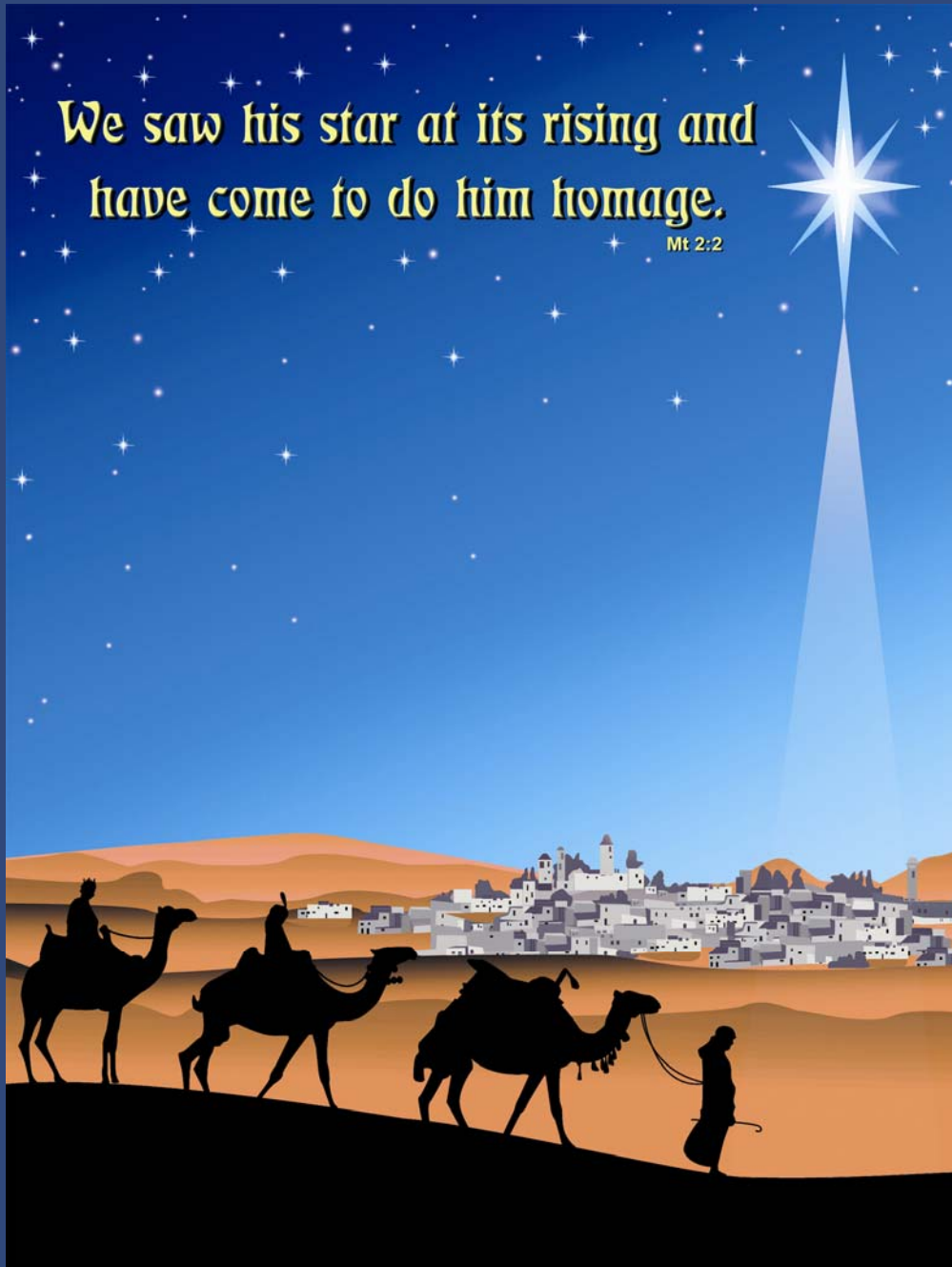


Epiphany

January 3, 2010

We saw his star at its rising and
have come to do him homage.

