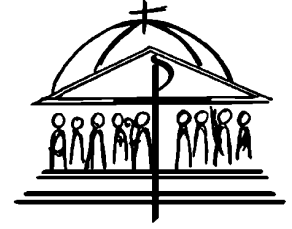


## Ponderings on ministry with and to young adults (18 –35, single and married)



- Create a “Preferential Option” for Young Adult Catholics

Creating a “preferential option for young adult Catholics” remembers that effective ministry can be a specific ministry as well as a ministry integrated into the rest of the parish activities. It is important for parish leaders to build relationships with the young adults within your community and include them in the parish dynamic as parish council members, catechists, Eucharistic ministers, music ministry, and the leadership of any specific ministry that caters to the needs of young adults.

- Encourage Spirituality, Prayer and Meditation

Encourage young adults to challenge themselves spiritually through prayer and meditation. Many young adults lead very hectic and busy lives. They may welcome opportunities for quiet reflection and prayer as a way of keeping their lives in balance. Does our parish have prayer groups or small faith communities that continually welcome new members? Is our parish offering short term experiences of retreat or “user – friendly” resources for prayer and spiritual growth?

If you or your parish community would like to learn more about Young Adult Ministry or how to communicate with young adults, please contact Greg Coogan at [gcoogan@buffalodiocese.org](mailto:gcoogan@buffalodiocese.org) or 716-847-8789. We are here to help!

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### Theology on Tap

Catholic Speaker Series for all in their 20’s & 30’s

“The Battle of Prayer”

**Fr. David Baker**

Parochial Vicar, Queen of Heaven Parish, West Seneca

6pm Doors Open

7:30pm Talk Begins

8:15 pm Q&A

**Tuesday, October 13**

Dave & Busters

4545 Transit Road

Eastern Hills Mall

Williamsville, NY 14221

**No Cover & Free Parking**

Series sponsored by The Station of the Cross  
Catholic Radio 101.7 FM

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### Catholic & Single

The following article on Bustedhalo.com provides insights into Catholic on-line dating. A friend of mine met his wife on-line and they are going on 7 years of marriage with a growing family. A match made in heaven?  
[www.bustedhalo.com/features/matches-made-in-heaven/](http://www.bustedhalo.com/features/matches-made-in-heaven/)

## Young Adult Ministry — *Key Resources*

### **BOOKS**

- **Sons & Daughters of the Light - A Pastoral Plan for Ministry with Young Adults**  
Available in print to order: English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Korean—1-800-235-8722  
Or order on the web at [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)  
Available on the web in English at [www.usccb.org/statements](http://www.usccb.org/statements)
- **Designing Contemporary Congregations: Strategies to Attract Those Under 50**  
Laurene Beth Bowers, Pilgrim press, 2008.
- **Reaching People under 40 while Keeping People over 60: Being Church for All Generations**  
Edward H. Hammett with James R. Pierce, Chalice Press, 2007
- **Young Adult Ministry in the 21st Century: The Encyclopedia of Practical Ideas.**  
Brad Lewis, Beth Robinson, and Carl Simmons, editors, Group Publishing, 2006.

### **WEB SITES**

- \* **[www.onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html](http://www.onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html)**  
A site for young adults who would like the opportunity to pray, reflect and engage the spiritual life.
- \* **[www.sacredspace.ie](http://www.sacredspace.ie)**  
The Irish Jesuits have created space on the web to engage all ages in prayer.
- \* **<http://pray.nd.edu>**  
A great site for insights on prayer and the spiritual life.
- \* **[www.godspy.com](http://www.godspy.com)**  
Godspy is an online magazine for Catholics and other seekers. From politics to the arts, sexuality to ecology, it explores the ideas and experiences that reveal God's presence in the world.
- \* **[www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org)**  
Catholic Relief Services engages young adults in the Church's mission in the world.

## Young Adult Ministry *From the Field*

Here are some ideas of strategies for outreach to young adults. Feel free to borrow and adapt these ideas, contact the parish leader for networking purposes, and share your latest and greatest ideas with us to be featured in "From the Field."



### **"Know your neighbor"**

**St. Joseph University Parish, Buffalo**  
3269 Main Street, adjacent to UB's South Campus  
Patty Bubar Spear: 716-833-0298; [pspear@stjosephbuffalo.com](mailto:pspear@stjosephbuffalo.com)

The parish is hosting a panel on Islam on Monday, September 28<sup>th</sup> in their Community Room at 7 PM. Speakers engage the audience in learning what Islam is about as opposed to the popular and media messages. Panelists discuss how people live their faith in the Western New York area. Those in their 20's and 30's are invited to continue the discussion at a nearby Starbucks immediately following the event. This is a community building experience on a global and local scale.

**Breakout Young Adult Ministry**  
**Nativity of Our Lord Parish, Orchard Park**  
**South Buffalo St. & Thorn Ave.**  
**Adam Jarosz: [madazsor@aol.com](mailto:madazsor@aol.com)**

Break Out Nights will begin in the young adult ministry's refurbished "coffeehouse" gathering space on the parish grounds. Three gatherings are planned for this fall beginning on Thursday, October 13 (November 19 & December 17). Fr. Marty Moleski, SJ will speak in October on the history of the Catholic Church. The evening will begin with upbeat praise and worship music from the parish's band. Real, relevant and relational gatherings and topics are planned to engage 18—30 year olds.