



above: Nathan Wohar completes his leg of the puzzle relay race, a team-building exercise conducted by Office of Youth and Young Adults Director Sister Celeste Strohmeier, OSBM.

below: Archdiocesan altar servers (and Father James Spontak, seated at far right) listen intently as Father Kevin Marks relates the story of his first-ever experience as an altar boy at St. Michael the Archangel Church in Hermitage, Pa.



## 'Faith and Fun Day' enjoyed by altar servers

DAYFUL OF THANKS FOR A JOB WELL DONE

A picture-perfect day provided plenty of sunshine for the first annual Faith and Fun Day for Archdiocesan Altar Servers, held on Thursday, August 21 at the Gilmary Center in Moon Township, Pa.

Competing with summer vacations, band camps and even the first day of the new school year, the event drew eleven youthful servers from five parishes in the Archdiocese.

Sponsored by the Office of

Vocations, the day began with a Moleben to Jesus in the Gilmary Chapel, followed by "ice-breaker" activities, led by Sister Celeste Strohmeier, OSBM. Father Kevin Marks then presented "The Awesomeness of Serving," and Darlene Fejka made "Finding Your Voice" interesting and fun.

After lunch, swimming and recreation, mementos were given by Metropolitan Basil to all participants. ■



above: The first annual Faith and Fun Day concluded with presentations of official T-shirts and several gifts, including the Altar Servers prayer card, which was recited by all participants prior to departing.

left: Following a morning full of faith, fun took center stage with an invigorating afternoon romp in the indoor pool at Gilmary Center in Moon Township, Pa.

photos by Darlene Fejka



Participants in the 2008 Faith and Fun Day for Archdiocesan Altar Servers included: *left to right, front row:* Michael D'Agostini, SS. Peter and Paul Church, Portage, Pa.; Nathan Wohar, St. Michael Church, Donora, Pa.; Nathaniel Hersh and Alex Hersh, St. George Church, Aliquippa, Pa.; Alex Murphy and Daniel D'Agostini, SS. Peter and Paul Church, Portage; Father Kevin Marks, Assistant Vocations Director and pastor of St. George Church, Aliquippa. *back row:* Randy Wisen, SS. Peter and Paul Church, Portage; Seminarians Will Rupp and Deacon Daniel Forsythe; Joe Kuisick, SS. Peter and Paul Church, Portage; Andrew Glaid, St. John Cathedral, Munhall, Pa.; Archdiocesan Vocations Director and rector of St. John's Cathedral Archpriest Dennis M. Bogda; Luke Iyengar, Holy Ghost Church, McKees Rocks, Pa.; Father James Spontak, pastor of SS. Peter & Paul Church, Portage; Metropolitan Basil; parent/chaperone Steve Tima, St. John's Cathedral; parent/chaperone Dr. Greg Wohar, St. Michael Church, Donora; Sam Tima, St. John's Cathedral, Munhall.



Altar server Daniel D'Agostini receives his official Faith and Fun Day T-shirt from Metropolitan Basil, who personally thanked each server for their dedication and commitment to their respective churches.