

# Parent Life Newsletter



**Programs:**

- > High School Youth Ministry (HSYM) is open to all students in grades 9-12. Meets Sundays 6-7:30pm in Madden Hall.
- > The EDGE: Middle School Youth Ministry is open to all students in grades 6-8. Meets Sundays 3:30-5pm in Madden Hall.
- > Confirmation Preparation is a separate sacramental preparation program for students in the 8th grade or above.



**SC Catholic Youth Rally for Life**

Gather with hundreds of youth and Bishop Guglielmo at the Township Auditorium (1703 Taylor Street Columbia, SC 29201) on Saturday, January 14, 2012. Rally starts at 2:00 pm with Mass starting at 4 pm. We'll begin at the State House at 1:15 pm to join other teens at the South Carolina Citizens Stand Up for Life Rally to march a few blocks to the Township Auditorium.

The Ike Ndolo Band will be performing at the rally. If your child is interested in attending, please print out a permission slip found on the parish youth ministry website and bring it to our meeting Sunday, Jan. 8th. If you'd like to order a shirt for \$10, please email me before Jan 4th so that I can get your size ordered.

**This event is open to both Middle and High School students.**

We will meet at St. John's parking lot at 9:45 am and depart by 10 am. For more info, contact the Office of Youth Ministry at 873-0631 ext. 20.

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**Confirmation Retreat on Saturday February 4th—9am-3:30pm**

For all confirmation candidates—there will be a day retreat held at Madden Hall on Saturday, Feb. 4th, from 9am-3:30pm.

getic, and sincere young people who dedicate their Saturdays to leading retreats.

The retreat will be led by the Bishop England Retreat Team. They are entertaining, ener-

Parents are not required to attend, but approximately 4 parent volunteers are needed for food and logistics.



*Confirmation*

Contact Grace Curran in the Office of Faith Formation if you would like to help. 873-0631 ext.16

**Soup-er Bowl of Caring Party—Sunday February 5th**

We will again be hosting a Superbowl party Sunday February 5th for all middle and high school teens. There will be food, games, music, fun, and friends. The only thing you need to bring is a food item to share, and a nonperishable food item to donate. The Office of Youth Ministry will provide the drinks and the tableware.

Set up will begin at 5 pm with kickoff at 6:25 pm. The party ends at the end of the game. Bring a friend and stay for some or all of the fun.

Questions? Email [sjbym1@gmail.com](mailto:sjbym1@gmail.com) or call the Office of Youth Ministry at 873-0631 ext. 20.



**Let us open the horizon for teenagers to the prospect of a firm and sure hope in Christ. Merry Christmas to you and yours.**

**Re-Catechize: Benedict XVI, Address to students December 15, 2011**

What does Christmas mean to me? Is it really important for my life, for the building up of society? There are many persons in our time... who ask whether we are to expect something or someone; whether we must look for another messiah, another god; if it is worthwhile to entrust ourselves to that Child whom we find in the manger between Mary and Joseph on Christmas night...

We do not need a generic, indefinite god, but the living

and true God, who opens the horizon of man's future to the prospect of a firm and sure hope, a hope that is rich with eternity and that permits us to face the present in all its aspects with courage...

God is not far from man, but has descended and has become flesh (John 1:14), that man might understand where to find the solid foundation of all things, the fulfillment of his deepest longings: in Christ (cf. post-synodal apostolic exhortation "Verbum Domini," 10).

Patience is the virtue of those who entrust themselves to this presence in history, who do not let themselves be overcome by the temptation of placing all hope in the immediate, in the purely horizontal perspective, in technically perfect projects, but which are far from the deepest of realities, that which gives the human person the highest dignity: the transcendent dimension, being a creature in the image and likeness of God, carrying in the heart the desire of ascending to him.

**Special Olympics South Carolina—Mid Winter Games**

Special Olympics athletes from around the state are heading to The Citadel for the 2012 Mid Winter Games, March 2-4! 800 talented athletes from around the state are expected to compete in: Badminton, Basketball, Disc

Golf, Over 21 Bowling, Table Tennis, and Powerlifting.

Consider having your family become involved as volunteers in this activity. The opening ceremonies take place Friday evening March

2nd. The games take place from 8:30am until approximately 5pm on Saturday March 3rd. Volunteers will be needed for both events to help with set up and other logistics. To volunteer, please visit <http://so-sc.org>.

*"Let me win, but if I cannot, let me be brave in the attempt."*





*Tim Tebow in a power prayer stance termed Tebowing.*

### Are You Tebowing? By Randy Raus

<http://catholicyouthministry.com/are-you-tebowing/>

Other than illegal hits to the head and questionable calls by referees, the most controversial part of the NFL season is a phenomenon called "Tebowing". Denver Broncos quarterback Tim Tebow openly proclaims his faith in interviews, post game press conferences, in coffee shops or wherever he is. After touchdowns and during particularly tense moments of games he drops to one knee, putting his fist to his forehead in what looks like a power prayer stance that people have given the nick name – "Tebowing". The reaction to "Tebowing" has been polarizing with some people applauding him and some people openly tweeting and publicly ridiculing Tim Tebow for being so open with his faith. Here is link to a new website of

people who are imitating Tim Tebow in his power prayer stance. <http://tebowing.com/>

The question I ask is – Are you Tebowing? You see if we are serious about our faith and are not afraid to live it outwardly, we should not be surprised that in some settings we are openly mocked or criticized. It's one thing to only hang with the people who we think "get it", and an entirely different thing to openly live our faith in all settings and yes, even encountering resistance for our expressions of faith.

