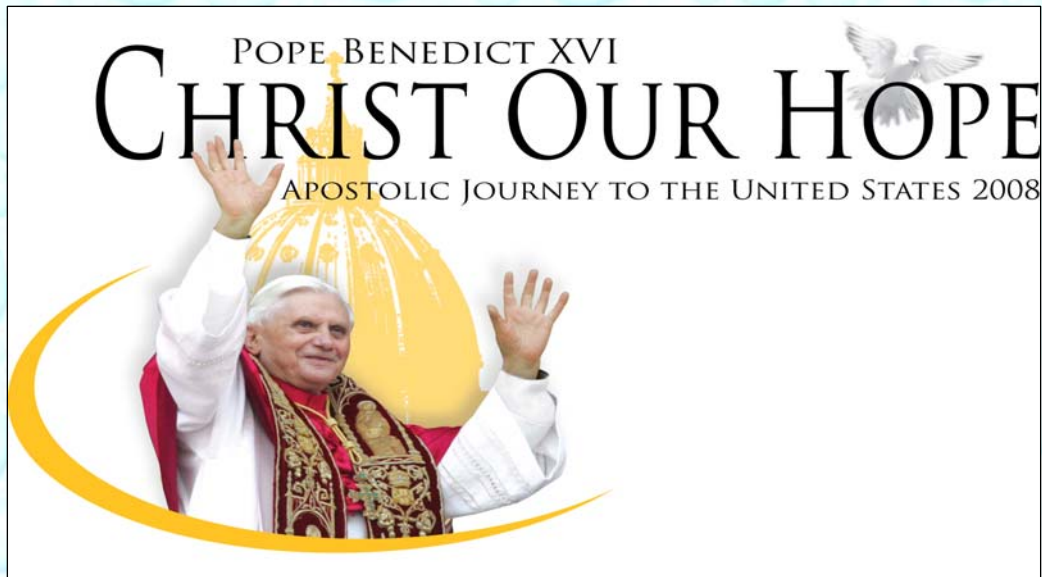


## SAFE ENVIRONMENT UPDATE

Here are three steps to help ensure that your parish is providing a safe environment for youth in the area of sexual abuse:

1. Make sure that all adults working with youth have attended a VIRTUS awareness session and those who need to follow up with monthly bulletins are doing so.
2. Offer VIRTUS awareness sessions for all parents in your parish
3. Provide lesson plans for your youth and/or youth ministries on this topic. The Office of Religious Education has lessons plans on their website. Simply go to [www.cdowk.org/religious\\_education/opportunities\\_child\\_catechesis.html](http://www.cdowk.org/religious_education/opportunities_child_catechesis.html) and click on the appropriate age level(s.)

AS WE INCREASE AWARENESS, WE WILL DECREASE RISK!



Are you looking for ways to commemorate Pope Benedict XVI's first visit to the US with your youth? Check out these websites for lesson plans, power points and other sessions to help young people learn more about the papacy and Pope Benedict XVI:

[www.adw.org/papalvisit/parish\\_lesson.asp](http://www.adw.org/papalvisit/parish_lesson.asp)

Here in the Youth Office, we have created a "Pope Quiz" based on the power point presentation as another way to help educate youth. This quiz will be posted on our website, or you can download a PDF of the quiz here.

[www.cdowk.org/yyam/downloads/POPE\\_QUIZ\\_with\\_Answers.pdf](http://www.cdowk.org/yyam/downloads/POPE_QUIZ_with_Answers.pdf)

### ONCE IN A LIFETIME EASTER!

This year is the earliest Easter any of us will ever see the rest of our lives. And only the most elderly of our population have ever seen it this early (95 years old or above!). The next time Easter will be this early (March 23) will be the year 2228 (220 years from now.)

**WWW.WICHITADISCIPLES.COM**

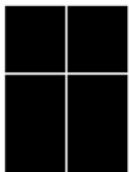
On March 28, 2008 the Youth Office plans to unveil its newly revised website. This site will include resources for youth, adults who minister to youth and young adults. Watch for it!!

# YOUTH MINISTRY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH 2008	JULY 2008
04 – Do something FUN today! 08 – Forming Young Disciples Class 08—Fr. Stan Fortuna at St. Francis of Assisi Parish 15 – YYAM Council meeting 21 – <i>Chancery closed for Good Friday</i> 23 – EASTER SUNDAY! Alleluia 29-30 – Diocesan Youth Conference – Airport Hilton	04 – <i>Chancery closed for Fourth of July</i>
APRIL 2008	AUGUST 2008
06—Region 1 advisors luncheon, 2:30pm 12 – Forming Young Disciples class 12 – Stewardship Conference w/Generation Y session 13—TEC Adult gathering 15—Pope Benedict XVI in US 19 – YYAM Council meeting	01-03—Midwest Catholic Family Conference 01-03—TEC Congress, Spiritual Life Center 09-10—Youth Leadership Day , Hutchinson
MAY 2008	SEPTEMBER 2008
03-04 – <a href="#">CLAY</a> retreat 03—YYAM Council meeting 10 – Forming Young Disciples class 13—Youth Ministry Access—St Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish 14 – Youth Ministry Access workshop—Andover 26 – <i>Chancery Closed for Memorial Day</i>	01 – <i>Chancery closed for Labor Day</i> 07—Youth Leadership Day, Fredonia 27-28- <a href="#">CLAY</a> retreat
JUNE 2008	OCTOBER 2008
7-9 – <a href="#">TEC</a> #116 – Wichita 14 – Forming Young Disciples class 22—Youth Leadership Day—St Mary Derby 28-30 – <a href="#">TEC</a> #117 – Pittsburg	
	NOVEMBER 2008
	27-28 – <i>Chancery closed for Thanksgiving</i>
	DECEMBER 2008
	04-07 – <a href="#">NCCYM</a> in Cleveland 13-15 TEC #118 Wichita 25-26 – <i>Chancery closed for Christmas</i>



OFFICE OF YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES  
424 N. BROADWAY  
WICHITA, KS 67202



CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE  
OF WICHITA

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