Mt 2:2



Catholic Church of Saint Monica
1700 Buford Highway
678-584-9947 Phone
www.saintmonicas.com
Duluth, Ga 30097
678-584-9760 Fax

Mision Catolica del Divino Niño Jesus
4400 Abbott's Bridge Rd.
Father Carlos Mario Bustamente
Sister Martha
Rafael Gaitan

678-417-7912
678-992-2516
404-374-1714
770-530-8509

Spanish Masses at Mission

Friday- 7:00pm
Saturday- 6:30pm
Sunday- 9:00am & 11:00am

PASTOR
Rev. Jack Durkin

PAROCHIAL VICAR
Rev. Pavol Brenkus

DEACONS
Rev. Mr. Joe Carter
Rev. Mr. John Koppenaal
Rev. Mr. Ed Rademacher
Rev. Mr. Bob Tipton

PARISH STAFF
Adult Formation
Patrick Klein

Elementary Coordinator
Anne Hennessy

Youth Minister
Courtney Desmond

Coordinator of
Sacraments
Katherine Milby

Coordinator of
Family Catechesis
Carol Skowronski

R.E. Admin. Assistant
Madeline Murphy

Director of Music and
Liturgy
Helen Nathan

Parish Secretary
Terry Kolodzy

Front Desk
Karen Lastufka

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:30pm
Sunday: 8:30am, 10:30am,
12:30pm 5:30pm

Holy Days of Obligation
See Bulletin for schedule

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon. & Tues.
9:00am & 6:30pm
Wed. & Thurs.
6:30am & 9:00am
Fri.
9:00am & 12:10pm
Sat.
9:00am

RECONCILIATION

By Appointment or

Mon. & Tues.
5:45pm-6:15pm

Sat.
3:45pm- 5:00pm

1st Fri. of month
6:30pm-7:00pm

1st Sat. of month
8:30am-8:50am

1st Sun. of month
After the 8:30am &
10:30am Masses

OFFICE HOURS
9:45am- 4:30pm

Masses For The Week



Saturday	January 2
9:00 am	Jennifer Rich (D) <i>By The Clark Family</i>
5:30 pm	Tom and Jen Cusker (SI) <i>By The McCusker Family</i>
Sunday	January 3
8:30 am	The People of St. Monica
10:30 am	John Keenan, Jr. (D) <i>By The Zeccola Family</i>
12:30 pm	Milford Bohn (D) <i>By The McCallum Family</i>
5:30 pm	Alynn Lodge (D) <i>By Mary Pat DiLauri</i>
Monday	January 4
9:00 am	Don Fraser (D) <i>By Jack and Beth Callahan</i>
6:30 pm	Carole Wachsmann (D) <i>By Carl and Terry Kolodzy</i>
Tuesday	January 5
9:00 am	Jennifer Rich (D) <i>By The Clark Family</i>
6:30 pm	Alma Dickerson (D) <i>By Byron and Lisa Dickerson</i>
Wednesday	January 6
6:30 am	John Shields, Jr. (D) <i>By David and Robin Lockhart</i>
9:00 am	Gary Ahern (D) <i>By Erin and Steve Milone</i>
Thursday	January 7
6:30 am	Special Intention
9:00 am	Fr. Jack Durkin (SI) <i>By Ofelia Herrero</i>
Friday	January 8
9:00 am	Fr. Pavol Brenkus (SI) <i>By Ofelia Herrero</i>
12:10 am	Karen Lastufka (SI) <i>By Mark Lastufka</i>
Saturday	January 9
9:00 am	Alma Dickerson (D) <i>By The McLaughlin Family</i>
5:30 pm	Nell Elizabeth Piña (D) <i>By Joan Nunderle</i>
Sunday	January 10
8:30 am	The Fiorentino Family <i>By The Anderson Family</i>
10:30 am	The People of St. Monica
12:30 pm	John Veliky (D) <i>By Mary Ann and Ken James</i>
5:30 pm	Charlotte Mitnick (D) <i>By Pat and Doris Wathen</i>

The Catholic Church of St. Monica is pleased to announce the introduction of an electronic option for making regular offerings. Contributions can now be debited automatically from your checking or savings account or processed using your credit or debit card. Our new electronic giving program offers convenience for you and donation consistency for our congregation. And, when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending Mass, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis. Go to www.saintmonicas.com.