One great thing about our Catholic faith is that there are some built in "Tebowing" poses we can make that show our faith openly. Here is a short list:

1. Saying Grace before all meals

we eat in a public place, no matter who is there or how awkward we feel about doing it.

2. Carrying a Rosary with us all day long.
3. Wearing a Crucifix around our neck.
4. Making a sign of the cross whenever we pass a Catholic Church acknowledging the real presence in the tabernacle inside.
5. Carrying Holy Water with us for blessing things that we feel called to bless. Like hotel rooms, ill children, a car we are making a trip in and lots of other places we feel like need the blessing.
6. Wearing a smile and a Catholic T-shirt out publicly on everyday errands.
7. Praying a Rosary for life outside an abortion clinic.

### VIRTUS® for Volunteers Working With Minors

All parish volunteers working with minors must attend a VIRTUS® "Protecting God's Children" Program. This includes driving children other than your own to and from special events. See below for directions about how to register.

1. Go to [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org).
2. Click on the "Registration" tab on the left column.
3. Select Diocese of Charleston, SC from the drop down menu.
4. Complete your registration information and check the box next to the training session you wish to attend.
5. Click "Submit Registration." You will get a message on the screen confirming the registration.
6. Attend the session you have chosen and be sure to sign-in on the sign-in sheets.

(There are many to choose from.)

The VIRTUS® programs assist the Church in being a safe haven for children and a messenger for preventing child sexual abuse within the Church and society in general. We seek to achieve this lofty goal through our child sexual abuse prevention program: Protecting God's Children®.



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

### Resources—Christian Musician Spotlight

#### [www.ikendoloband.com](http://www.ikendoloband.com)

Ike Ndolo was born in Missouri, after his parents moved to the United States from Nigeria. Inside Ike's home rang hymns from his mother where his love of music first began. Ike has been mentored by both Tom Booth and Matt Maher, who have encouraged and pastored him to where he is today.

#### [www.joshblakesley.com](http://www.joshblakesley.com)

His music focuses on a true communion with the living God while stressing that blessings really do come to those who wait on the Lord. He does so through an innovative blend of pop and rock tracks that are truly inspired.

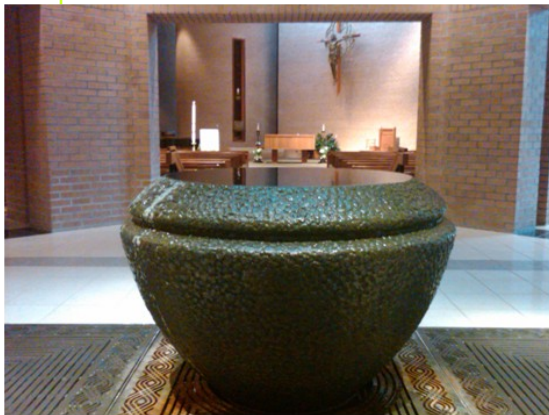
#### [www.mattmahermusic.com](http://www.mattmahermusic.com)

Matt Maher has been making the transition from full-time ministry at his home church to a respected worship leader with an international platform. He's developed a reputation for being a versatile songwriter - always eager to build bridges between communities and inspire others to creative excellence-all for the glory of God.

## St. John the Beloved Youth Ministry

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[www.twitter.com/SJBYM1](http://www.twitter.com/SJBYM1)



### **St. John the Beloved Youth Ministry Program Components**

- Advocacy**
- Catechesis**
- Community Life (Fellowship)**
- Evangelization**
- Justice & Service (Ministry)**
- Leadership Development (Discipleship)**
- Pastoral Care**
- Prayer & Worship**

[www.stjohnthebelovedcatholic.org/youthministry.html](http://www.stjohnthebelovedcatholic.org/youthministry.html)



### **Winter/Spring Youth Ministry Calendar**

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|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <b>January 8:</b> EDGE, Life Night                           | <b>February 12:</b> No EDGE, No Life Night         | <b>April 1:</b> No EDGE, No Life Night             |
| <b>January 14:</b> Catholic Youth Rally for Life—Columbia    | <b>February 19:</b> EDGE, Life Night               | <b>April 8:</b> No EDGE, No Life Night             |
| <b>January 15:</b> No EDGE, No Life Night                    | <b>February 26:</b> EDGE, Life Night               | <b>April 15:</b> EDGE, Life Night                  |
| <b>January 22:</b> Confirmation, No EDGE, Life Night         | <b>March 4:</b> EDGE, Life Night                   | <b>April 22:</b> Confirmation, No EDGE, Life Night |
| <b>January 29:</b> EDGE, Life Night                          | <b>March 9-11:</b> High School Youth Conference    | <b>April 29:</b> EDGE, Life Night                  |
| <b>February 4:</b> Confirmation Retreat (at Madden Hall)     | <b>March 11:</b> No EDGE, No Life Night            | <b>May 6:</b> EDGE, Senior Dinner                  |
| <b>February 5:</b> Souper-Bowl of Caring Party (EDGE & HSYM) | <b>March 18:</b> EDGE, Life Night                  |                                                    |
|                                                              | <b>March 25:</b> Confirmation, No EDGE, Life Night |                                                    |