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Roman Catholic Diocese of Las Cruces  
St. Jude Mission  
1404 College Avenue  
Alamogordo, NM 88310

September 18, 2006

Subject: St. Jude Middle and High School Youth Programs

We now have two youth programs at St. Jude: A High School Youth Program headed by Mr. Allen Leadingham Grades 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>, and a Middle School, Grades 6 through 8<sup>th</sup>, headed by Mr. and Mrs. Covarrubia. Each of these individuals brings a wealth of experience to St. Jude regarding various youth programs and activities.

As part of St. Jude's continuing Faith Formation Program, we have embraced and included the youth program into our Faith Formation Community Service and Social Activities Programs.

By having your child participate in the parish youth programs, we will not only be building a strong Catholic Community, but a Catholic community that involves other parishes, i.e., Immaculate Conception, Holloman AFB, and the German Catholic Community.

I ask for your help and prayers in supporting our youth program and our coordinators Mr. Allen Leadingham and Mr. and Mrs. Covarrubia. These volunteers have answered the call and cannot do it alone, but with your support and time, we will succeed in teaching our youth about a strong Catholic community.

Finally, Jesus reminded the disciples, as well, the Christian community, which St. Jude is a part of, with the purpose of the meaning and the role of youth in today's world with the following words:

"If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with. [...] And my word is not my own: it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you (John 14:23, 25-26)."

Again, I thank you for your involvement and support in your child's religious education formation and the youth programs.

David Marcus  
Lay Pastoral Assistant