STEWARDSHIP
NEWS

Contributions from December 20th to December 27th will be in next week's bulletin due to publishing deadlines during the Holiday Season

Please send in your Archbishop's Annual Appeal pledge if you haven't already done so

Please Pray For

For all those in our faith community who are serving our nation overseas and their loved ones here at home. For those among us who are sick and suffering, that by our ministry and the help of the Holy Spirit, they may be healed according to God's will especially, Mary Anne Waggoner, Joseph Mueller, Don Strohmeyer, Gid Parrish, Dan Pergrin, Roy LaFontaine, Michael Adcock, Isaac Tillotson, Gloria Baca, and Shaun Clancy,. And for friends and family who have gone before us including Marcia Lopez, Evelyn Lampert, Vivian Carraway, Stephanie Davis, Fr. Jim Miceli, Mercedes Wells, Wyatt Barnes, Sam Higley, Mike Dennis, and Jean Dominique Gomez, we pray to the Lord.

Please become active in praying for those who are ill, deceased, or have special needs by joining the Prayer Chain Ministry by contacting Julie Ouellette at 770-271-2349 or at julie_ouellette@mindspring.com. You can be notified of prayer intentions via e-mail or Calling Post.

Readings for the Week of January 3, 2010

Sunday:	Is 60:1-6; Ps 72; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12
Monday:	1 Jn 3:22-4:6; Ps 98; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday:	1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 100; Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday:	1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72; Mk 6:45-52
Thursday:	1 Jn 4:19-5:4; Ps 2; Lk 4:14-22a
Friday:	1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 72; Lk 5:12-16
Saturday:	1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 72; Jn 3:22-30
Sunday:	Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

New Subscribers to MagnifiKid!: Your order is in! Your subscription begins with the January issues. Please pick them up from the box on the shelf in the Volunteer Room of the RE Bldg. Your issues will be labeled by last name. Contact Carol at 678-584-9947 x.23 with questions.

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you for all your cards, letters and prayers as they mean a lot to me. Presently I am relocating to Lake Orion, Michigan where I will be working in a neighboring parish for some time. I look forward to seeing you again. I wish you the best and may God be with your families and in all that you do at St. Monica. Please continue to remember me in your prayers.

Gratefully yours,

Religious Education News

Middle School News

On site events are held on Saturday nights after the 5:30 pm Mass. Service projects & socials are also held on Saturday nights. Please check the Bulletin for proper times and Dates. Have a blessed Christmas!!

January 13 – Planning meeting for parents and core 7:15 pm in the RE building

January 29-30 – Middle School Retreat at Covecrest: “Be Not Afraid.” 5:00 pm Friday – 6:00 pm Saturday. Cost \$85.00 per person. Permission forms may be found in the foyer of the RE building. Contact Anne Hennessy at 678-584-9947 ext. 16 for more information.

February 6 – Journey with Joseph! LIFE event credit offered.

February 24 – Planning meeting for parents and core 7:15 pm in the RE building

February 27- Service Project– Super Service Saturday, time, TBD

Top Ten List for Being a Catechist At St. Monica’s

10. You get a break in tuition.
9. We provide a nursery while you teach.
8. We have an appreciation dinner in April.
7. Your kids want you to teach.
6. We provide training.
5. It’s fun.
4. Everything you need to know is in the manual.
3. The benefits are heavenly
2. You DO know enough.
1. It’s your turn!

We are in need of nursery volunteers at the 8:30 and 10:30 Masses. If you or someone you know would like to volunteer contact Anne Hennessy for more details. Teens are welcome as well!

Register! Register! Register!

Parents, please register your children for Religious Education, grades 1-8. Spring classes will begin on January 22nd. In order for us to have an accurate count, we need you to sign up as soon as possible. Forms can be found in the RE building or online.



HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday night Youth Groups are immediately following the 5:30 PM Mass until 8:30 PM.

Upcoming Life Nights

Jan. 3rd: **CHRISTMAS PARTY – WELCOME BACK!**

Jan. 10th: **COLLEGE STUDENTS INVITED!**
Pro-Life Night: Come learn how to promote and live a Culture of LIFE in all stages, from conception to natural death.

Jan. 17th: **YOUTH GROUP OFF-SITE!** Winter-Jam, an awesome Christian concert right at the Gwinnett Arena.

Jan. 24th: **Attitude Check: The call to live out Social Justice!**



Pizza and Prayer is starting up again on Wednesday, January 13th and will continue every Wednesday through the semester. Join us this spring as we strive for holiness and address the 7

Capital Sins: how they impact our lives and world and what we can do to overcome them to be saints!

