

Youth Ministry Newsletter

A Publication of Catholic Youth and School Services
Diocese of Toledo

August 2002

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Area Dates

August 21: Youth Minister's Day
Away in Amish Country, 10:00 a.m.

August 27: Heartland XVI
Director's Meeting, Sandusky
(location tba), 7:00 p.m.

September 8: Life Fest, Shrine
Park, Carey, 1:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Diocesan Dates

2002

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| September | 8 :Life Fest |
| October | 6: Kaleidoscope/Prism HS 13:Crossroads HS 18:Prism JH 20:Beacon HS 27:Two Rivers HS |
| November | 3:Hearthstone HS 10:Heartland HS |
| December | 30:Winter Fun Day |

2003

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| January | 19:Back to Earth HS 26:Hearthstone JH |
| February | 8:Crossroads JH 16:Beacon HS 28:Kaleidoscope HS |
| March | 2:Two Rivers JH 16:BTE/Heartland HS |
| April | 18:Walk for Life\ |
| June | 10:Cedar Point Day |
| July | 11-13:Youth Conference |

Dear Heartland Friend,

I hope that you were able to attend the 35th Annual Catholic Youth Conference that was held at Bluffton College a couple weekends ago! We began the evening celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation with 40 priests and Bishop Hoffman present. On Saturday, we experienced walking in the "Footsteps of the Lord" as we listened to Fr. Mark Davis explain to us who God is for us as Catholics in a way that we could understand. He used magic, jokes, stories and balloons to help us feel the love and presence of the awesome God who is always with us! Jesse Manibusan, a singer, songwriter, guitarist and teller of humorous tales shared with us from his heart, the love of Christ and call to live out our Baptism promises in every aspect of life. He had us all pumped up and singing God's praises at his Concert later that evening....it was an awesome event :>)

At our Area Meetings at Conference, Chad Edwards retired his position of Youth Council Rep for the Heartland Area. Chad did his job cheerfully, with a smile, and did not hesitate to pitch in wherever help was needed. Thank you, Chad, for a job well done! We had five youth-Leon Bursley from New London, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish; Tia Chase and Kristen Smith from Monroeville, St. Joseph; and Stacy Niedermeier and Spencer Tuttle from Willard, St. Francis who ran for the position of Heartland Rep. The Heartland Area Rep is Spencer Tuttle with Stacy Niedermeier as our alternate. Spencer ran for the President position and won – so Stacy moved up into the Heartland Area Rep position! It was very exciting for the Heartland Area!!

We had to say goodbye to Fr. Ron Schock as our Youth and Young Adult Director/Chaplain in Youth Ministry. We will truly miss his dedication to youth, his good sense of humor, cowboy boots, but most of all his faith in Christ. He truly walks in the "Footsteps of the Lord." Welcome to Fr. Dave Reinhart who will be our new Chaplain in Youth and Young Adult Ministry! Fr. Dave is from Bucyrus (Back to Earth!) and served at Norwalk St. Paul (Heartland!) –and has worked as Spiritual Director for gatherings in the area - he is very familiar with the Youth Ministry Program! Congrats to Diane Verhoff for taking over the Director position!!

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Nothing like hitting the ground running with my new ministry! The first day as Youth and Young Adult Chaplain was on the first day of Youth Conference. I then had a couple of days in the office then it was off to World Youth Day. Wow! It has been an awesome beginning!

They've told me to write a little bit about myself and so here it goes. I was raised on a farm between Bucyrus and Upper Sandusky. Yes, another farmer! I am the oldest of 3 boys (my poor mother) and my parents still live at the homestead. My youngest brother, Brian, just began the novitiate for the Oblates of St. Francis De Sales as he discerns his vocation. My other brother, Tim, is married to Dee and has a daughter, Brooke, and they live in Virginia. Tim produces commercials and training videos. All three of us are creative and slightly artistic, but he is the artist of the family.

I had the great joy of graduating from Ohio State University with a degree in landscape architecture and city planning. I worked for a while in Columbus for a de

sign firm and remained restless about what I was really going to do with my life. Ultimately, I had a sense that I needed to look into seminary and discern my vocation.

I was ordained 4 years ago with Fr Mark Bowers and Fr. Randy Giesege. My first and only other assignment was as Associate Pastor of St. Paul, Norwalk. While there I worked a great deal with the high school and in youth ministry programs like Heartland, TEC, Y.E.S., and Youth Leadership Week. Through these experiences and others like them, I developed a great interest in youth and young adult ministry.

