Church of The Holy Cross

8311 W. 93rd St.
Overland Park, Kansas 66212
Church Office: (913) 381-2755 FAX: (913) 381-2766
E-Mail: churchoffice@holycrossopks.org
Website: www.holycrossopks.org

Holy Cross is a diverse community, welcoming and accepting, united in Catholic faith, and committed to forming people in the image of Christ to better serve the Lord and our neighbor.

Pastor: Rev. Mike Stubbs
Hispanic Ministry: Rev. David Garavito
Rectory: 341-5618

PARISH STAFF
Pastoral Associate: Robert Bacic
Director Liturgy & Music: Rick Worms
Parish Manager: Mark Engen
Administrative Assistant: Pam Seger
Receptionists: Barb Williams & Lina Byrum

Religious Education Staff: 381-2757
Director - Pre.-Gr. 6: Julie Dresser
Session Coordinator: Carol Morris
Assistants: Michelle Rieger & Karla Melgar
Confirmation Coordinator: Sandy Schluter

Youth Ministries: 205-0825
Director: Sandy Schluter

Catechist for Hispanic Adult Formation:
Sr. Maria Orozco, S.C.L., 381-2755

El boletín ***Encuentro*** en español
se encuentra en la página 5.

Holy Cross Catholic School
8101 W. 95th St. 66212
School Office: 381-7408
E-Mail: gradeschool@holycrosscatholicschool.com
Principal: Bobbie Beverlin
Secretaries: Anita Lemmon & Martha Beisser

Early Education Center: 381-7151
7917 W 95th St. 66212
E-Mail: preschool@holycrosscatholicschool.com
Director: Penny Miller
Assistant Director: Stefanie Bridges

Advocate for Annulments:
Rebeca Richmond, 671-8722

Parish Center Manager
Allison Carney, 244-5970

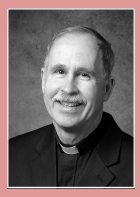
MASSES:

Saturday	7:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m. (Sunday Mass)
Sunday	7:30, 9:00, 11:00 a.m., and 2:00 p.m. (Spanish)
	Nursery - 9:00, 11:00 a.m., and 2:00 p.m. Masses
Weekdays	Mon., Wed., Fri. 9:00 a.m. | Tues. & Thurs. 6:30 a.m.
	Tues. 6:00 p.m. (Spanish)
	Tues. & Thurs. (School days only): 8:15 a.m. in the school

RECONCILIATION:	**Saturday**, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. and **Wednesday**, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
SACRAMENT OF THE SICK:	**Semi-annually, Fall & Spring, and by appointment**
BAPTISMS:	**4th Sunday each month**
	(Parent classes 3rd Tuesday each month. Call the office to register.)
MARRIAGES:	Six months notice required. Call the office for information.
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:	**Mon.—Thurs. 8:30 to 5:00 p.m. & Fri., 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon**

PREGNANT? NEED HELP? *All calls confidential. Gabriel Project, 913-602-0306*

FROM FR. MIKE:



Merry Christmas to you and your families! The greetings that we make during this time of the year, the cards that we send, all echo the song of the angels on that first Christmas night: "Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth." May the wishes that we extend to our relatives and friends continue the tiding of great joy that the angels brought to Bethlehem. May all that we do and say in the year 2012 reveal the presence of God in our world.

Fr. Mike

Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth!

SUNSHINE CLUB MEMBERS We will be having our regular scheduled meeting on **Sunday, January 1st**, New Year's Day after the **9:00** mass. Hope you can join us.

Do you know someone who is Catholic, but no longer joins us in worship and service? Maybe that person just needs a welcoming invitation from you to take a second look at the Catholic faith. If interested, invite your friend or family member to contact Robert Bacic for a confidential appointment. He can be reached at rbacic@holycrossopks.org or 913-381-2755. Making an appointment does not obligate the person in any way. Holy Cross is committed to helping those who are interested return to a more active life of faith.

First Saturday Devotions will be held on Saturday, January 7th. The Rosary will be prayed at 7:05am and Mass will be celebrated at 7:30am. Please join us for coffee, juice and donuts in the church hall following mass.

