



(Observer photo/Margarita Mendoza)

St. Edward CCHS Students Study El Observador

Students in one of the Spanish classes at St. Edward Central Catholic High School in Elgin look over copies of *El Observador* when editor Margarita Mendoza visits the class during Catholic Press Month in February.

St. Katharine Drexel Teens Take "Wacky Olympic" Gold

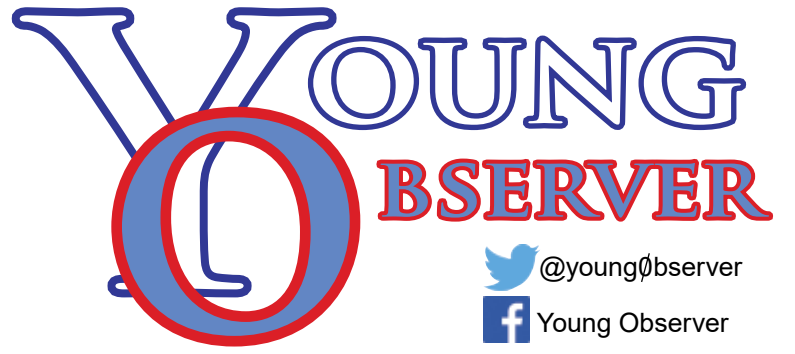


(Photos provided)

Teens who took part in St. Katharine Drexel's Youth Ministry Winter Wacky Olympics earned gold, silver, and bronze medals at the Sugar Grove parish recently. The "Father Bob-sled" races were named for Father Robert Jones, the pastor (top, front right). And



the "✝-Country" events were considered crowd-pleasers by participants. Before the competition, the teens performed a skit from the prologue of "Rediscover Jesus." Everyone who came was challenged to be a "Champion of Our Faith."



VOCATION CORNER

Using the tools we've been given

A couple of months ago I decided I wanted to learn how to whittle. I came to the conclusion that my first project would be to create a wooden mug.



By FATHER KYLE MANNO | Vocations Team Member

I began by watching YouTube videos and reading articles. I then bought the wood and tools and I sat down to begin my adventure in whittling. I was eager and zealously started off on a great foot.

Yet after a few days the weather became increasingly cold and each night I would tell myself that it was too cold to whittle. I pushed off the whittling for days as I used the excuse of the weather.

At some point I realized that I couldn't keep using the cold as an excuse. I had to choose to go out and finish what I started.

This, at times, is like our spiritual life. The Lord gives us the tools to receive His love and become saints but He will never force us to get up and continue the task.

As you discern God's will for you in your life ask yourself the following questions:

- Am I using the tools God gave me?
- Do I pray daily?
- Do I read Scripture?
- Do I attend Mass regularly and confess my sins?
- Do I have a spiritual mentor to help me in the journey?
- Do I examine my day with the Lord before bed?

The Lord has given you the tools so don't be afraid to carve out time for Him and make room for Him to speak to you!



Win a \$1,000 scholarship to go with that diploma

High school seniors have until March 23, 2018, to apply for NINA's annual scholarship for future journalists.

Learn more at <https://ninaonlinedotorg.wordpress.com/2018-scholarship-rules/>
The Observer and El Observador are both members of the Northern Illinois Newspaper Association, which presents the scholarships.



will return soon.

Send your questions to youngobserver@rockforddiocese.org