



*Highlights for
Dec. 08/Jan. 09:*

- Keysis Mass and Program - Keysis Mass is at 5 pm followed by Keysis from 6:15-7:45 in the Upper Room
- Keysis Christmas Party and Gift Card Exchange - Sunday, Dec. 14, 6:15-8:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.
- DCYC 2009 - 51st Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference at the Waco Convention Center. Jan. 16-18. Cost \$55. Deadline to sign up Dec. 14
- Confirmation Preparation - *Session 2 - Sunday, Dec. 14 for Candidates Only
*Session 3—Sunday, Jan. 11 for Candidates and Sponsors
Both Sessions are from 9:30-10:45 a.m. in the Upper Room
- Discipleship Nights - Confirmed Juniors and Seniors are invited to take a leadership role in ministry. Wednesdays 7-8:30pm in the Upper Room
- Young Adult Ministry - Young people between the ages of 18-30 are invited to pray and fellowship with us. Tuesday evenings, 7-8:30 p.m. in the Upper Room.
- XLT - Great prayer experience of praise and worship with great speakers and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Make it a habit - first Wednesday of the month
- Confirmation Eligibility – Freshmen are required to attend at least 60% of Keysis sessions to be eligible for Confirmation Prep as 10th graders.
- Parents - Do you get the weekly e-mails? If not, please e-mail me to get on the list - dougw@saintlukesparish.org

The Advent Season - The Waiting



“A Christmas Story” recounts Ralphie’s desperate attempts to get the ultimate Christmas gift - a Red Rider BB Gun. His longing for the “Holy Grail” of presents fills his days with scheming and his nights with dreaming. The movie reveals a small slice of what Advent is about. Advent is a season of watching and waiting to get us ready to receive the Ultimate gift, the Savior of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ. While the Jewish people had to wait thousands of years for the

birth of the Messiah, we’ve only got to make it four Sundays. So here are three ideas to make us a little more excited about Christmas:

1. **Think about the gift.** You are preparing to receive the ultimate gift - the perfect love of God the Father given to us in the person of Jesus Christ. Everything good in our lives flows from this one gift of God at Christmas. What gift are you preparing to receive - an iPod or the iPod, Incarnate God, Jesus?
2. **Prepare to receive Him again.** Do you ever wonder what the innkeepers in Bethlehem must have felt when they realized that they refused a room to the Son of God? Oops! Jesus was born in a stable, because no one would make some room at the inn. This

year, the Son of God needs a room to be born in, will he find a room in your heart? You may need to clean up a few habits and rearrange some of those priorities, but you’ve got time. It’s called Advent.

3. **Ask for a special gift.** Our God gave us the greatest gift on Christmas, but He’s not done giving. The Bible tells us that He loves us and He gives us what we need, so this year, ask God for a gift. Here’s the catch - ask for whatever He wants to give you. Trust in the goodness of our God and receive the gift He knows you will need and use. He did very well giving us His Son, so we can trust Him to give us the perfect gift this Christmas.

We love you and pray for you every day.

In Jesus and Mary,
Doug Weisbruch

DCYC 51 - The Calling

Make plans now to attend the 51st Annual Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference on Jan 16-18, 2009. DCYC will be held at the Waco Convention Center and will include a host of national speakers, musicians, and workshops. Mass with Bishop Aymond will end the DCYC

on Sunday. We will be staying at the Good News Retreat Center in Axtell and attending the DCYC during the day. This is a great time to celebrate our faith and love for God. The Cost is \$55.

Ski Retreat 09

Mark your calendars for the Keysis Ski Retreat (Skisis), March 15-19, 2009. We will be staying at the Life-way Glorieta Conference Center in Glorieta, NM and skiing at Ski Santa Fe. The retreat includes four nights accommodations, all meals, three day lift tickets, ski rentals (snowboards are extra), charter bus transportation, and evening retreat sessions. Deadline to sign up Sunday, Feb. 1. Cost - \$500.