

The College Experience

Millennial Milestones Project Conference Call Summary

- ✓ St. Mary, Lancaster – keeping connection with college students is important

There is an interest in this milestone because of previous pastoral staff connections with the Newman ministry. How can this college connection fit into the normal way of parish life?

- ✓ Lakewood – This is an area that interests the parish in order to follow or reach the college age people

Also the parish is interested in the local Community College

- ✓ St. Joseph University mentioned niche markets – e.g. Medical/Dental School how to support students in those areas

Pinpointing the needs and respond specifically to the niche

Dialogue: How can we help each other with this project?

- ✓ Online discussion – “page of best practices”
- ✓ “Who’s, Who in Young Adult Ministry” web page for networking purposes (interested in sharing contact information and possibly gathering people for networking)
- ✓ Possibly open up colleagues in youth ministry meetings to young adult ministry leaders
- ✓ 2nd conference call scheduled for March 2, 2010 10 am or 7 pm



General ideas for keeping connected to the “Bound for College”

- ✓ Post the graduates picture and where they are headed off to in the vestibule, possibly on TV screens in the vestibules at church
- ✓ It was mentioned that students can be tracked through the local newspaper – provide an information sheet and collect email address and other information
- ✓ How to keep connected with the young adults post high school. St. Pius X parish offers a Baccalaureate Mass at the end of the academic year.
- ✓ Also the need to track high school graduating seniors and mail/email information to them and ask the parents for contact information for their son/daughter.

How to transition people from the high school/young person role of church to the adult role in the Church?

- ✓ Involve and invite them into the ministries of the parish (catechetical, service, and liturgical) Also consider short term scheduling for breaks like summer, spring and Christmas.
- ✓ Use the Strengths Finder and Strengths based tools to find their gifts and talents so that they can serve in capacities within the community.

<http://www.gallup.com/consulting/faith/101782/books-articles.aspx>

Strengths Finder 2.0

Tom Ray (Gallup Press: New York, 2007)

<http://www.strengthsfinder.com>

Living Your Strengths: *Discover Your God-Given Talents and Inspire Your Community*

Albert L. Winseman, D.Min., Donald O. Clifton, Ph.D. and Curt Liesveld, M.Div., MA. (Gallup Press: New York 2008)

Strategies for Community College outreach & evangelization

- ✓ Presence & programming – meet young adults where they are at
- ✓ Are there signs with Mass times and a word of welcome present in the classroom buildings, student life areas and residence halls?
- ✓ Key people to know on community college campuses : student life, residence life, counseling center
- ✓ Respect and reverence for the questions that young adults have
- ✓ Question nights – index cards and people can ask questions anonymously if they wish of parish staff and volunteers
- ✓ Always asking the young adult – “How does this fit into your experience?”
- ✓ Young Adults in college like service projects

Are the service opportunities we provide offered at times that college students can join in?
(Habitat for Humanity, St. Vincent de Paul, and nursing home visits)

- ✓ Use of online/Facebook page for parish newsletter for college – aged students
- ✓ Use Facebook as a tool for evangelization and invite them to belong to parish based page
- ✓ Summer service opportunities (and other breaks) for college age students respecting the diversity of service opportunities and time availability (nights and weekends).

How to prepare students for the College Experience

Busted Halo – www.bustedhalo.com

Freshman Survival Guide from Busted Halo:

<http://www.bustedhalo.com/features/busted-halo-freshman-survival-guide-2009/>

Catholic Campus Ministry Association (Getting Ready for College)

<http://www.ccmanet.org/ccma.nsf/gettingreadyforcollege?OpenPage>

Use of Survey Monkey for data collection:

www.surveymonkey.com

Could be used to collect names, emails, Facebook information, cell phone numbers for texting purposes and information for how your parish can serve you?

Data can be put into Excel file for use.

Liguori Publications: (just type college)

<http://www.liguori.org/searchproducts.cfm>

Choosing a College: A Guide for Catholic Students

By author: [Eden and Katherine Foord](#)

Product Code: 815065

ISBN: 9780764815065

Availability: In stock.

Price: \$1.00

Faith Bound: Prayers By & 4 College Students

Product Code: 818844

ISBN: 9780764818844

Availability: Out of stock. [Backorder policy](#) **Next Release Date: February 1, 2010**

Price: \$10.99

Keeping the Faith: A Guide for Catholic College Students

By author: [Eden and Katherine Foord](#)

Product Code: 815058

ISBN: 9780764815058

Availability: In stock.

Price: \$1.00

Keeping Your College Kids Catholic

By author: [Thomas Krieg](#)

Product Code: 806933

ISBN: 9780764806933

Availability: In stock.

Price: \$1.00