JUNIORS AND SENIORS are you interested in visiting an incredible Catholic College? MLK Weekend, January 15th – 19th join us on a trip to Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio. See Courtney in youth ministry if you’re interested!

CALLING ALL 9th GRADE CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES: THE MANDATORY PARENT AND TEEN MEETING IS ON MONDAY, JANUARY 11th. Mass is at 6:30 PM for all the candidates and their families, followed by a meeting at 7:15 PM! THE FIRST CONFIRMATION CLASS IS ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 24th in LYKE HALL.

GUYS and GALS RETREAT

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR MEN’S AND WOMEN’S RETREATS! Start raising now or ask to go for a Christmas Present! We are going to COVECREST and the dates are February 26th – 28th and March 26th – 28th!



PRO-LIFE March in Downtown Atlanta is on Friday, January 22nd. Signups are available at youth group if you’re interested in joining us for a day of Penance and Prayer for LIFE!

CONTINUED ON LAST PAGE

Schedule for the Week

Sunday	January 3	
Nursery	8:30am & 10:30am	
PreK-K	8:30am & 10:30am	
Inquiry	8:30am	7
OCIC	8:30am	
Weekly Catechumen	10:00am	Lyke Hall
Familia	12:00pm	7
OCIT	3:30pm	12/13
Youth Group	after 5:30 Mass	
Monday	January 4	
Parish Offices Re-Open		
Cub Scout Den Meetings	6:00pm	1,2,4,5,7,8,10
BSA	7:00pm	3/6,11
Tuesday	January 5	
Great Adventures	7:00pm	10
Holy Hour	7:15pm	Church
Wednesday	January 6	
Seekers	10:00am	Lyke Hall
Pizza & Prayer	6:30pm	Narthex/Church
Thursday	January 7	
RESCUE	10:00am	8
Great Adventures	7:00pm	Narthex
SVdP	7:00pm	1
Friday	January 8	
Great Adventures	10:00am	Lyke Hall
Leadership Party	6:30pm	Lyke Hall
Saturday	January 9	
Catechist Formation	9:00am-1:30pm	

The Knights of Columbus Car Raffle

The **Knights of Columbus** have joined forces with Chick-Fil-A, Gwinnett Place Ford and Jeff Francoeur in a **raffle** to benefit the Knights of Columbus' charities. **Gwinnett Place Ford donated** a 2010 Mustang LX and each \$10.⁰⁰ ticket has \$10.⁰⁰ in Chick-Fil-A coupons effectively making it a **free ticket**. See the Knights of Columbus after all Masses to get your raffle tickets today.

AN EVENING WITH THE GLADIATORS

The Men's club is hosting its annual EVENING WITH THE GLADIATORS on Saturday, January 16th at the Gwinnett Arena. Purchase a \$13 ticket for the DISCOUNTED PRICE of \$10 and also receive a toy teddy bear. The teddy bears will be thrown on the ice when the first goal of the game is scored benefiting THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY RELAY FOR LIFE KICK-OFF. Tickets will be available on a first come first serve basis after Masses until they are sold out. There are only 200 available so pick yours up early.

Respect for Life March- January 22, 2010

The Knights of Columbus and the Respect for Life Ministry will be sponsoring a bus for the January march in Atlanta in support of Respect for Life. The bus will leave from St. Monica after the 9:00am Mass and return in time of the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00pm. The cost of the bus is \$10/Person for \$20/Family. A simple meal of bread, cheese and water will be provided. Space will be limited to 47 so please sign up in the Narthex after Mass. Payment must be made by January 15th. Please make checks payable to Knights of Columbus. Drop your payments in the office or the outside drop box.



Seekers: New Series Starting Soon!

Join us for our next series entitled, "Living As A Beloved Daughter Of God: A Faith-Sharing Guide For Catholic Women." Here's what the *Word Among Us* Website has to say about this series:

"This sixteen-session faith sharing guide will help women come to deeper understanding of their identity in Christ while also helping them to gain a renewed perspective of their varied roles as wives, mothers, sisters, and daughters. Among the themes covered are prayer, discovering God's mercy, forgiveness, hearing God in Scripture, dealing with temptation, finding purpose, and balancing work and family. This guide will help women grow in their understanding of the Lord and of their Catholic faith."