READINGS & FAITH SHARING QUESTIONS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Mary, Mother of God: Number 6:22-27; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21. ***Questions for Adults*:** What do you imagine Mary pondering at age 15 when Jesus is born? At 45 when Jesus starts his public life and ministry? ***For Children:*** Who do you know that needs God's blessing right now? How would you like God to bless this person? Say a prayer for this person asking for God's blessing.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE:

	December 18, 2011	Fiscal YTD
Needed	$35,905	$656,735
Collected	32,387	656,322
Over/(Under)	(3,518)	(413)
Special Donations	2,035	

ADORATION CHAPEL: The greatest gift of all - an hour with the Lord! Open Hours: Sunday, 1-2pm and 9-10pm; Thursday, 1-2pm; Friday, 12midnight-1am; Saturday, 12noon-1pm and 8-9pm. Call Anne, 649-2049.

Many people are unable to use the chapel due to allergies to fresh flowers. In the future, **all fresh flowers will be removed from the chapel** and placed in the church.

St. Mary's Food Kitchen 403 dinners were served to those who are less fortunate on December 16th. Thank you, to everyone who provided food, helped serve and gave monetary donations.

Please Pray for Those Asking for Prayers: Mary Ellen Alfino, Tim Eccles, Kevin Haeusser, Bob Hoffman, Ellen Jiskra, Carol Reardon, and John Rhoades.

REST IN PEACE: Ted Freed, Bob Schmitt and **Gregory Sustrick,** all of Holy Cross.

Mass Intentions For The Week

Monday	9:00 a.m.	John Stubbs
Tuesday	6:30 a.m.	Ve Tran
	6:00 p.m.	Inez Byrum (Spanish)
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Margaret T. Canal
Thursday	6:30 a.m.	Frank Diskin
Friday	9:00 a.m.	Claire Gough
Saturday	7:30 a.m.	Barbara Marshall
	5:00 p.m.	Lois Hudson
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	People of the Parish
	11:00 a.m.	Ralph Allen
	2:00 p.m.	Frank P. Diskin (Spanish)

Children's Liturgy of the Word will not take place on Christmas or New Year's Day. We will resume on Jan.8th unless a leader is unavailable for a particular Mass.

Religious Education

NO CLASSES on Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 27th. Have a Blessed Christmas and New Year holiday season. Classes resume on Jan. 3rd, 2012.

FAMILIES GROWING in FAITH Together will not meet on Dec. 27th. Classes resume on Jan.3rd, 2012.

Confirmation

Confirmation Classes start up again on Jan.8th. Have a safe Christmas break.

Confirmation Ceremony date is set. Mark calendars for Wed, April 18th at 7pm for Holy Cross. Abbott Barnabas Senecal will preside.

Youth Ministry

For questions regarding Middle and High School Rel. Ed or Youth Ministry, Sandy can be reached quickly & easily by email at sschluter@holycrossopks.org or call/text 205-0825.

Holy Cross Highschoolers … Plan to meet up again on Jan.4th. Check Facebook for any last minute events over break. Add Sandra K Schluter as a friend on Facebook for event information. Bring a snack item to add for our pantry.

Middle Schoolers, W'SUP? Worship, Socializing, and Prayer around U! We meet Dec.19th. This is our last meeting for this semester. Hope to see you there. We meet in the youth room and church hall. Please bring a bag of chips or cookies or some snack item for our pantry.

Holy Cross Parish… we need your help. Meetings and events are underway for our youth groups at Holy Cross and we could use your donations of snack items and pop. Cookies, chips, and caffeine free beverages are great donations. Oh, and did I mention chocolate? Thanks to our wonderful parishioners for all the continued support of the youth of Holy Cross. Your donations do not go unnoticed by the youth and are very much appreciated!

