

Saint Bede Catholic Church
3686 Ironbound Road
PO Box 5400
Williamsburg, VA 23188

July 22, 2009

Dear High School Parents,

Greetings, my name is Troy Stemen and I am the Director of Youth Ministry at Saint Bede Catholic Church. I look forward to my second year of service to our young people and their families in our parish community.

This year will bring a major change in our Confirmation program. Saint Bede is participating in the Diocese of Richmond's Confirmation pilot program. The diocese plans to change the age of reception and the method of preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation. The Diocesan Office of Youth Ministry formed task forces to improve Confirmation preparation and adolescent catechesis. The work of these task forces is ongoing and will affect our high school youth ministry for several years to come.

Another encouraging development is our Catholics in Action (CIA) program. CIA will aim to develop the spirituality and leadership abilities of our confirmed teens. The program is geared toward teens who have already received the sacrament of Confirmation; however, non-Confirmed teens wishing to grow deeper in their relationship with Christ and learn more about the teachings of the Church are also welcome to participate.

I invite you to attend parent meetings held on August 23 and 30 from 6:30-7:30 pm in the nave of the Church on Ironbound Road. These two meetings will have identical content, so please choose the date that best fits your personal schedule. If you are unable to attend either meeting, please contact me by phone or email.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Troy Stemen
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Saint Bede Catholic Church
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