All adult women of the parish are invited to join our new session which will meet **Wednesdays in Lyke Hall from 9:45-11:45am starting January 6th**. Call Patrick Klein (678-584-9947 ext. 12) by December 30th so that he can order you a book. We have childcare available for participants. If you have children and would like to take advantage of such a service let us know as space will be limited. Contact Kim Johnston at 770-513-3409- kimmerjohns@charter.net or Michelle Dickerson at 770-757-5270 mpdcqe@bellsouth.net.



24 Hour Adoration Coming to St. Monica's

"O Come Let Us Adore Him"

Beginning in February, we will have 24 hour adoration every First Friday.

Prayerfully consider when you can come to adore Him. Contact DeeDee Shonhor at DEISHO@aol.com or at 770-623-3449.

**DONUTS TODAY!**

Today, Sunday, January 3rd, after the 8:30 Mass, we will have donuts, coffee and fellowship! **This new ministry will occur every first Sunday of the month.** Come to Lyke Hall in the RE building and join us for fellowship, a good cup of coffee and a delicious treat.



Prayer Blanket Ministry- you are covered in prayer!

God has used this beautiful ministry to touch countless people who have received the blankets while enduring difficult times in their lives.

Anyone who is afflicted with physical or emotional burden and needs an enormous gift of love and warmth is eligible to receive a blanket.

Blankets are available at the front desk of the Parish Office.

New Prayer Group

The Cenacle rosary group is a new prayer group that meets on Thursday morning after the 9:00 am Mass. All are invited to come together in prayer to pray for the needs of St. Monica's parish. For more information please call Cyndy Furguele 678-584-9947 ext. 26.

Take "stock" in our parish

Making your gift with long term appreciated securities may be a tax wise method of supporting our parish. When making a gift of appreciated stock, bonds, or stock options with long term gains, the donor pays no tax on the capital gains and can take a charitable tax deduction for the fair market value of the security (assuming this is less than 30% of AGI). Consider the following gift example:

You purchased a publicly traded stock 10 years ago for \$5,000, now worth \$10,000

Tax savings from the \$10,000 deduction	\$3,300
(Assuming a 33% income tax rate)	
No tax on unrealized gain*	<u>0</u>
Total tax savings from the \$10,000 stock gift	\$3,300

WEDS NEWS! If you have been to a marriage encounter and want to continue that wonderful experience with your spouse, come visit the Saint Monica's WEDS group. Our next meeting will be on Saturday, January 9th, 7:00pm, at the home of Peggy & Charley Harper.

For parish verification, required for Baptisms, Marriages, Catholic school admittance, etc., a person must be registered in the parish, attend Mass regularly and be involved in Time, Talent & Stewardship. Participation through parish offertory envelopes is one means of verification. If you choose not to use envelopes or are unable to contribute at this time, please make a notation of your prayerful support on your envelope and place it in the offertory basket. We will then be aware of your participation and not move you to our inactive list.

The Rosary is prayed before Masses:
 8:30am Monday through Saturday
 6:00pm Monday and Tuesday
 6:00am Wednesday



Please come join us in prayer.



If you would like to commemorate a special event, anniversary or the memory of a loved one, by making a donation for the altar flowers, Please contact Cyndy Furguele for more information 678-584-9947 ext 26, or cyndyf@saintmonicas.com.

Retrouaille: A Lifeline for Hurting Marriages. This program helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. It is designed to provide the tools to help get your marriage back on track and to examine your lives together in a new and positive way. For confidential information or to register for the next program, beginning with a weekend on January 29-31, call 770-495-8592 or visit www.retrouailleofatlanta.org/.

DAVE RAMSEY'S FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY *Financial Peace University* (FPU) is a 13-week life-changing program that teaches you God's ways to achieve your financial goals by eliminating debt, saving for the future, and giving like never before. You will be challenged and motivated to make a plan for your money and change your family tree forever. For more info attend a free preview at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Norcross, GA. January 9 at 11am or Jan 11 at 7pm. Call Joel Steuben @ 678-687-5050

Severe Weather closing information, if Gwinnett County Schools are closed- all activities at the church are cancelled for that day and evening. This is done for the safety of our parishioners. If the Gwinnett County authorities deem that the road conditions are not safe to travel we abide by their decisions. Safety of the children and the adults is our primary reason for having this policy.