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES… UPLIFT… Adults or Teens interested in serving others should reserve their space for PROJECT UPLIFT…an outreach to the homeless of Kansas City. Holy Cross Volunteers are needed the **1st MONDAY of every month. We are taking volunteers for Feb 5. Call or email Sandy to sign up.** We depart from Holy Cross at 4:30 pm and return around 9:00 pm. Eat dinner before you meet at HC, bring bottled water to drink, and dress appropriately for the weather! **Remember, people in need are counting on us, so if you sign up, be sure to keep your commitment! Thanks!**

Mission Trip 2012! All I Want for Christmas is to get to know God and His people! What a wonderful holiday gift for the young highschooler in your life… to receive this opportunity for a life-changing, faith-strengthening, friendship-lasting experience. For only $75 deposit, you can hold a spot for Mission trip 2012. We will collect $75 payments every two months until the $400 trip is paid. We will also continue our fundraising efforts in 2012 to defray the costs. Submit your deposit now. The total cost of the trip increases to $420 if deposits are paid after January 1, 2012. Our travel dates are June 23rd to 30th. We will be working with Catholic Heart Workcamp. Holy Cross is celebrating 10 years of summer mission trips for our high schoolers. This summer, we will travel to… Nashville, TN to work with agencies & communities in need.

Holy Cross School News

Entertainment Books for 2011/12 are here. Anyone interested in buying Entertainment Book for $25 please call school office at 381-7408. Limited quantity on hand.

Please continue purchasing trash bags in school office.

Stay up-to-date with info about the school. Go to www.holycrosscatholicschool.com where you can link to Principal's Weblog, our Facebook page & Twitter. Click "Family Login" button to see our newsletter and calendar.

Reserve your seat now! Tickets for **Celebration 2012** are on sale. Price is $50/person if you order tickets by January 6. There will be a table set up in the narthex next weekend selling tickets.

2011 Tax Saving Tip

Qualified Charitable IRA Distributions

IRA owners who are over the age of 70-1/2 may transfer up to $100,000 from your IRA directly to a qualified charity such as Holy Cross. No tax deduction is available for this gift since it is transferred directly from the IRA, but no taxes will be imposed on the transfer as well.

Advice and Aid Pregnancy Centers, Inc. is currently seeking a Registered Nurse (RN), licensed in the State of Kansas to assume the position of Nurse Manager. A resume with cover letter should be emailed to Brenda Estell—office@adviceandaid.com.

Please join us in praying the **ROSARY before daily Mass** every Mon.-Sat. We will **begin 20 minutes before each Mass.** On Mondays only, we will begin at 8:30am with Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions followed by the rosary. On Fridays we will pray the Rosary for Life.

Holy Cross parishioners pray the Rosary at 9:30am on the first Saturday of every month at Planned Parenthood, 4401 W. 109th St., just southeast of 435 & Roe in Fox Hill Office Park. Come join us.

The True Meaning of Christmas is just one of the many wonderful $3 CDs available in the kiosk at the back of church that will help you make this Advent truly special. Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen's books, tapes, homilies, retreats, and television series have inspired countless souls all over the world. This digitally-mastered presentation combines classic recordings of his timeless reflections on the meaning of the Incarnation of Jesus, mixed with seasonal music. It is sure to become a family favorite! Be sure to enjoy the special addition last track by Scott Hahn. Questions? Call Brenda Scruggs, 913-649-6442.

St. James Academy PLACEMENT EXAM: January 7, 2012, Alternate Date: January 21, 2012. **Time: 8:00am** Check-in: 8:30am Test Time. 12 noon dismissal after community building, pizza and social. Bring: Two #2 Pencils and Calculator. No electronics allowed in test area other than calculator. $15 Registration fee, Cash or Check. Questions: See Placement Test Q&A under the admissions tab on our website: www.sjakeepingfaith.org No Reservations necessary.

Saint Thomas Aquinas PLACEMENT TEST - JANUARY 7th: The Placement Test (not an admissions test) at Saint Thomas Aquinas High School for prospective 8th grade students will be on Saturday, **January 7, 8:00 a.m**. Students are asked to bring two #2 pencils, a calculator, social security number and $15 exam fee. No pre-registration required. Please arrive in the Commons before 8:00. Pizza luncheon will be served following the test. Makeup test will be January 21. If you have any questions, contact Diane Pyle, Admissions Director, at 319-2423 or dpyle@stasaints.net. **Thank you for sharing the good news about our Catholic School community!**

Gospel of Life Update

"The first and most fundamental step towards...cultural transformation consists in forming consciences with regard to the incomparable and inviolable worth of every human life. It is of the greatest importance to re-establish the essential connection between life and freedom. There is no true freedom where life is not welcomed and loved; and there is no fullness of life except in freedom...Love, as a sincere gift of self, is what gives the life and freedom of the person their turest meaning. (#96)

Please pray to end abortion. Pray for a culture of life.

