



# BE NOT AFRAID NEWSLETTER

*LifeTeen and Edge Youth Ministry*

*January 11, 2018*



"Genuine love ... is demanding. But its beauty lies precisely in the demands it makes. Only those able to make demands on themselves in the name of love can then demand love from others."

- Saint Pope John Paul 2



*Youth Ministry helping carry the banner at Eucharistic Congress*

## 2018 BRINGS BLESSINGS

### *Reviewing Past Events*

As the new year starts, lent is underway and Easter is right around the corner! This year LifeTeen and Edge teamed up to host its first ever Easter Egg Hunt for children after the 11 am mass! Hundreds of eggs were spread out throughout the school law, church garden, and parish office lawn.

In a matter of a half hour, all the eggs were gone and many happy kids went home with a sugar rush! We look forward to making the egg hunt bigger and better in 2018!

Eucharistic Congress arrived in Jacksonville March 16 & 17 in the Prime Osborn Convention Center downtown. The teen track was presented by "Rise Up" with guest speakers Dom Quaglia and Kelly Colangelo. Holy Spirit youth that attended help carry the banner in the morning procession. Keep your calendars open in 2019 for another spirit-filled Congress! It's a great way to commune with our Lord in the Eucharist and to show the world you are part of an amazing Diocese and that you're proud to be Catholic!

"It is Jesus that you seek when you dream of happiness;  
He is waiting for you when nothing else you find satisfies you; "

-Saint Pope John Paul 2



## LIFE TEEN VOCATION SERIES

Priesthood, Religious Life,  
Marriage, Single consecrated, &  
universal Call to Holiness

We loved having the Mercederian Sisters and Home of The Mother Sisters join us for our life night on the religious life! We played kickball, heard testimonies, and had a Q&A panel where kids could ask any questions to the sisters! We also had a life night on marriage where 3 couples in different stages of their marriage came in and gave witness to the beautiful call to selflessness that many of us will pursue!

"Marriage is 100% from both people, not 50% each."

- Robert Roldan (Leader of A Day for Men in Jax)

We also enjoyed a wonderful night of ultimate frisbee, testimonies, and a Q&A panel with our parish priest Father Amar and seminarians Jared, and Chris! They gave us great advice about prayer, discernment, and staying focused on God amidst all the busy work. We were joined by St. Paul's Beach and Resurrection.



Life Teen also brought 4 girl's to the Diocese High School Conference with speaker Doug Tooke! Doug Tooke really speaks to the hearts of young people and understands the struggle they are going through in today's society. Underappreciated, undervalued, misled, and anxious; teens need to look for Christ to validate them and not the passing pleasures of this world. We also went to a zoo, had a bonfire, and met tons of new people in our break out sessions! We hope to bring a bigger group next year.

**Life Teen had 3 XLT nights are adoration worship, a small talk, confession and prayer**



**nights this year. XLT nights with praise and and occasionally ministry.**



On February 2, 2018 we had our World Youth Day Fundraiser which was a talent show/salsa party with dinner! Over 150 people attended and saw a variety of talents from comedy, singing, guitar, and dancing! A local DJ from Blessed Trinity Catholic Church finished the night with salsa music. We danced the night away and ended up raising \$2250, achieving our goal for the first payment of the trip. Four teens from our parish will be attending the trip, 3 females and 1 male, along with our core team member Amanda Mabutas. The trip is scheduled for January 24-28. Please continue to pray for the teens going on the trip, that they may experience an even deeper conversion and offer up their pilgrimage for those most in need of God's mercy. Thank you to everyone who has donated so far. We will carry you in prayers as we gather with millions of young people to see Pope Francis and participate in all of the events those 4 days!

*Volunteers Needed!*

**LIFETEEN HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY**  
Core Team Members Needed  
University Students & Up

**EDGE GR. 6 TO 8 MINISTRY**  
Crew Team Members Needed  
High School Students & Up

With youth ministry growing, we are in desperate need of adult volunteers for high school and middle school youth ministry! For over 8 months we have only had 1 or 2 volunteers at a time who give up 2 hours at least 3 Sundays a month to invest in our youth. That is a VERY low number. I am asking you to prayerfully

consider giving your time and talent to the church by joining our core team! We have meetings once a month and gather at least 3 Sundays of the month for Life Teen and Edge programs. You will also be chaperoning service trips and conferences when needed! If you know someone who would be great working with youth, please give them an encouraging word and my phone number! Thank you also to our amazing core team members this past year who mentored these young people and gave them so much love and attention, something young people don't get much of these days.

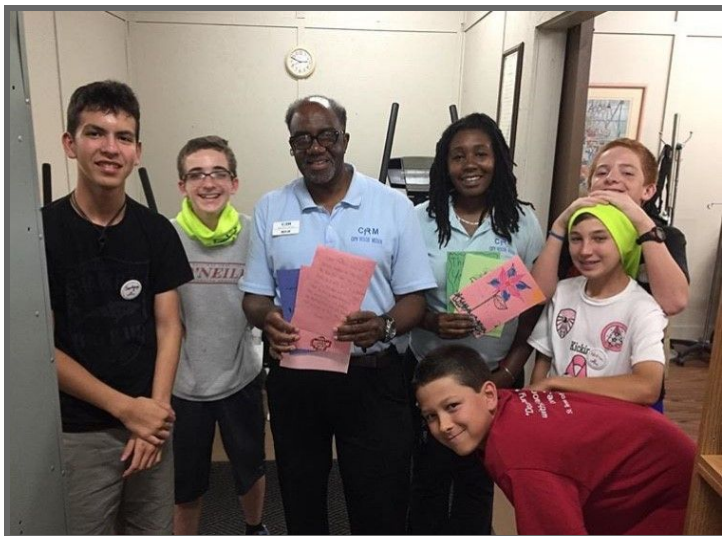
We do have one more fundraiser coming up in late September. If you would like to purchase tickets, please contact myself or one of the teens attending the trip. We are also looking for 3 sponsors to donate \$350 each to sponsor one of the casino night tables. The event will take place in the new family life center.



I only highlighted a few awesome events from this year, but some more include: garage sale fundraiser, ladies night, watching St. Paul The Apostle with Life Teen, Rise up, Women's Book Study, Just 5 Days Middle School Mission Trip and Summer Small Groups.



***Ladies Night Life Teen***



***Just5 Days Mission Trip- Edge***



***Edge Night***

To get involved by volunteering or bringing your child to Life Teen or Edge, contact Youth Minister Mary Bringhurst at [mbringhurst@holyspiritchurchjax.org](mailto:mbringhurst@holyspiritchurchjax.org) or by calling the parish office.