

# St. Leo the Great

March 2019 Newsletter



## Listening, Being With and Witnessing to Youth . . .

St. Leo's Youth Ministry program under the direction of Judie Kuhlman meets youth where they are and invites them to stretch and grow in their faith and deepen their relationship with God.

For the pre-school and primary children weekly Children's Liturgy of the Word introduces children to the Sunday gospel and reinforces its theme with prayer, song, and crafts to help them remember what they learned.

Middle and high school groups help youth understand more about their faith and deal with issues of their daily lives from a faith perspective.

Recent youth group activities included a discussion about social media, a deeper explanation of the Eucharist, the meaning and practice of chastity, as well as respect for the elderly, visiting residents at Mercy West Park Nursing home with youth from St. Leo's partner parish Our Lady of Visitation. Youth also had an opportunity to discuss and paint their dreams for the future with Art for All People ministry.

St. Leo candidates took part in a Confirmation retreat at St. Maximilian Kolbe parish. Some of the high school boys participated in the two day Our Lady of Visitation retreat and all teens are encouraged to take part in St. Leo youth group retreat March 29 and 30.

As reflected by these programs youth ministry requires a holistic approach. As Pope Francis describes it, "Much more than the promotion of a series of activities for young people, this ministry consists in walking with them, accompanying them personally in the complex and at times difficult contexts in which they are immersed. Youth ministry is called to gather the questions of young people of today and, from them, to initiate a true and honest dialogue to bring Christ into their lives."

Photos continued on page 4 . . .