Please keep our Gabriel Project Mothers and their families in your prayers.

The Gabriel Project provides spiritual, emotional, & material help for any woman facing difficulty in her pregnancy. Please call 602-0306.

Hurting from abortion?? If you have had an abortion & are still grieving, Project Rachael can help.

"Encuentro"

La Iglesia de Holy Cross es una comunidad diversa y acogedora, unida en la Fe Católica, comprometida en formar a la gente en la imagen de Cristo para servir mejor al Señor y al prójimo.

MISAS EN ESPAÑOL: todos los domingos a las 2:00 p.m. y los martes a las 6:00 p.m.

MISAS EN INGLÉS: sábados 5:00 p.m. y domingos 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m. y 11:00 a.m. Los invitamos a participar en cualquiera de estas liturgias.

RECONCILIACIÓN: sábados, 3:30 a 4:30pm; martes, 5:30 p.m., antes de la Misa en español; y miércoles, 5:30-6:30pm.

MATRIMONIO: Llame a la parroquia 6 meses antes de la fecha en que desea casarse para tener una entrevista con un sacerdote.

BAUTISMO: Segundo sábado 11 a.m., y tercer domingo de cada mes después de la Misa de las 2:00 p.m. Padres y padrinos deben asistir a una clase de preparación. Favor de anotarse con anticipación, llamando a la oficina de la iglesia, 381-2755.

SERVICIOS EN ESPAÑOL: Para hablar en español, llamen a la oficina de la iglesia, **381-2755**: lunes, miércoles y jueves 2-5 pm.; martes 2-7pm. Pueden llamar también a los Sacerdotes, al

¡Felices pascuas y Próspero Año Nuevo para todos!

ANUNCIOS

DEL PADRE MIKE

Queridos Feligreses,

Los saludos que damos durante esta época, las tarjetas que mandamos, son una resonancia de la canción de los ángeles en la primera noche de Navidad: "Gloria a Dios en las alturas y en la Tierra, paz a su pueblo de buena voluntad. Que los buenos deseos que extendemos a nuestros familiares y amigos, continúen la buena nueva que los ángeles trajeron a Belén. Que todo lo que digamos o hagamos en el 2012, revele la presencia de Dios en nuestro mundo. Fr. Mike

Nota: Muchas personas no pueden usar la Capilla por tener alergias a flores frescas. En el futuro, todas las flores frescas serán removidas de la Capilla y serán puestas en la iglesia.

Tenemos 6 nuevos CD´s en español en el kiosko del vestíbulo. $3/ea. ¡Gran regalo de Navidad!

INTENCIONES PARA LAS MISAS: Martes, 12/27 6:00 p.m.: Inez Byrum
Domingo, 1/1 2:00 p.m.: Frank P. Diskin

LECTURAS Y PREGUNTAS PARA COMPARTIR LA FE: ***Santa María, Madre de Dios.***
Números 6:22-27; Gálatas 4:4-7; Lucas 2:16-21.
Preguntas para Adultos para Compartir la Fe: ¿Qué se imaginan ustedes que María ponderaba a los 15 años de edad, cuándo Jesús nació? ¿Y también a los 45 años de edad, cuándo Jesús empezó su vida pública y su ministerio?
Preguntas para los Niños: ¿A quién conocen ustedes que necesita la bendición de Dios ahora mismo? ¿Cómo quisieran ustedes que Dios bendiga a esta persona? Digan una oración por esta persona pidiendo la bendición de Dios.

EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA:

Clases de por la Tarde: NO HABRÁN CLASES, Dic. 20 y 27. Las clases resumirán en Enero 3, 2012.

Familias Creciendo Juntas en la Fe: NO HABRÁN CLASES, Dic. 20 y 27. Las clases resumirán Enero 3, 2012.

CONFIRMACIÓN:

Clases de Confirmación: NO HABRÁN CLASES hasta Enero 8, 2012.

Ministerio de Jóvenes: Sandy Schluter, 205-0825, sschluter@holycrossopks.org.
Para preguntas sobre Escuelas Intermedia y Superior, comuníquense con Sandy Schluter.

