



An Ongoing Partnership



Since 2011, Our Lady of Lourdes has partnered with StandUp for Kids (SUFK), an organization that helps combat human trafficking and child sexual exploitation by reaching out to Atlanta's homeless teens. Until SUFK lost its lease over a year ago, Lourdes members regularly helped out and served meals at its downtown center.

Through an in-school mentoring program and an ongoing street outreach, StandUp for Kids has continued to serve Atlanta's most vulnerable young people. More than 60 homeless and at-risk teens have lunchtime meetings with SUFK mentors in 11 Fulton County high schools. Three evenings a week, SUFK street volunteers walk the areas in downtown and Little 5 Points where street youth congregate, offering food/hygiene survival packs and referrals for services. On Wednesdays, they host a picnic dinner in or near the CNN Center. Volunteers encounter about 13 new kids a month, and more than 70 have stopped by for the dinners.

COMPASSION FATIGUE

StandUp for Kids recognizes that its volunteers face great challenges, particularly now that the organization no longer has a facility in which to base its services. But the challenges facing its youthful clients are still greater. Meeting at Lourdes on Saturday, April 16th, the SUFK advisory board focused on the traumas that lead young people to become homeless. The majority of homeless youth report physical and/or sexual abuse, both at home and in foster care, leaving many without the emotional resources to make positive choices or to bond with adults who would guide them wisely.

The stress of working with teens who may seem unappreciative or even hostile leads readily to burn-out among volunteers and explains the need for mandatory training and for adequate numbers of trained people to share the responsibilities.

AN INVITATION TO SERVE

To strengthen and grow its programs, SUFK is now enlisting volunteers for fall semester in-school mentoring, as well as its street outreach program and behind-the-scenes support. Resuming its role as food provider, Lourdes has been invited to undertake a "casserole club" program to provide meals for the downtown picnic.

Members interested in working more directly with vulnerable young people—in schools or on the streets, including the picnic—are invited to sign up for a mandatory orientation and training on **Sunday, June 5th**, from 9:30 until 3 p.m. in Stone Mountain. (No charge, but the required background check costs \$18.)

To sign up or inquire about SUFK volunteer training, contact Janice Barrocas at janiceb@standupforkids.org or 404-805-5134.

MAY 2016 Happy Mother's Day

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1 Sunday School Last Day RCIA 9:30A Sunday School 10:00A/Last Day Teen Ministry 10:00A/Last Day Parenting Class 10:00A/Last Day Women's Council 9:30A Social Action 11:30A St. Vincent de Paul 12N 1st Communion Rehearsal 1:30P Expansion Steering Meeting 1:30P</p>	<p>2 Alumni Casino Bus Trip Early Voting Begins Zumba Class 7:15P</p>	<p>3 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:15P Baptismal Class 7P Lector Prep 7P</p>	<p>4 Zumba Class 6:15P AGLID Rehearsal 7:30P Bible Study 7:00P Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA, 30308</p>	<p>5 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 7:15P Choir & AGLD Rehearsal 7:00P</p>	<p>6 <i>YAG Meeting</i> 7:30PM</p>	<p>7 Lector Prep 10:30A First Communion 11A AG Youth Class 10A Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist</p>
<p>8 Mother's Day Breakfast served after the services <i>Amazing Grace Mother's Day Concert Center Stage ~ 3P</i></p>	<p>9 Stephens Ministry 6:30PM Zumba Class 7:15P</p>	<p>10 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:15P Confirmation Mass 7:00PM</p>	<p>11 Zumba Class 6:15P AGLID Rehearsal 7:30P Bible Study 7:00P Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA, 30308</p>	<p>12 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 7:15P Choir & AGLD Rehearsal 7:00P</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 Jr. Concession Stand AG Youth Class 10A Pastoral Care Team 10A Ereclism 11A Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist RCIA Reception 6:30PM</p>
<p>15 Pentecost Sunday RCIA 8:30A St. Vincent de Paul 12N Haiti Ministry Meeting 12N KPC/PCCLA Meeting 12N Jr. Daughters 1:30P St. Vincent de Paul 12N</p>	<p>16 Zumba Class 7:15P</p>	<p>17 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:15P</p>	<p>18 Zumba Class 6:15P AGLID Rehearsal 7:30P Bible Study 7:00P Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA, 30308</p>	<p>19 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 7:15P Choir & AGLD Rehearsal 7:00P</p>	<p>20 Early Voting Ends <i>Men's Ministry</i> <i>Movie Night for Edgewood</i> 7:30P</p>	<p>21 Jr. Concession Stand AG Youth Class 10A ASBS Meeting 3:30P Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist</p>
<p>22 Bookstore & Beignets RCIA 8:30A Health Promotions 11:30A Life Issues 12N <i>Adoption Planning Meeting 12N</i> <i>Lourdes Alumni Meeting 2P</i></p>	<p>23 Finance Council 6:30P Zumba Class 7:15P <i>Taize Prayer Group 8:00PM</i></p>	<p>24 Election Day Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:00P</p>	<p>25 Zumba Class 6:15P AGLID Rehearsal 7:30P Bible Study 7:00P Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA, 30308</p>	<p>26 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 7:15P</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Jr. Concession Stand AG Youth Class 10A Ereclism 11A Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist / T-Shirt Bookstore & Beignets</p>
<p>29 T-Shirt Sunday Sunday Breakfast RCIA 8:30A</p>	<p>30 Memorial Day Office Closed</p>	<p>31</p>				

Save the Date

Sunday, May 8, 2016 ~ Mother's Day ~ Join us for brunch after all the services in the cafeteria
Saturday, May 28th & Sunday, May 29th ~ Lourdes T-Shirt Weekend