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**St. Edward the Confessor Catholic Church**  
**16304 Pond Meadow Lane**  
**Bowie, Maryland 20716**

Dear Parents,

We have an exciting opportunity for the high school youth of our parish and we'd like your teen to attend. It's the 5th Annual St. Edward's High School Youth Group Weekend Retreat. This year's retreat will focus on growing in faith. The 2009 winter overnight retreat is scheduled for the weekend of Friday, Jan. 23 – Sunday, Jan. 25.

During the weekend participants will explore their personal gifts and be encouraged to share those abilities with others. The retreat emphasizes God's ultimate gift to us, the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Discussions and activities throughout the weekend will be based on Scripture and tradition of the Catholic faith.

This year, the retreat returns to Our Lady Of Mattaponi Youth Retreat Center in Upper Marlboro. Fr. John Barry will be our spiritual director. Lynnea Mumola, our Youth Minister, as well other adult advisors and peer leaders will be assisting in various ways. ***Please consider having your teen attend this worthwhile and FUN weekend. If you have any questions at all please feel free to contact Fr. Barry, or Lynnea Mumola at the Parish Office, 301-249-9199.***

**COST:** The fee for the weekend is \$70.00 per student. If 2 siblings (or two friends) are attending the retreat together is \$120.00. The fee includes all meals during our stay, (including a pizza send off and welcome back luncheon on Sunday) supplies, t-shirt and overnight lodging for Friday and Saturday.

***If you have difficulty paying the fee, please contact Lynnea Mumola or Fr. Barry so arrangements can be made. No one will be denied because of an inability to pay.***

Payment should be returned as soon as possible to secure a position at the retreat for your son or daughter. All completed forms and the Retreat fee is due no later than January 20, 2008. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR YOUTH RETREAT." PLEASE RETURN APPLICATION AND PAYMENT TO LYNNEA MUMOLA, YOUTH MINISTER, OR MAIL TO ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR YOUTH RETREAT, 16304 POND MEADOW LANE, BOWIE, MD 20716.

**PERMISSION/MEDICAL FORM:** You will find a Parent Permission/Medical Form enclosed. Please complete the form as accurately as possible and sign it. Please have the form to the parish office by Jan. 20. No youth will be permitted to participate without a signed parent - permission/medical form.

CODE OF CONDUCT: Your son/daughter must fill out an application and review the list of what to bring and what not as well as the Code of Conduct outlining a few rules that are to be followed. This should be reviewed and signed by both parent and teen. Please be advised that if your teen is disruptive to the retreat, you will be asked to come and retrieve your son or daughter.

LOCATION/TRAVEL: Our Lady of Mattaponi Youth Retreat and Conference Center is located at 11000 Mattaponi Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772. Transportation will be by carpool leaving the Church Parking Lot on Friday evening (at about 7:00 p.m.) and returning to St. Edward's by carpool Sunday around noon.

***Participants should meet at the Parish Office at 6:00 p.m. on January 23 for a pizza dinner prior to leaving for the Retreat Center.***

EMERGENCY INFORMATION: In case of emergency, the phone number to Camp Letts is 410-919-1400 [www.ymcawashdc.org](http://www.ymcawashdc.org). Lynnea Mumola will also have a cell phone with them during the weekend should you need to contact you son or daughter.

Sincerely,

Fr. Barry  
Pastor, St. Edward the Confessor Parish

Lynnea Mumola  
Youth Minister, Cell # 301.520-7823

Enclosures: Retreat Flyer  
Parent Permission/Medical Form  
Teen Application  
Code of Conduct