





It is with happy hearts that we welcome Erica Espinosa to our High School Youth Ministry. Erica is currently working as Jr. High Youth Minister and will take on both Jr. High and High School Ministries. If you have any questions, please contact Erica at 817-326-2131.



Con corazones felices le damos la bienvenida a Erica Espinosa al ministerio de jóvenes de grados 9-12. Actualmente Erica está trabajando con los jóvenes de grados 6-8 y tomara cargo de los dos grupos de jóvenes. Si tiene preguntas, por favor comuníquese con Erica al 817-326-2131.

### Mark Your Calendars! January 16, 2016



**Please  
Join  
Us!**

Dinner for Eight – Dine-In & Dinner for Eight – Dine-Out. The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, January 16, 2016 after the 5:00 PM Mass in the Family Life Center. Pot Luck – Please bring a dish to share.

This invitation is for all adult parishioners, married or single, to enjoy delicious food and make new friends. You may elect dinning-in or dining out or both. Please bring a 3 X 5 index card or paper with the following: Your name(s), address, phone number and e-mail address. In the upper right hand corner, indicate if you want Dine-In or Dine-Out. To be in both groups, please make two cards. We shuffle them up and draw names for each group. Planning your dining schedule is up to each group. You then plan your monthly rotations. Bring questions, suggestions and ideas. Any other questions, call Carol or Bob Lake at 817-279-7546. Cells: Carol – 817-408-9195 Bob – 817-879-9181

### Holy Families



The lovely gospel accounts that we revel in during these days of Christmastime hold up for us the image of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, the Holy Family of Nazareth. And so we celebrate the Holy Family on the Sunday after Christmas Day. It's easy to gaze on the images in the Christmas crib and recognize the holiness of the newborn

Jesus, his mother and his guardian. It may be harder to look at your own children or parents or brothers and sisters and see reflections of that same holiness in them. After all, living together, you see each other's bad sides as well as the good, the warts as well as the dimples.

But if we truly believe in what we are celebrating, the incarnation of God in the flesh, and the fact that Jesus saved us by his death and resurrection into which we are baptized, then we must cultivate the ability to see a reflection of the baby Jesus' holiness in each child in our own families, to see the holiness of Mary and of Joseph reflected in ourselves as parents and in our own parents.

Maybe it will help to remember not just the gurgling baby Jesus in the crib, but also the toddler Jesus at age two – in his own version of the "terrible twos." Or to mediate on Mary and Joseph changing diapers and picking up the ancient Palestinian version of Cheerios from the kitchen floor – and the living room floor and the bedroom floor and... The gospels are silent about Jesus' childhood, but truly human as well as truly God, Jesus no doubt had nosebleeds and skinned knees, tried dangerous stunts, didn't get enough sleep sometimes and so was cranky. Maybe there were even battles over homework. (Jesus would have studied Hebrew and the scriptures.)

And think of Jesus as a teenager. We get a glimpse of him in the gospel of Matthew at age twelve, wandering off in Jerusalem, causing Mary and Joseph to panic. Of course he didn't have the opportunity to take driver's ed or ask for the car keys, but there were a myriad of other but similar parent-teen encounters to be sure.

Some may find speculation to sacrilegious. "Jesus is perfect," they'll object. "Jesus is God!" How very true. And Jesus was a baby, a teenager, a young adult too. True God, true man. And maybe, just maybe one of the delights of this Christmas season is that some of the small quirky things about us as human beings – the terrible twos, the teenage struggle for independence, parents' angst about their child – maybe all of these are holy and part of what it means to grow towards perfection.

Glory in heaven and peace on earth, now and forever!

