

We were asked to mail this sheet in advance for adult leaders to review their responsibilities for this day.

ADULT LEADER INFORMATION SHEET Junior High Festival 2010



The success of this day depends on all of us working together. Hopefully, this will be a great day to meet youth and adults from all over the diocese.

The focus of this day is specifically **for middle school youth**. The elements of this Junior High Festival have been designed by the Diocesan Youth Council and Youth Ministers. We hope that your participation as an adult youth leader will also provide you with opportunities to discuss with teens what your faith and values as a Catholic mean to you. The keynote, games, liturgy, and the break-out sessions will all work together to provide a springboard for valuable faith sharing between you and your teens.

This is a Catholic program for teens to gather in faith to share in the Eucharist in an environment that will lead them closer to God and the Church. The four dimensions of this program are Spiritual, Social, Emotional, and Educational.

- ◆ **Spiritual:** Our young people share in Liturgy of the Eucharist and listen to a keynote and homily that relate to their lives as young Catholic Christians. They have opportunities to participate in prayer.
- ◆ **Social:** Teens can take part in games, music, and drama. As a sense of community is created, all can feel accepted and welcomed for who they are. They experience the fun and excitement of building community with other Catholics.
- ◆ **Emotional:** Teens need to experience open and caring people of God. In listening to the personal testimonies, hopefully their hearts will be touched by the personal expression of faith that is shared with them.
- ◆ **Educational:** Teens will hear the truths of our faith that we hold dear. They will hear the message of Jesus as it has been spoken through the lives of others. This is an opportunity for them to learn to live the values of our Catholic faith.

REGISTRATION - The pre-registration really helped us to plan and shape this event. Any **refunds** for youth that paid and could not attend **will be handled** through the Diocesan Youth Ministry Office **next week**.

NAMETAGS - Please go to the **Gym** to have the youth fill out their nametags. **First and Last Name** and the **Town** you are from.

KEYNOTE AND LITURGY TIME - We ask that all of the adult chaperons **please sit with their parish groups** as much as possible **during these times in the gym**. Our concern is that if youth are causing problems for others, that adults help out especially if they are from your group.

BREAK-OUT SESSIONS – Chaperones, please decide ahead of time who will chaperone at the time of break-out sessions and the dance. Decide **who will go where** ahead of time.

CELL PHONES – Youth must have cell phones **off** or **leave them on the bus**.

LITURGY - This will be celebrated at 3:00 sharp. Please gather with your youth in the gym. **Please sit with your youth at Mass. Please remind them to take off hats, etc. You may remind youth not to be talking to each other or chewing gum during Mass. Turn cell phones off!**

A **COLLECTION** will be taken up for the Seminarians. Please be generous. Please remind youth to bring money.

NON-CATHOLIC FRIENDS: We have been asked if kids can invite friends who may be Christian but not necessarily Catholic to participate in the event. What a great way of evangelizing and sharing the richness of our Catholic faith! However, **it is important to explain to your youth that while all are welcome to participate in the Mass in a spirit of prayer and reverence, we are not yet able to**

offer Holy Communion to non-Catholics.

Receiving Holy Communion is a sign of complete agreement with all of the teachings and beliefs of the Catholic Church and especially the belief that Jesus is present Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Eucharist. However, we can welcome ALL to come forward at the time of Holy Communion. Those who are not able to receive Holy Communion or do not wish to so, **can simply cross their hands over their heart and the Eucharistic Minister will pray a short blessing prayer over them.**

PRAYER ROOM WITH ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT – 10:00-3:00

Ever since the Year of the Eucharist, we've been including an Adoration Chapel at each Junior High Festival. This has been a "powerhouse of prayer" for our youth and the success of the rallies. Adult Designated "Prayer Warriors" will be praying for the young people and their needs. Although this will be a silent sacred space, young people are welcome to stop in and spend a minute with the Lord.

CONFESSION: – Priests will be available to hear confessions.

LUNCH – Lunch will be served at 2:00 p.m. It is included in your Junior High Festival fee and will be served in the gym. Please deposit garbage into the proper garbage containers when finished. Eating should be in the designated areas. Please do not go outside to eat.

Youth **are not allowed to leave the building** during the break time.
The schedule does not allow for this kind of free time.

MONEY? Youth will want to bring cash for snacks, CD's, sale items, and the collection at Mass for the seminarians.

There is a **DRAWING FOR PRIZES** at the end of the day after the dance. Prizes will be given for 6-8th grade youth and adult leaders. The evaluation sheets included in your packet will be your entry form for the drawing of some great prizes.

ADULTS ARE NEEDED TO HELP US WITH MONITORING THE HALLS AND RESTROOMS DURING BREAK TIME. IF YOU SEE ANY YOUTH DOING THINGS YOU BELIEVE ARE INAPPROPRIATE, PLEASE LET THEM KNOW. THANKS!!

EVALUATIONS – After the Mass or later this week, please fill out the enclosed evaluations and return them to the Diocesan Youth Ministry Office. Don't forget that these serve as your entry form for the drawing after the dance for some great prizes - so you may want to turn them in today! By returning the evaluations, it helps us to evaluate the day and enable us to better plan for the future. There are youth evaluations and youth leader evaluations enclosed. **THANK YOU!!!!**

JR HIGH FESTIVAL MEMENTO - As a memory of this day, we will be giving each youth a memento to take home. These will be distributed at the end of Mass.

CLOSING - We will finish as close to 5:00 p.m. as possible.

THE FUTURE - If you or your youth would be interested in helping to plan future rallies, please indicate that on your evaluation sheet or inform Sr. Margaret McHugh. Also we need a ***volunteer host community for next year's Junior High Festival. We'd look for centrally located school.***

*Thanks for all your help today!!!
We hope you have a Great day!!!*