

Fort Wayne Young Adult & Campus Ministry

Diocese of Fort Wayne / South Bend

February 2011 Newsletter (website: www.diocesefwsb\CYAM)

Did You Make Your New Year's Resolution(s)?

(Part 2 of 3)

By Mike Gibson

In the first part of this series we defined that a resolution is “a walking away from what is not good” and “walking toward that which is good.” In order to do this we concluded that we have to make God our number one priority (“Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you”- Matthew 6:33)

At the core of our resolutions aren't we really asking about what our heart seeks? St. Augustine said, “You have made us for yourself, Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you.”

In Pope Benedict's Christmas message he puts it this way: “And what do our hearts, in effect, seek, if not a Truth which is also Love? Children seek it with their questions, so disarming and stimulating; young people seek it in their eagerness to discover the deepest meaning of their life; adults seek it in order to guide and sustain their commitments in the family and workplace; the elderly seek it in order to grant completion to their earthly existence.”

He goes on to remind us of the great message of Christmas: “...God is not distant: he is "Emmanuel", God-with-us. He is no stranger: he has a face, the face of Jesus. This message is ever new, ever surprising, for it surpasses even our most daring hope. First of all, because it is not merely a proclamation: it is an event, a happening, which credible witnesses saw, heard and touched in the person of Jesus of Nazareth!”

Today as a Christian we still touch and experience Jesus in a multitude of ways. Our desire to be close to him is reflected in our desire to make resolutions. In our society it seems that a resolution can so often be a catch phrase with empty meaning. Perhaps some of this is because we have failed in our resolutions before, and we have seen others do the same. Eleanor Roosevelt and Mother Teresa of Calcutta both share a wise approach on how to deal with these challenges. Eleanor Roosevelt said, “It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness”. And Mother Teresa said, “It is better to do good than fight evil. Both emphasized the positive approach rather than the negative. Don't look behind you, but look forward and ask yourself what you can do now.

Through Christ we have an authentic hope. Be not afraid to live out this message with the inspired attitude of St. Paul: “Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.” (Philippians 4:8).



Matters of the Heart

Jesus Christ is the only one who can satisfy the innermost yearnings of the human mind and heart; it is Him that you seek when you dream of happiness. It is Him who stirs in you the desire to do something great with your life. -Pope John Paul

A joyful heart is the inevitable result of a heart burning with love. I am a little pencil in the hand of a writing God who is sending a love letter to the world. -Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta

For me, prayer means launching out of the heart toward God; a cry of grateful love from the crest of joy or the trough of despair; it is a vast, supernatural force that opens out my heart, and binds me close to Jesus.

- St. Therese of Lisieux



Upcoming Events

Feb. 4th-Thank God It's First Friday (sponsored by Col. City YAs) At 6 PM at St. Paul of the Cross. Topic: "History of the Church". Contact Jessica for more information- jesshopes@aol.com

Sun., Feb. 13th- Mass & Meal with Father Jason Freiburger-(every second Sunday of the month)- 5:00pm Mass at the Cathedral, then meet in back of church to head over to Pint & Slice.

Thurs., Feb. 17th- University Religious Forum- "The Christian Mosaic: Understanding Catholicism"- Speaker: Bishop Emeritus John D'Arcy-12:00-1:15pm at IPFW in Walb 224-226. All are invited. A light lunch will be served.

Sat., Feb. 19th-Men's retreat at the Coliseum (see info. at the right)

March 9th Ash Wednesday- day of fasting and abstinence

Mar. 14-Apr. 18- Lenten Faith Sharing- Every Mon. night during lent from 7:00-8:30pm at the Cathedral (in Cathedral Center)-come for one or more sessions at your convenience.

Mar. 21- Theology for Generation X (for those born from 1961-1981)- 7:00-9:00pm at Don Halls: Speaker Msgr. Michael Heinz, Ph.D

Mar. 24-Pro Life Message: Speaker Bishop D'Arcy- at IPFW in Kettler, Rm. 241. Students, faculty and young adults are welcome.

April 8-9 Retreat in SB- check out www.diocesefwsb.org/CYAM for more info.

Apr. 10 Afternoon of Reflection for Fort Wayne Area-save the date, details coming soon

Apr. 12- Young Adult Reconciliation- an opportunity for young adults to receive the sacrament during lent- at the Cathedral- anytime between 6:00pm-11:00pm

Apr. 17- 6 Church Palm Sunday Procession for Youth & Young Adults- in South Bend with Bishop Rhoades. More details at the right of this page.

Can You Handle the Truth Men's Retreat

Saturday, Feb. 19, 2011- 9:00am-5:00pm
Sponsored by Rekindle the Fire & the FWSB Diocese
At the Memorial Coliseum Expo Center,
Speakers Dr. Peter Kreeft, Prof. of Philosophy at Boston College; Fr. Donald Calloway; & W. Keith Moore, Singer/Songwriter
4:00pm Mass with Bishop Kevin Rhoades
Tickets are \$30. For students/seniors- \$20
For tickets visit www.RekindleTheFire.net or Call for more information: 260-452-6875

Volunteers Needed for Two Events

Ushers for the Permanent Deacon Ordination- May 21, 2011 at 11 a.m. at the Cathedral in FW
Help for the 6 church Palm Sunday procession for youth & young adults through SB.
Begins at 12:00 at St. Joseph and ends with Palm Sunday Mass at 4:00 at Holy Cross.
Contact one of us below if you are able to help or want more information

FW Young Adult/ Campus Ministry

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Photos Courtesy of Steve Shannon

Young people from all over our diocese joined in the March for Life in Washington DC. on January 24, 2011. Some of the young adults and their groups are pictured here.