



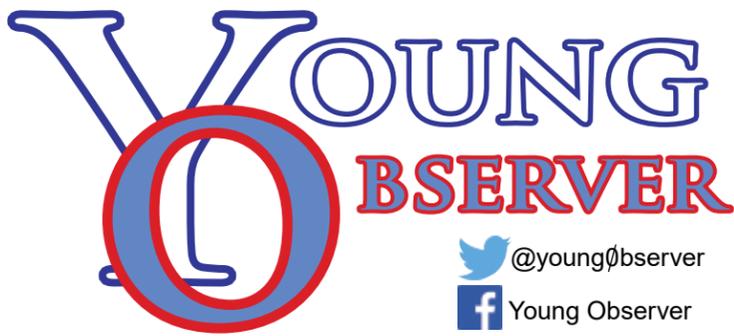
What are you looking for?

Come and see if God might be calling you to a life full of joy as a Sister of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

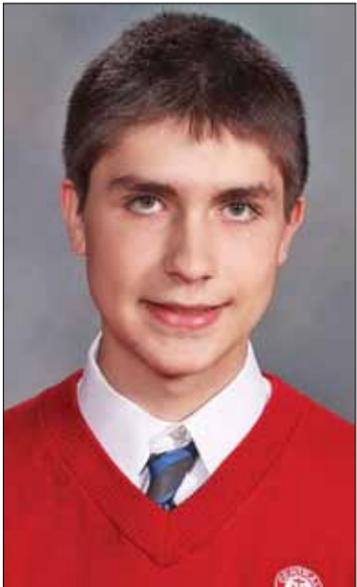
The Sisters of Providence Come and See Weekend Retreat will take place Oct. 26-28 at spirit-filled Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana. Spend time with sisters in prayer, ask our younger sisters any questions you may have and get to know our foundress, Saint Mother

Theodore Guerin all while exploring where God may be calling you. The retreat is free and is for single, Catholic women ages 18-42.

Info: ComeandSee.SistersofProvidence.org.



National Merit Scholarship semifinalists



(Photos provided) In Woodstock, Marian Central Catholic High School senior Joseph Noonan is a semifinalist in the National Merit Scholarship Program.



In Elgin, St. Edward Central Catholic High School senior Thomas Gallagher has been named a semifinalist in the 64th annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

Save the date

Rockford Diocese Youth Summit. Oct. 28

Where: Rock Valley College in Rockford.

How to get there: Ask at your parish to be sure you're on the list to go!



(Photo provided)

St. Edward CCHS homecoming court

St. Edward Central Catholic High School in Elgin celebrated homecoming Sept. 9-15. Court. Homecoming court members are (girls from bottom to top) Trixie Pedres, Madelyn Duffy, Emily Terrazas, Jessica Mote, and Jillian Rolando, (boys from bottom to top) Daniel Fernandez, Ethan Palomino, Carson Scarnegie, Ben Boydston, and Sidney Muhammed.

Candidate relies on faith during pageant

MAGNOLIA, Del. (CNS)—Wonder Woman may have helped Joanna Wicks advance to the Miss America pageant, but the reigning Miss Delaware will rely on a higher power to help her stay calm during the competition.

Wicks, 24, speed-painted Wonder Woman as her talent when she won the Miss Delaware title in June. She planned to paint the fictional superhero during her 90-second talent act in Atlantic City, N.J.

Drawing Wonder Woman seemed a perfect fit not only for Wicks, who teaches art at St. Thomas More Academy in Magnolia, but for the competition as well.

"The Miss America organization (is) about empowering women and seeing women as strong individuals," Wicks told *The Dialog*, newspaper of the Diocese of Wilmington, Delaware. "Thematically, Wonder Woman fits right in. She's just awesome."

But Wonder Woman won't help Wicks beyond the talent segment during 12

days of appearances, rehearsals and competition, which was to end Sept. 9. Instead, Wicks will turn to God and her faith to "help calm me down (when) it gets really hectic."

Wicks' favorite scriptural passage, John 1:5, has helped her stay on task during the last year as she juggled her schedule to keep up with everything. That passage goes, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness will not

overcome it."

She became good friends with fellow St. Thomas More teacher Rebecca Gasperetti, who was first runner-up to Wicks in the Miss Delaware pageant.

Ultimately, Wicks lost to Miss North Dakota, Cara Mund, but will use her status as Miss Delaware to promote awareness and prevention of domestic violence.



(CNS photo/Don Blake)

Miss Delaware Joanna Wicks (left) and runner up Rebecca Gasperetti smile in the art room at St. Thomas More Academy in Magnolia, Del. Wicks planned to rely on God and the words of St. John's Gospel to help her stay calm during the Miss America competition, which concluded Sept. 9.