Notre Dame Academy Open House will be Sunday, January 10, 2:00-4:00 pm. Brief school presentations will be held at 2:15 and 3:15 pm. Tours offered as well as the opportunity to meet teachers, students, and parents. Notre Dame Academy is an independent, Marist-sponsored, Catholic school educating children from 3 years old through 8th grade. For more information, please visit our website at www.ndacademy.org or call (678) 387-9385.

Pinecrest Academy invites you to attend an Open House for Pre-K3 – 8th grade on Sunday, January 10, from 1-4 pm. There will be presentations at 1:15 and 2:15pm. Family members are welcome to visit the campus, meet our faculty, and talk with current students and parents. Pinecrest Academy is a private Catholic school serving Pre-K3 through 12 grade and is a place where your child will be known and loved. For more information, please visit our web-site, www.pinecrestacademy.org, or call Robert Bruckner, Director of Admissions, at 678.965.2064. We look forward to meeting you!

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY SCHOOL invites all prospective K-8 students and their parents to attend Open House on Sunday, January 24, from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Tricia DeWitt, Principal, will give a presentation at 3:15 pm regarding curriculum, admissions and the vision and philosophy of the school. Come and enjoy this opportunity to meet the faculty, tour the campus and find out the why IHM is a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. Admissions packets are available on our website. If you have any questions, please contact Maria Demos, Admissions Director, at 404-636-4488 or visit our website at www.ihmschool.org.

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY SCHOOL
 2855 BRIARCLIFF ROAD, NE
 ATLANTA, GA 30329
 404-636-4488
www.ihmschool.org

SJNRCS OPEN HOUSE

The St. John Neumann Regional Catholic School 2010 Open House will be held on Sunday, January 24th, from 1pm-3pm. Come visit our classrooms and meet our teachers– we have openings in K-7 grades. Applications for 2010-2011 are available online and at the school. SJNRCS is located at 791 Tom Smith Rd. in Lilburn. For additional information, please call 770-381-0557 or visit www.sjnrcs.org.

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store

1433 Buford Highway

BUFORD, GA 30518

phone: 770-271-1764

store hours: Mon-Sat 10:00 am till 4:00 pm

Dear Parishioners,

Two years ago, on January 7th, 2008 St. Monica's St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store opened its doors after Fr. Jack's blessing the day before.

At the time we asked for your support and your response has been phenomenal.

We thank you for your kind donations and the work done by all our volunteers.

During the last two years we have paid off our debts, doubled the size of the store, added furniture to our merchandise and were blessed to donate \$120,000.00 to help our needy brothers and sisters through our St. Monica's St. Vincent de Paul Conference.

CONGRATULATIONS and THANK YOU

This is YOUR store, please keep up your support by donating your goods, especially furniture. We have every Tuesday scheduled for furniture pick up (to schedule please call 770-271-1764 Mon-Sat 10:00 am till 4:00 pm)

Be a volunteer, a couple of hours per week to give you that "good" feeling and to bring you joy and camaraderie.

DONATE, VOLUNTEER AND SHOP

Thank you , we look forward to an even better 2010.

Happy New Year and may God bless you and your family.

HIGH SCHOOL TEENS HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

CONTINUED FROM page 3



For youth group on **January 17th**, we are going to the Gwinnett Arena for **the largest Christian concert of the year; Winter Jam!** Tickets are \$10 and you can sign up and receive more details at youth group. Come see Third Day, 10th Avenue North, and some other incredible Christian bands!



On Saturday, January 30th, the Youth Group is going to the Soup Kitchen in Atlanta. Spots are limited so sign up at youth group in early January with Beth Mays!

Adults of all ages, do you have a love for the Lord and a desire to witness that to teens? Please contact Courtney in youth ministry if you're interested in helping on the CORE Team!

ALL HIGH SCHOOL TEENS AND PARENT'S IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE ON THE YOUTH GROUP EMAIL LIST AND RECEIVE EMAILS ON UPCOMING YOUTH GROUP EVENTS, PLEASE EMAIL COURTNEY, THE YOUTH MINISTER AND ASK TO BE PUT ON THE LIST! Courtney.desmond@saintmonicas.com