

YOUTH

April 2003

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Dear Beacon Friends,

Wednesday, February 12 my son and I were blessed to be a part of the beautiful tribute the youth of our diocese paid to our beloved shepherd, Bishop James Hoffman. Although we will always miss his gentle physical presence, his loving spirit shall always be with us.

On February 16, approximately 50 high school youth and team members came together for the Beacon XII High School Gathering. I want to thank the many people who made the day a big success; Fr. Jerry Chmiel, both host and Spiritual Director, Becky Sorenson, Liturgical Director, Patti Hoffman, Program Director, Rebecca Randolph, Logistical Director, Fr. Dave Reinhart, Chaplain of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, and Jill Spieldenner from Heartbeat, for their workshop presentations, Fr. Ted Miller for participating in the Penance Service, Pat Recker for traveling 90 minutes each way to be our Master of Ceremony, Drew Mennel for all he does, Kayla Bowser our Youth Council Representative, our kitchen crew for the delicious dinner, and the many other team members that did whatever was needed for the day to run smoothly. I thank God for the blessing of each and every one of you. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

The Youth Elect Service (YES) Program will be held April 4-6 at Oak Harbor, St. Boniface. Please encourage your high school youth to come and bring a friend. All denominations are welcome. Registration forms must be filled out and submitted to attend. If you need more information, please contact Jeff Miller, Program Director, at 334-8395.

I would like to thank Carol Fox from Immaculate Conception, Dee Buckley from Our Lady of Lourdes, Patti Hoffman from St. Michael, and LouAnn Manahan from St. Ann for joining Gary Landol, Assistant Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry and myself at a "Night of Renewal" on March 10 at Fremont Sacred Heart. It was a wonderful night of prayer, reflection, and sharing followed by discussion of **Youth Conference to be held July 11-13 at Bluffton College**. If no one was there to receive, the Conference packet one should have been sent to your parish. Please contact the diocesan office if you did not receive it. I ask that you please encourage your youth to attend the largest, most exciting event of the year. Approximately 500 youth and adults attend and it is awesome! Anyone registering by **June 2 will save \$10**. Registrations will not be accepted after June 9, so please get them in early.

The "Walk for Life" takes place on Good Friday, April 18. We begin 10:00 a.m. at St. Nicholas, Frenchtown (8981 W. CR 6) and end with prayer at the Basilica, Our Lady of Consolation, in Carey. This event is a wonderful way for God's family to celebrate the beautiful gift of life He has given us.

For those of you who don't know, I was recently diagnosed with Ductal Carcinoma in Situ, which means I am in the beginning stages of breast cancer. I had a lumpectomy on March 18 and I will start radiation treatments in a couple of weeks. Since all this has been going on during the Lenten Season, I've been looking at it as my cross to bear, but each time I receive a card, e-mail, a kind word, or prayer I experience what comes with the cross and that is the awesomeness of the rising. The tears I have shed have not been out of sadness or fear, but for the outpouring of love I have felt from so many wonderful people, God has graced my life with.

This thought came to me one day and I have made it my prayer. "Whenever I begin to think of what I want, I ask you God to remind me of all You have already given." Thank you for being one of my many blessings. May you feel the awesomeness of the rising this Easter Season. HAPPY EASTER!

God's abundant blessings,
Lori Kamelesky
Beacon Area Youth Coordinator

DIOCESAN DATES

April	18, Walk For Life
June	10, Cedar Point Day
July	11-13, Youth
Conference	



Chaplain's Chatter

“Have you ever thought of going back to school? “

“Have you ever thought that you wanted a little more education? “

We always need to be renewed and informed in our ministry. If we do not, we can become sterile and run dry. More and more we are finding quality youth ministry training, continuing education, and opportunities for the pursuit of a degree. This is the perfect time to make plans for summer or autumn.

