

SPaRk! Junior High Youth Group Off To Great Start

By Mary Knight



youth group

SPaRk!, St. Matthew's awesome new junior high youth group is a great way to hang out with friends who share the same faith.



Twenty kids from the parish attended SPaRk's October kick-off meeting. Leaders **Mary Knight** and **Jennifer Clarke** entertained the kids and Monsignor Merdian with a mega inflatable bounce house/ obstacle course, a chocolate fountain, caramel apple dipping, prayer, and fellowship.

We also visited **Hardy's Reindeer Ranch** in October. Despite the rain and mud, the kids had a great time racing the pedal cars and finding their way through the Alien Invasion Corn Maze. Pedal cars are not as easy to ride as you might think, just ask the chaperones and leaders!!

In December we held a SpaRk! Christmas party. The kids enjoyed eating pizza, making cards and wrapping gifts for the foster children from Catholic Charities. Our youth group was able to adopt five kids for Christmas thanks to many generous donations. The kids were given the gift of the Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Monsignor Merdian blessed the scapulars for the group.

We have enjoyed getting to know all of the kids who make SPaRk! so much fun. Our membership is always open. Please join us anytime. Questions? Suggestions? Offers of help? Contact **Mary Knight** at 377-8734 or **Jennifer Clarke** at 312-848-8175.



Photos from the Spark! Christmas party!

"SPaRk! Be the spark that lights the fire for the good news of God"

Check us out on Facebook!

SPaRk!

2010 will be another fun-filled year. Here is a list of our upcoming activities:

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| Friday, February 5th | "Gimme a Break From Winter" outing including pizza, bowling, skating, movies, swimming |
| Sunday, April 11th | Get A Clue! meeting
3:30-5:00 p.m. – MP room at St. Matthew |
| Sunday, June 6th | End of the year party! All incoming 7th graders welcome!!!! |