



October 2014

Issue 1



- **Nov. 2nd**
225th Anniversary Mass
Cathedral of Mary our Queen
- **Nov. 16th**
AYAC Meeting,
St. Marks,
Catonsville
- **Nov. 21-23**
Baltimore Youth Catholic Conference (BYCC)
Ocean City, MD
- **Jan. 18th**
AYAC Meeting
St. Bernadette's, Severn
- **Jan. 22nd**
March for Life and Youth Rally



**2014-2015
AYAC
Leadership Team**

2014-2015 AYAC KICK-OFF

September 28th saw the beginning of the upcoming year for the Archdiocesan Youth Advisory Council (AYAC). The AYAC is a youth delegation comprised of high school students throughout the archdiocese of Baltimore who meet once a month to discuss and plan diocesan-wide events, and to share information regarding their own youth ministry programs at their respective parishes or schools. All AYAC representatives are hard-working students who are actively involved in their youth programs, who are interested in meeting fellow Catholics from the area, and who are deeply-rooted in their faith. Although many people may never have heard of the AYAC, their participation and leadership are crucial to the organization of many events within the archdiocese.



The Baltimore Youth Catholic Conference (BYCC) is a biennial gathering of high school youth from our Archdiocese. It takes place in Ocean City, Maryland, November 21-23. This weekend long conference allows the youth of the Archdiocese to gather for prayer, formation and fun.

BYCC is jam packed with fun including beach prayers, service projects, games, free time in the city, and more!

Last year the AYAC coordinated Baltimore's contribution at the biannual National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) in Indianapolis, where our youth were among thousands of other Catholic kids from across the country, all under one roof.

The AYAC is divided into committees, each designed to focus on a specific component of the year's agenda. One of these is the Baltimore Youth Catholic Conference (BYCC) Committee, which is dedicated to planning the event of the same name in November. This is the main focus of the AYAC currently, as their organization will be instrumental in helping the weekend to go smoothly. For more BYCC information, see the "Hot Topic" section below.

HOT TOPIC: BYCC



Bob Rice

This year's theme of "**JOY**" is inspired by Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation, "*The Joy of the Gospel*." Keynote speakers are Bob Rice and Poppo.

AYAC members are helping to plan warmers, assist with prayer, MC the event, introduce the workshops, and generally helping in any way they can.

We are so excited for **BYCC** and hope you are too. Don't forget to pack your **JOY!**



You pay God a compliment by asking great things of Him.

St. Teresa of Avila



2014-2015 AYAC
Newsletter Committee

Claire Chambers
St. Ignatius Parish,
Hickory

Darby Nisbett
Archbishop Spalding
High School

Giulia Carbine
St. Andrew by the
Bay, Annapolis

Lexi Hegeman
Institute of Notre
Dame

Spreading the Joy will
be published in
October 2014, January
March and May 2015

Parish and School Updates

Each month, AYAC participants give a report on what is happening at their parish or school. Here are some of what was shared at our September meeting.

St. Mary's Parish, Annapolis:

- ◆ 50 kids attended Catholic Heart Work Camp in New Orleans this summer.
- ◆ 40 kids attended the Matt Maher concert

Institute of Notre Dame:

- ◆ Project k.IND, a 22 week mentoring program with girls in inner city schools
- ◆ Tamarind, a 6 week summer program for girls in the city
- ◆ Baltimore Sleep out for the homeless, students experience what it's like to be homeless

Archbishop Spalding High School:

- ◆ Raised a little over \$400 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society
- ◆ 3 summer mission trips: Habitat for Humanity, Haiti and Camden, New Jersey.
- ◆ Raised money for Project Eliminate, a program designed to eliminate neonatal tetanus.

An Archdiocesan Service Opportunity

Young people attending BYCC 2014 will make 100 shoe box Christmas gifts that will be distributed by

Happy Helpers for the Homeless

Happyhelpersforthehomeless.com

to the homeless in Anne

Arundel County, Baltimore City, and Caroline County.

We still need **small toys, school supplies, and candy** for the gift boxes.

Email Margaret Brogden at

mbrogden@archbalt.org to find out how you can make a donation. Donations are needed by November 18th!



ALL HOLLOWES EVE

Why has October 31st become a night of ghosts and goblins?

Halloween is a Christianized feast originally influenced by Celtic traditions. In the late 1100s, people would

bake "soul cakes" to remember the faithful departed on the night before All Saints' Day, November 1st.

Poor children would then go from door to door, requesting soul

cakes in exchange for prayers for the dead.

Over the years these traditions have developed into our modern-day custom of trick-or-treating.