Estudiantes de Escuela Intermedia: W´SUP (¡Worship, Socializing and Prayer around U!)
Nunca es tarde para participar. Las reuniones se llevan a cabo en el sótano, de 7-8:30pm. Traigan una bolsa de chips o cookies para repartir.

Estudiantes de Escuela Superior: La próxima reunión será después de las Fiestas de Navidad, **Enero 4, 2012.**

Ceremonia de la Confirmación: Se llevará a cabo el miércoles, Abril 18, 7:00pm., en Holy Cross. El Abad Barnabás Senecal, presidirá. Marquen sus calendario ahora.
Ceremonia de la Confirmación: Se llevará a cabo el miércoles, Abril 18, 7:00pm., en Holy Cross. El Abad Barnabás Senecal, presidirá. Marquen sus calendario ahora.

Para más información vea la próxima página.

PROYECTO UPLIFT…llegando a los desamparados de Kansas City. Los voluntarios de HolyCross se necesitan **el 1er LUNES DE CADA MES.** ***Estamos tomando voluntarios para el 5 deFebrero. Llamen o email Sandy.*** Nos iremos de Holy Cross a las 4:30 p.m., y regresaremos alrededor de las 9:00p.m. Cenen antes de venir y traigan agua en botellas para su consumo. ¡Vístanse apropiadamente con el tiempo! **Recuerden, las personas con necesidad cuentan con nosotros. Así es que, si firman, ¡asegúrense que van a cumplir con este compromiso! ¡Gracias!**

Retiro de Quinceañera: El próximo Retiro se llevará a cabo **en las Oficinas del Ministerio Hispano, el 28 y 29 de Enero, 2012. Costo $20**. La jovencita tiene que asistir los dos días para recibir el Certificado. Para inscribirse, llamen al 913/281-6644.

Retiro de Convalidación: Se llevará a cabo en la Oficinas del Ministerio, para parejas que están interesadas en casarse por la Iglesia. **Es necesario asistir a este Retiro de dos días:** sábado, 25 de Feb. 2012, 8:30am.-5pm., y domingo, 26 de Feb. 2012, 8am.-5pm. **Costo $50 por pareja.** ***NO HABRÁ CUIDADO DE NIÑOS.*** Inscríbanse en 913/281-6644.

CELEBRATION 2012 The Celebration Committee is looking for gifts to be auctioned off in the silent or LIVE auction at Celebration on **January 28, 2012.** If you have an item or service you can donate, please drop it off at the school office or contact Kathy Steichen, 913-648-2146.

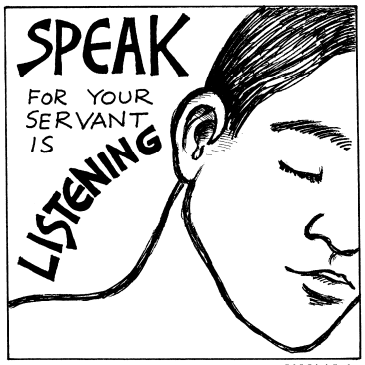
We need gifts! Do you like to shop those after-Christmas sales? Are you good at bargain shopping? The Celebration Committee is in need of gifts for the silent and live auctions. Please drop off your donations at the school office.

School of Faith Presents **THE BOOK OF REVELATION** ***The Message Will Surprise You!*** Thursday, January 5, 2012, 7-8pm. Holy Spirit Church. Theologian, Mike Scherschligt will explain the real meaning of the Book of Revelation. Join us for a Catholic night out and find out how you participate with Christ in his victory over Satan. No registrations required - no admission fee - Free Will Offering. All Are Welcome.

VOLUNTEERS OPPORTUNITIES: Do you have some free time and enjoy meeting new people? Catholic Charities has a great opportunity for you. We are looking for someone to help staff the front desk reception at 2220 Central, KS City, KS on Wednesdays 1:00-4:00pm, and on Fridays 12:30-4:30 pm. Responsibilities include greeting clients, answering the phones, and making appointments. Training provided. If interested contact Mary Kay Drees at 913-433-2080, or e-mail mdrees@catholiccharitiesks.org.

