

# ***SMYLE* - St. Mary's Youth League Events**

7200 Lancaster Pike  
Hockessin, De 19707

Dear parents and youth of St. Mary's,

I am very pleased to announce to you that St. Mary of the Assumption Parish has once again come back with full force and re-enlivened our youth outreach. We have new plans, focuses, and goals. Our main goal is one of involving our youth more in the parish and making them feel "important" in the Church. In the past our "Youth Group" was essentially a "group", and it did a great job at helping our youth for several years. However, we have renamed ourselves to *SMYLE: St. Mary's Youth League Events*. With the help of several talented adults and youth in our parish, we have formed a wonderful core committee that will planning several events throughout the year that are fun, faith-filled, and make our young people draw closer to the Church and most importantly WANT TO STAY with the Church. *SMYLE* hopes to attract and focus on helping the youth of our parish from grades 7-12.

The first "event" that *SMYLE* plans to host will take place on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. It is the annual *Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage* with our very own Bishop Malooly. This Pilgrimage is now in it's fifth year and it's bigger and better than ever! We have **NEARLY 1000 YOUNG PEOPLE** from all over our Diocese come to this event!

The pilgrimage is a chance for youth in the diocese to commemorate Jesus' carrying His Cross on the road to Calvary on Good Friday. During the pilgrimage, young people from parishes and schools take turns carrying the cross alongside Bishop Malooly. They stop at different parishes in the city of Wilmington for opportunities for Confession, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Stations of the Cross, Holy Mass, and a live concert with well-known Catholic artists- Steve Angrisano, Sarah Hart, and Jesse Manibusen! It will truly be an awesome fun-filled day!

This is the first time St. Mary of the Assumption Parish has participated in this Pilgrimage, and we are hoping that in conjunction with *SMYLE*, we will have several young people from our parish come to this event and make it a blast!

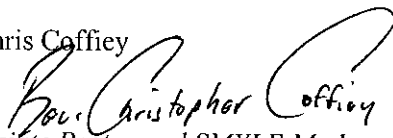
I personally have been going on this Pilgrimage for the past five years. I cannot tell you enough how amazing it is to see a church full of young people sitting in the pews, on the floor, and standing because it is filled to capacity worshipping our Lord together!

To register and for details of the day, please visit the CYM website at: [cdowcym.org](http://cdowcym.org) and look for "Pilgrimage 2014" details.

I hope to see many from our parish there!

In Christ,

Fr. Chris Coffey

  
(Associate Pastor and *SMYLE* Moderator)