



Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown

Tony DeGol

Secretary for Communications

925 S. Logan Boulevard

Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

Telephone: (814) 695-5579

Facsimile: (814) 696-9516

Cell: (814) 937-1418

E-mail: tdegol@dioceseaj.org

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Hundreds of Youth to Package Meals for Victims of Natural Disasters

(HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA) – The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown Office of Youth Ministry will sponsor the annual Senior High Youth Conference – or SHYCON – on October 22 from 11:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. at the Stokes Athletic Center at Saint Francis University in Loretto. More than 700 students in grades 9-12 from throughout the Diocese will attend the event.

The theme for SHYCON 2017 is “Called to Be a Disciple – How Will You Answer?” Nationally recognized musician ValLimar Jansen will be the keynote presenter, and Bishop Mark Bartchak will celebrate Mass for the students.

In response to the recent natural disasters in the United States and around the world, SHYCON is once again partnering with the Rise Against Hunger Foundation – an international hunger relief organization. Young people attending the conference will package 36,000 meals that will be sent to those in need.

“This will be the second year SHYCON participants will package meals for Rise Against Hunger,” said Francine Swope, Diocesan coordinator of Youth Ministry, Religious Education, and Sacramental Preparation. “The need is especially great this year because of all of the recent storms and other disasters. This service project is a great way for our youth to help people who might otherwise go hungry.”

Media coverage of SHYCON 2017 is invited.