

Dear 7th Grade Students and Parents,

Congratulations on your upcoming graduation! As a new high school student, you are eligible to become a member of our St. Edward CYO (Catholic Youth Organization). Some of you may already be familiar with our organization through older siblings or other St. Edward's alumni, but I wanted to take this opportunity to tell you what being a member is all about and hope that you will join us.

The purpose of our CYO is to come together with other high school students and join one another in worship and spiritual activities, social events and service opportunities. Membership is open to those in 8th through 12th grades.

Spiritual & Service

Every 4th Sunday of the month the CYO celebrates together at the 4:30pm mass and several members volunteer as ushers, readers and as gift bearers.

A significant part of our organization is dedicated to service both in our church parish and throughout the archdiocese. We work with many organizations and volunteer throughout the year helping the homeless, those with special needs, the elderly and others. We also work with pro-life organizations and participate in Rose Rally for Life each July at St. Angela Merici school. This is one of our favorite events, an all night event filled with prayer, games and competition with other school CYO groups. Other events include selling concessions at Summer cabbage ball, helping with the parish Easter egg hunt, helping with family day, volunteering at STEAM events to do crafts and working the annual Cochon de lait. Not only are these service opportunities rewarding, but they also allow you to earn your required service hours for school.

Social & Athletics

Our organization has several social events throughout the year, most of them on the same Sunday as our monthly mass. Some of these are on campus and include playing games, sports and movie nights and others are off campus like bowling, amusement parks, laser tag etc. We have fundraising events throughout the year to help cover the cost so members do not have to pay more than the annual dues. Your first chance to participate in a social as a new member will be at our open house social on **Friday, May 16th from 6pm-9pm.**

St. Edward CYO is also involved in the Archdiocese CYO Sports League and participation is open to all members, regardless of skill level. You will be coming in right at the start of our cabbage ball season. We will be practicing Sundays and Wednesdays in May and the games will be scheduled in June and July. We also have a Fall and Spring volleyball team and depending on participation, we have had a basketball and flag football teams as well.

So how do you join in on the fun? Fill out the membership and insurance packets and pay your dues and you're in! Each year as a returning member you will fill out an updated contact form and pay the annual dues in August (you will not pay again until August 2026).

If you have any questions, please reach out. We hope to see you soon!

Sincerely,
Jeanne Youngblood
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