I asked to be considered for this ministry and am very excited about being the chaplain for so many great things that happen in our Diocese. Along with this I have begun to work on a masters degree from the University of Dayton. It has been good to open some books again and study (that is something I never thought I would say). It will involve being gone some during the coming summers and an evening class here and there, but otherwise you will not notice. I am living at

St. Patrick's of Heatherdowns and enjoying being there. I live with 2 fine priests, and will slowly be getting to know the people of that community.

I want to thank Fr. Ron for all he has done these last four years. He is a gifted, kind, fun, and committed priest. I consider him a friend and it is a privilege to follow him in the Youth and Young Adult Office.

Finally, just a word about Life Fest! World Youth Day reminded all of those present of how great it is to be Catholic and how many people are enthusiastic about their faith. Life Fest, held on Sept. 8 at the Shrine Park in Carey, is a way for the people of this Diocese to come together and celebrate. Christian bands, food, dancing, and Eucharist draw people young to old to memorialize 9/11, celebrate the life we have, and give us strength for the many school and church activities ahead of us. I look forward to seeing you there!

Fr. Dave Reinhart is the Chaplain for Youth for the Diocese of Toledo



Youth Conference News

Bluffton College was the setting for the 35th Annual Diocesan Youth Conference that was held July 12-14, 2002. Over 450 youth and adult leaders from around the Diocese gathered to share their faith.

The theme for the weekend was, "Footsteps of the Lord", with a focus on the Sacraments. This theme was weaved into activities and prayer throughout the weekend.

Fr. Mark Davis did a wonderful job as Spiritual Director for the weekend. His gift of using magic to share the message of Christ was inspiring to all. Thank you, Fr. Mark, for all your hard work!

Saturday night, Jesse Manibusan captivated the crowd during a concert in which he weaved fun music and Christian music for a very entertaining evening. The evening ended with a powerful prayer service in which we had Adoration.

Sunday morning was a time for celebration! We began the day with an Awards Ceremony. The For God and Youth Award is presented to adults in recognition of loyal persevering service to or active leadership in Catholic Youth Programs. Those presented with this award this year were:

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| Katie Cornell | Susan McFarland |
| Pam Lester | Jeff Weber |
| Henry Schworm | Frank Phillips |

The Eagle of the Cross Award is presented to youth who best exemplify the spirit of Catholic youth as an individual; as a member of their parish and community; and as a participant on the Diocesan level. Those presented with this award this year were:

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|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Amy Jo VonSossan | Ashley Gabel |
| Jessica Prunty | Jessica Adams |
| Doug McCollum | Kristy Lager |

The St. Aloysius Award is presented to either a Priest, Sister, Brother or Deacon who has shown leadership and dedication in the area of Youth Programs: Parish, Area, and Diocesan wide. This award is given to a person who has gone beyond the call to minister to youth. This year's award was presented to **Fr. Mark Davis**.

Thanks to everyone who helped make the 35th Annual Diocesan Youth Conference a success! To see Christ in the lives of so many youth is a true blessing.

2002-2003 Youth Council

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|----------------|-------------------|---------------|------------------|
| President - | Spencer Tuttle | Hearthstone - | Erin Plescher |
| Back to Earth- | Nicole Knabe | Kaleidoscope- | Jordan Mocek |
| Beacon - | Kayla Bowser | Prism - | Katie Ramirez |
| Crossroads - | Marcy Dominique | Two Rivers - | LindseyLeibfarth |
| Heartland - | Stacy Niedermeier | | |

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Two Rivers;

World Youth Day – Isn't it awesome to see so many youth/young adults and chaperones gather together in one place to pray with the Pope! God is good...All the time....God is good!!!

August 12 – 15 Youth Leadership at Camp Glenn in Tiffin

August 21 – Wednesday - Youth Minister's Day Away at Amish Country- Join us as we venture to Holmes County for the day. We will meet at Willard, St. Francis for 10:00 Mass, then proceed to Amish Country!!

August 27 – Tuesday – Heartland XVI High School Gathering Director's Meeting. We will meet in Sandusky at 7:00 p.m. with location tba.

September 8 – Sunday - Life Fest will be held at Carey Shrine Park from 1:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. with Mass being celebrated at 6:30 p.m. Come and see the Band, Ceili Rain along with local talent performing on stage at the Carey Shrine Park.

September 16 – Monday – Heartland “all those who work with Youth” Support Group Meeting. We will meet in Norwalk St. Paul at 7:00 p.m. Come and share your ideas in youth ministry with others in the area.

Enjoy the rest of your summer!!

Patti Tackett
Heartland Area Coordinator



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Mail to CYSS, Attn: Vicki Fitts or
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Youth Ministry Newsletter
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