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St. Edward the Confessor Catholic Church
16304 Pond Meadow Lane
Bowie, Maryland 20716

Dear Parents,

We have an exciting opportunity for the high school youth of our parish and we'd like your teen to attend. It's the first ever St. Edward's High School Youth Group Weekend Retreat from Friday February 25th - Sunday February 27th. The theme for the weekend will be "WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?"

The retreat will focus on deepening each participant's faith through examination and reflection of the role of Jesus in their lives. Discussion and activities throughout the weekend will be based on Scripture and tradition of the Catholic faith.

The retreat will be held at Our Lady of Mattaponi Retreat Center with Fr. Foley and Fr. Mordino as spiritual directors. Kristina Waghorn, our Youth Minister, as well other adult advisors and peer leaders will be assisting in various ways. We have space for only 15 teens to attend.

Please consider having your teen attend this worthwhile and FUN weekend. If you have any questions at all please feel free to contact Fr. Foley, Kristina Waghorn at the Parish Office or call Lori Barroga at 301.249.3264.

LOCATION/TRAVEL: Our Lady of Mattaponi Youth Retreat and Conference Center is located at 11000 Mattaponi Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772.

Transportation will be by carpool leaving the Church Parking Lot at 6:00 p.m. on Friday and returning to St. Edward's by carpool Sunday between 12:30 and 1:00 p.m. (There is an additional event at St. Edwards that we will describe in a separate letter.) Students will be dismissed to go home by 3:00 pm.

PERMISSION/MEDICAL FORM: You will find a Parent Permission/Medical Form enclosed. Please complete the form as accurately as possible and sign it. Please have the form to the parish office by Feb 11th. No youth will be permitted to participate without a signed parent- permission/medical form.

COST: The fee for the weekend is \$50.00 per student. If 2 siblings are attending the retreat together the cost for the family is \$75.00, with an additional \$15.00 for each sibling thereafter. *The retreat actually costs \$72.00 per person, but because we feel this weekend is so important we are discounting the cost to make it as affordable as possible.* This discount is possible due to our fundraising efforts and the generosity of our Parish support for the Youth Group. The fee includes all meals during our stay, supplies and overnight lodging for Friday and Saturday.

If you have difficulty paying the fee, please contact Kristina Waghorn or Fr. Foley so arrangements can be made. No one will be denied because of an inability to pay.

A \$25.00 non-refundable deposit should be returned as soon as possible to secure a position at the retreat for your son or daughter. All completed forms and the balance of the Retreat fee is due no later than later than February 11, 2005. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR YOUTH RETREAT." PLEASE RETURN APPLICATION AND PARTIAL PAYMENT TO KRISTINA WAGHORN, YOUTH MINISTER, OR MAIL TO ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR YOUTH RETREAT, 16304 POND MEADOW LANE, BOWIE, MD 20715

CODE OF CONDUCT: Your son/daughter received an application with information regarding what to bring and what not to bring and a copy of the Code of Conduct outlining a few rules that are to be followed on the back of the application. This should be reviewed and signed by both parent and teen. Please be advised that if your teen is disruptive to the retreat, you will be asked to come and retrieve your son or daughter.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION: In case of emergency, the phone number to Our Lady of Mattaponi Retreat Center is 301-952-6835 and the Cardinal McCarrick Manor House Phone # is 301-952-9074. Kristina Waghorn and Lori Barroga will also have their cell phones with them during the weekend should you need to contact you son or daughter. Their cell phone numbers are listed below. (Again, in case of emergency only please!)

Sincerely,

Fr. Foley
Pastor, St. Edward the Confessor Parish

Kristina Waghorn
Youth Minister, Cell # 301.395.1204

Lori Barroga
Adult Advisory Board, Cell # 301.641.7007

Enclosures: Parent Permission/Medical Form and Application/Code of Conduct