

Diocesan Youth Campout 2024



✂ This month, 9 of our high school youth of St. Mary joined other parishes and about 85 youth from around the Diocese for a weekend of fun and faith at Tri-State Christian Camp in DeFuniak Springs. Our theme was "The Race We Run Together" inspired by Hebrews 12:1-2a.



They slept in cabins, played lots of games, sang songs, roasted marshmallows, had a rousing volleyball competition (at which our youth beat the adult team), and did all those other fun camping things that helped them grow closer to one another. But they also gathered together for Adoration, went to Reconciliation, prayed the Rosary, celebrated Mass, listened to talks, learned about and prayed the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, and grew closer to God.



In their own words, the "favorites of camp" from the youth of St. Mary:

- ✂ All of the youth prayers ✂ Meeting and making new friends ✂ Eating ✂
- The Mass and homily were very inspiring ✂ We loved the bonfire ✂ The music was powerful
- ✂ All the fun games we got to play during free time ✂ Being able to pray the Rosary all together
- ✂ Charcoal drawings on the pathway ✂ When it rained ✂ Showering with the cockroach
- ✂ We loved the new water bottles and they were super cool because it holds up our phones ✂
- My knees were dead during Mass ✂ Leading the Divine Mercy Chaplet ✂ Adoration ✂

Thank you for supporting our high school youth group, SMYLE.