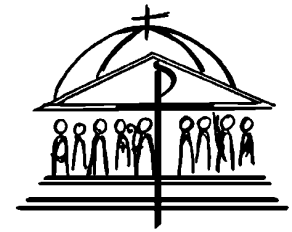


Ponderings on ministry with, for and to young adults (18 -35, single and married)



- Personal Invitation

The most effective way to engage young adults is to use the Jesus method of personal invitation. Bulletin announcements, generic email or flyers are only as effective as taking time to personally invite 20 and 30 something adults. Don't be afraid to invite them to a retreat, parish picnic or a special parish celebration. Young adults time and again are very pleased to receive a personal invite from the pastor, parish staff, or another young adult.

- Vocation & Discernment

Young adults are challenged with the questions like "What am I going to do with my life?" They may welcome opportunities for quiet reflection, prayer and tools of discernment as a way of answering life's questions. Offer opportunities for mentoring within the parish setting or offer avenues for spiritual direction that help to tackle the questions. A great resource for this is "Three Key Questions," offered by the Boston College Intersections Project found at www.ptev.org.

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 or 716-847-8789. We are here to help!

Theology on Tap

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

"The Theology of the Body"

Fr. Thomas Loya

Tabor Life Institute

6pm Doors Open

7:30pm Talk Begins

8:15 pm Q&A

Wednesday, June 16

Pearl Street Grill & Brewery

76 Pearl Street

Buffalo, NY 14202

No Cover

Series sponsored by The Station of the Cross, WLOF 101.7

A BLESSING TO ONE ANOTHER

POPE JOHN PAUL II &
THE JEWISH PEOPLE

A local opportunity to connect young adults with
Pope John Paul II

April 16 - June 30, 2010

Karpeles Manuscript Library
453 Porter Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14201

Experience an historic exhibit of photos, videos, documents and artifacts recording the contributions of Pope John Paul II to relations between the Catholic and Jewish faiths.

Exhibit Hours:

Tuesday - Sunday, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Free and open to the public

*Local exhibition presented by
Canisius College and The Permanent Chair of Polish Culture
For more information visit www.canisius.edu/blessing/*

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
Available on the web in English at www.usccb.org/statements
- **Connecting Young Adults to Catholic Parishes: Best Practices in Catholic Young Adult Ministry**
Committee for Laity, Marriage, Family Life, and Youth, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, USCCB Publishing, 2010.
- **After the Baby Boomers: How Twenty and Thirty Somethings Are Shaping the Future of American Religion**
Robert Wuthnow, Princeton Press, 2007.

WEB SITES

- * **www.bustedhalo.com**
A great resource for young adults to find current and engaging information about being Catholic, prayer and hot topics.
- * **www.ptev.org**
Offers programs for the Theological Exploration of Vocation by Boston College's Intersections Project.
- * **www.iibloom.com**
Is a free online community that connects spirituality and everyday life.
- * **www.foryourmarriage.org**
An initiative of the US Catholic Bishops that offers helpful tips on dating, preparing for marriage, and marriage.
- * **<http://theologyontap.net>**
Information on Renew International's Theology on Tap and other resources for bible studies geared for young adults.

Practices in Young Adult Ministry from across the country

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

College Care Packages

St. James, Setauket, NY
www.stjamessetauket.org

More than 100 college students who are parishioners receive twice-yearly reminders that their parish family loves them and is thinking of them. The reminder comes in the form of a care package that includes homemade baked goods, a copy of the local town newspaper, an assortment of candy and other snacks, a religious article and a handwritten note that is signed. Volunteers assemble the boxes, which then are placed near the altar at Sunday Mass to be picked up and mailed by parish families.

Faith Formation Opportunities

St. Alphonsus Parish, Chicago, Illinois
www.stalphonsuschgo.org

Young adults are given a number of opportunities to learn more about their faith in ways that fit their interests and limited schedules. One is "Views From the Veranda" which takes place during the summer months outside of church on the front porch. This brings young adults together to listen to speakers and discuss issues that connect with their everyday lives.