Donations Pick-Up Drivers Needed: Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas has an immediate need for volunteers to assist with the pick-up of food donations for its Emergency Assistance Centers. Duties involve some heavy lifting in addition to operating a truck that is available through Catholic Charities. A Commercial Drivers License (CDL) is not required. This involves shuttling the truck to parishes for weekend food drives, pick-up of donations from schools or businesses, pick-up orders from Harvesters, and the transfer of food products between Catholic Charities pantries and storage areas. In addition to being comfortable with the operation of the truck, the volunteers need to be physically capable of frequently lifting and carrying cases of food items. For more information please contact, at 913-433-2080 or mdrees@catholiccharitiesks.org.

TurnStyles Needs Donations: TurnStyles in Olathe needs clothing! Please bring your gently used clothing to the store. All proceeds from TurnStyles go to support your neighbors in need through Catholic Charities' programs, including Emergency Assistance and its food pantries and the Refugee and Migrant Services program. By bringing your donations to us instead of having TurnStyles pick them up, you can help us save precious expense dollars. Our stores accept donations Mon-Sat, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Overland Park: 9750 W.87th St. (South side of the building). For more information, visit www.catholiccharitiesks.org/turnstyles.



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Celebrate National Vocation Awareness Week January 8-14 by joining the **Holy Cross 31 Club** to pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated religious life. 31 Club members are asked to pray for vocations at a weekday Mass at least once a month during 2012. Sign-up will be after all Masses the weekend of January 7-8. If you were a member of the 31 Club in 2011, please take the opportunity to sign up again for 2012. There will also be an opportunity for students at Holy Cross School and their parents to sign up for a **School 31 Club** during the Week of January 8-14. Ask Our Lord to send laborers for His harvest. For information please contact George Dirnberger 913-642-0585, or Bill McHale 913-341-7704.

The **19th annual "Support our Seminarians" Benefit Dinner** is scheduled for Fri., Jan.27, 2012. This event benefits seminarians from the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kansas, the Diocese of Kansas City-St.Joseph and Conception Seminary College. It promises to be an evening filled with fun and laughter, celebrating our Catholic faith, dining on wonderful food, and socializing with our priests and seminarians! SOS will be held at the Marriott Allis Plaza, 12th and Wyandotte, KC, MO. The ticket price is $150.00 per person at tables of ten people. To reserve your place, or an entire table, or donate an item to the market place, please contact: Martha Hodes (913) 207-9893 or mmmh66@bcglobal.net.

Archbishop's Quo Vadis Retreat: Quo Vadis is a short, challenging retreat held from 8pm, January 1st to 11am, January 3rd, which helps men ages 18-35 discern their ultimate purpose and vocation in life through a focused look at the Catholic priesthood. Men open to the priesthood are invited to listen to the vocational calls of the Archbishop, vocation director and seminarians. Retreat is free for those who make application before December 21st. Activities include Mass and full Catholic devotions within the Christmas season, a short pilgrimage to the Cathedral, small group discussion and recreation. Registration and more information at www.kckvocations.com.

VIRTUS TRAINING

If you plan to volunteer, or work with our Catholic children, (Catechist, co-teacher, classroom aide, scout leader, coach, etc.) you MUST complete the Protecting God's Children VIRTUS program required by the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas. Pre-register for the session using the following instructions…

1. Go online to: **www.archkck.org**
2. You will see a photo on the right side titled **Virtus to Protect God's Children**. Click on the picture.
3. Click on **Register for** VIRTUS training
4. Select your organization, Kansas City in Kansas (Archdiocese).
5. This will bring a list of VIRTUS trainings in our Archdiocese. Find the one that fits your schedule.
6. Click on **Start Registration** and follow the instructions.

Call church office if you have any questions.

College Students—SAVE THE DATE! Benedictine College will sponsor the 2012 Kansas Catholic College Student Convention (KCCSC). It will take place in Lawrence, Kansas, over the weekend of **February 10-12**, **2012**. It was a great success last year as over 270 Catholic college students from 18 colleges and universities attended. It will be even bigger and better this year! Scholarships (partial and full) are available! For more details, please contact Annie Nickels at AnnieNickels@gmail.com or 719-482-4793.

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