Of course, we all have unique needs and abilities depending on our ministry and life situation. What follows are some of the immediate opportunities that have come across my desk. I will also be making these known to your pastors as a way of encouraging them to support your continuing education and formation. Of course, we all have unique needs and abilities depending on our ministry and life situation. What follows are some of the immediate opportunities that have come across my desk.

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**“New Ways of Being Church”,
The University of Dayton
June 16-20, 2003**

Courses of interest include: “Using Modern Media in Youth Ministry”, “Being a Leader/Fostering Leadership”, “The Spiritual Lives of Our Teenagers” , and “Spirituality& Film, Part I: Fundamentals in Integrating Film in Ministry”

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For Further Information:

Jewell Truxal
University of Dayton
jewel.truxal@notes.udayton.edu
1-800-443-6348

**“Foundations of Youth
Ministry”,
Loyola Institute for Ministry
Summer 2003**

“This course examines the broad foundations of youth ministry with young and older adolescents. It then investigates a model for comprehensive youth ministry that incorporates developmentally sound youth programs...”

This is a part of the new Masters Degree offered in Youth Ministry through Loyola’s distance learning program. The entire program comes highly recommended and many groups in our Diocese are pursuing degrees through this program.

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For Further Information:
Reynolds R. Ekstrom
Loyola Univ. Institute for
Ministry
1-800-777-5469
lplc@loyno.edu

Training Sessions – These are being offered around the Diocese for all who work with youth. It is a series of sessions developed by the Center for Ministry Development , that have been popular and continue to grow in our three locations.

Youth Ministry Certification - Pat Odey-Murray, Director of the Lay Ministry Formation, along with our office, are working to develop the Lay Ministry Program to include courses and certification in Youth Ministry. We will keep you posted on any developments.

Continuing Education - Both Defiance College and Lourdes College offer courses in Youth Ministry, Defiance in a distance learning format. For further information on either of these opportunities, check out the college website.

As our nation continues on the path toward armed conflict with the nation of Iraq, we are called as Catholics to bring “rigorous conditions of moral legitimacy” (Catechism. #2309) to bear on our decision to support such action. To help inform those who minister to youth, the following is offered to assist you in your ministry as you help youth come to terms with the events taking place in our world.

Conditions for a “Just War” (Catechism #2309):

- 1. The damage inflicted by the aggressor on the nation or community of nations must be lasting, grave, and certain;
- 2. All other means of putting an end to it must have been shown to be impractical or ineffective;
- 3. There must be serious prospects of success;
- 4. The use of arms must not produce evils and disorders graver than the evil to be eliminated.

To help apply these principles to the current events, the United States Bishops have written a statement in which they enumerate the “conviction that war is not “inevitable” and that “war is always a defeat for humanity.” The full text of the Bishop’s statement along with other resources can be found at the following web address: <http://www.nccbuscc.org/sdwp/peace/index.htm>.

Let us all pray that humankind will listen to the promptings of the Holy Spirit so as to help bring about the kingdom of God.

Quotes:

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. (Mt. 5:9)

“If we are to reach real peace in this world and if we are to carry on a real war against war, we shall have to begin with the children...until at last all the corners of the world are covered with



2003-2004 Logo WINNER!!



The winner of this year’s logo contest is Nicole Knabe! She is a member of Resurrection Parish in Lexington. Congratulations Nicole! Enjoy those 2 free Cedar Point tickets!

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Theology on Tap

Mansfield Deanery

April 23
April 30
May 7

Tiffin Deanery

May 1
May 8
May 15

Toledo Deaneries

May 8
May 15
May 22

Sandusky Deanery

May 19

**Principles and Practices
of Ministry with
Young Adults**

This program, sponsored by the Center for Ministry Development, is a training for those involved with young adult ministry in a Parish or Diocesan setting. This program is a 4-weekend commitment and will be hosted by the Diocese of Columbus.

For more information, please contact Gary Landoll at the Diocesan Youth & Young Adult Ministry office.

Check the Young
Adult Website
for more
information

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e-mail to tgraven@toledodiocese.org

Youth Ministry Newsletter
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