



# *St. Malachy* Youth Group Newsletter

Winter 2023

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday, December 3**

**9:30 am-12:00 pm**

**Christmas shopping for the Madrid Home**

**Wednesday, December 6**

**6:30-7:45 pm**

**Symphony: A Series on the Mass**

**Wednesday, December 20**

**6:30-7:45 pm Communal Penance**

**Sunday, January 7**

**12:00-2:00 pm-Christmas party @ Tiger Bowl**

**Wednesday, January 10**

**6:30-7:45 pm-Father Crotty @ Sacred Heart  
Eucharistic Revival**

**Sunday, January 14**

**8:30 am-2:00 pm-Confirmation Retreat  
Evangelization Summit for Teens**

**Friday, February 2**

**Winter Jam Concert**

**Sunday, February 4**

**12:00-8:00 pm-Amore Dinner**

**Wednesday, February 7**

**6:45-8:00 pm Youth Group  
Symphony: A Series on the Mass**

**Saturday, February 23**

**Turn Youth Conference @ Ogden**

**Wednesday, March 6**

**6:45-8:00 pm Youth Group  
Symphony: A Series on the Mass**

**Wednesday, March 27**

**6:45-7:00 pm  
Shadow Stations of the Cross**

**Wednesday, April 3**

**6:45-8:00 pm Youth Group  
Symphony: A Series on the Mass**

## All are welcome!

Are you an 8th-12th grader member of St. Malachy? We welcome you to attend any and all youth group activities! Our goals in Youth Group are that you grow deeper in your personal relationship with Jesus Christ in fellowship with others who share your faith through service, worship, and learning.

## When is Youth Group?

Youth Group has a faith-based class the first Wednesday of each month in place of Confirmation class. The theme for this year is Symphony of the Mass, diving in to the meaning and structure of our Mass as a connection to this year's Eucharistic Revival.

Youth Group will also have monthly social events, retreats, and fund-raisers for those youth attending summer camps or mission trips.

## How can families be involved?

- Sign up to be an approved driver for the parish so you that you can help transport to events such as Christmas shopping, retreats, and summer programs.
- Feel free to send snacks along with your child to any youth group event!
- We are also looking for individuals to lead a post-Confirmation small group for our 11th and 12th grade students as they prepare to leave our community and enter college, the workforce, or military as Catholic young adults.



# LIFE TEEN

**December 6**

**February 7**

**March 6**

**April 3**

**Youth Group meets  
6:45-8:00 pm**

## *Symphony: The Mass*

Throughout human history, we see that people almost always chose to form communities and groups. The group provided protection and the ability to share resources, but these groups also gathered together for more than that. They gathered for significant moments like weddings, funerals, and the birth of children. We do these things because they are better when we do them together. We need community.

God made us that way because in community we can experience God in a unique way. We can pray on our own, but we also need a community to pray with, as well. Jesus gave us a ritual that was special and would unite us with Him in a profound way. This ritual is the Mass. Symphony is a Life Night series that reintroduces teens to the components of the Mass and helps them understand the essential role of the Mass and the Eucharist.

## *Thank you, 9th graders!*

Our 9th grade Confirmation class collected and donated food for Madrid Elementary's backpack snack program. Thank you for showing a work of mercy to the children in your community!



**Friday, February 2**  
**Leave Madrid @ 4:00 pm**  
**Concert 5:00 pm**  
**Iowa Events Center**  
**Des Moines**

*RSVP by January 14*



## *featuring*

Lecrae  
Crowder  
Cain  
Katy Nichole  
Seventh Day Slumber  
Newsong  
SEU Worship  
Joseph O'Brien  
Lin D  
John Wesley



## Service Opportunities

### We need you!

**Sign up to serve on the altar for Sunday morning Masses. This is a wonderful opportunity for a youth to serve in the parish and gain an up-close & personal relationship with Christ through the Eucharist.**

**[Sign up via this link](#)-training available!**

### Eucharistic Revival

**"Jesus has made Himself the Bread of Life to give us life. Night and day, He is there. If you really want to grow in love, come back to the Eucharist."**

**-Saint Mother Teresa of Kolkata**

### Prayer Partners

**See Kelley Grothus if you would be willing to be a prayer partner for one of our 2nd grade students preparing for the Sacrament of Eucharist in April.**

### Madrid Home Shopping

**Join Youth Group after Mass on Sunday, December 3 to go shopping for gifts for residents of the Madrid Home. This is a fun annual event in which we compete to see who can get the closest to our budget without going over!**

#### Attend Reconciliation!

✓ **December 10, December 20, or anytime before Sunday Mass. Jesus is always present in the Eucharist, and Reconciliation helps us draw back closer to Him.**

#### Attend Mass!

✓ **Sundays 8:30 am  
Tuesdays/Thursdays 5:30 pm**

#### Attend Youth Group!

✓ **Our series this year is on the Eucharist and we will hear from Father Crotty, vocations director for the Diocese**

#### Attend a Retreat!

✓ **January 14-Evangelization Summit  
March 23-Turn Youth Conference**

*Let no one disregard you because of your youth, but set an example for all those who believe.*

*-1 Timothy 4:12*



# Lectio Divina

("DIVINE WORD") FOR BEGINNERS

JANELBREITENSTEIN.COM



1

## READ "LECTIO"



2

## MEDITATE: "MEDITATIO"



3

## PRAY "ORATIO"



4

## CONTEMPLATE "CONTEMPLATIO"

- READ PASSAGE AT LEAST 2X, SLOWLY & CAREFULLY
- WHAT IS IT SAYING?
- WHAT STICKS OUT TO ME?
- LISTEN FOR THE "STILL SMALL VOICE" OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
- ALLOW IT TO INTERACT WITH YOUR PERSONAL EXPERIENCES, PAST & PRESENT

- WHAT STANDS OUT TO ME?
- WHAT EMOTIONS, IMAGES, IDEAS, OR WORDS CAME TO MIND?
- HOW COULD GOD BE SPEAKING TO ME HERE?
- WHAT MIGHT GOD WANT ME TO DO?
- HOW DO I INSTINCTIVELY REACT TO THIS PASSAGE?

- RESPOND TO GOD BASED ON YOUR MEDITATION
- CONSIDER JOURNALING OR KEEPING RECORD OF YOUR RESPONSE
- YOU MIGHT
  - ASK QUESTIONS
  - WORSHIP
  - THANK GOD
  - CONFESS
  - ASK GOD FOR WHAT YOU NEED

- REST, ENJOYING GOD
- BE QUIET
- LISTEN FOR GOD'S RESPONSE
- LIVE TRANSFORMED IN THE WORLD FROM YOUR ENCOUNTER WITH GOD'S WORD

## Try Lectio Divina

- Read a chapter or two of your Bible daily...you'll be done in about a year!
- Meditate on the daily readings
- Pray alone or with a friend or your family
- Write your "Meditatio" in a journal



Prayer  
changes  
hearts

## Retreats

(YES! WE'RE TALKING TO YOU!)

## Evangelization Summit

January 14, 8:30 am-2:00 pm

Learn to lead and defend your Catholic faith in all aspects of your life including school, sports, and with friends as you grow in faith & fellowship.

## Turn Youth Conference

February 23, 2024

Hear from speakers and gather with from across central Iowa and the Sioux City Diocese in our year of Eucharistic Revival.