



April 2, 2008

Dear TYG Families,

Believe it or not "Mission Philadelphia" is less than four months away. For those families who are new to Trinity Youth Group, "Mission Philadelphia" is a weeklong outreach project in the inner city of Philadelphia. Over 30 TYG members, ages 10-18, engage in six full days of service work in the inner city of Philadelphia while residing at Villanova University.

This summer marks the twelfth such endeavor and has been scheduled for June 22-29, 2008. Projects planned for the week include

- The design and landscaping of new properties in Haddington, West Philadelphia
- A few special projects in and around the garden spaces, including the installation of archways and enhancement of murals
- The return to the previously created gardens and community area in West Philadelphia to provide upkeep
- A neighborhood BBQ, including children's activities

TYG members in grades 7-12 will be eligible to attend the entire week. Sixth grade members will be able to join the group for some specific day projects. They may also stay overnight for one or two evenings.

There are basic requirements that **all** members need to meet in order to participate in "Mission Philadelphia" at any level. Effective immediately, all TYG members interested in committing to "Mission Philadelphia" 2008 are expected to do the following:

- Attend the majority of Wednesday night meetings and other significant events for the balance of the year.
- Participate in all preparation around Lobsterfest as well as volunteering significant hours on the day of Lobsterfest (Saturday, June 7, 2008).
- Commitment of parents of TYG members to volunteer for Lobsterfest. This is a four-day project, so there is ample opportunity for service.
- Attend all gatherings related to "Mission Philadelphia".
- Participate in at least one of the two advance "Mission Philadelphia" workdays- Saturday, April 26 or May 17.
- Parent attendance at the Mission Philadelphia Orientation (Wednesday, June 11, 6:30-8 p.m., McArthur Hall) and involvement in some aspect of the organization pertaining to "Mission Philadelphia" (see enclosed list of tasks for which you can volunteer).

- **Participating youth are expected to help with the unloading and relocation of all supplies upon returning to Trinity Church on the afternoon of Sunday, June 29. Families are encouraged to offer assistance to expedite the process.**

The TYG membership and adult sponsors feel that fulfillment of such requirements assure that those participating in “Mission Philadelphia” will have a clear understanding of what is required in preparing for such a week of outreach- spiritual centeredness, fiscal soundness and organizational and programming readiness. The Group also feels that a strong sense of community among those committed to “Mission Philadelphia” is important. The more time that the members spend together, the better the chance that they will work as a cohesive team during this outreach week.

Enclosed is a calendar of important TYG and Diocesan youth activities for the rest of the year. Please note these events on your family calendar. In early May, you will receive a registration brochure for “Mission Philadelphia” 2008. Feel free to contact us should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

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Mission Philadelphia Operations Co-Chairs