

Birmingham Catholic Youth Service

Website updates for parishes November 2010

This is what's going on in Staffordshire at the moment; please let me have any suggestions and/or comments.

Papal Visit 2010

Well, what a fabulous weekend! Inspiring, exciting, tiring! Just 3 of the emotions and feelings we all experienced. Thank you all for being part of such a brilliant group - a credit to the Archdiocese and each of your parishes.

For the BCYS team, and all the small group leaders, it was a pleasure to be with such great young people for the weekend. We really hope that you got a lot from it. In fact we know you did, because of all the emails and messages we have received since.

It was great to be so up close & personal to the Pope, and he always had a positive message for young people.
Re-union event Saturday 16th April 2011, Oscott College - details to be confirmed

Bethsaida Training

I will be running a Bethsaida training course for adults in the North Staffs Deanery in the New Year. This will be at Holy Trinity, Newcastle. It will be open to adults currently working with young people, or those that would like to get involved.

Please come to our "Come & See" evening on Tuesday 30th November, 7.00pm.

There is also a short course at Sacred Heart Church, Glascoate Heath, on November 23rd and December 7th & 21st (all Tuesdays) between 7.30 & 9.30pm.

Activity Day

We will be going to Shugborough Outdoor Education Centre on **Saturday 12th February**.

Minimum age - 8yrs

Activities include: Climbing, Archery, BMX Bikes

Cost - £15 (£5 deposit payable with booking)

Booking forms are available from our website www.bcys.co.uk

Youth Prayer Group

We started our group at the end of last year, and we have met most months since at Our Lady & St Werburgh's Clayton, although in the New Year we might bring it to other parishes.

Originally it was an idea to follow up events such as our Soli House retreat, and maybe now you have just returned from seeing Pope Benedict, either in London or Birmingham - or both!

At each meeting we have looked at a different aspect of prayer or our faith. It's really informal, and gives you the chance to pray for a particular intention you might have, or just to listen to what others have to say, and pray with, and for them.

We will meet for an hour only (6.30 - 7.30pm) on a Sunday evening, and our next meeting will be on Sunday December 5th.

Perhaps you would like to come along and join us? If so just turn up, and if you like, bring others with you.

Deanery Quiz (North Staffs)

Look out for this event in 2011, which will take place on **Sunday 23rd January**.

Alton Castle Weekend

A great weekend held in March- all the pictures are now in the gallery section of our website

Our date for 2011 is May 6/8th.

Youth Workshops

In November there was a 'youth afternoon' at Holy Trinity Newcastle, which was for the North Staffs Deanery.

This involved an afternoon of activities or workshops, including making poppies (it was remembrance Sunday), making bracelets using beads, reflecting a little on the Pope's visit. There was also icebreaker games, refreshments etc.

Then for an hour we prepared to join in with the parish evening Mass. The young people were split into smaller groups, and prepared; the music for Mass, the readings, bidding prayers, a drama, offertory etc. About 35 young people came along, and it was a really worthwhile day.

Could we do something similar in the Stafford deanery?

Leaders training/retreat weekend

This will take place on February 5/6th at Soli House. Again this is open to anybody working with young people in your parishes. More details, including a booking form, and the list of workshops & speakers can be found on the BCYS website.

Young Leaders Course

Recently there have been courses for the young people of 2 youth groups; SS George & Martin, Birches Head & Our Lady & St Werburgh, Clayton, as well as courses run as after school clubs at Painsley Catholic College, St Dominic's Priory School, St Thomas More Catholic College & Blessed William Howard High School.

The course is for young people (14 to 18), and includes; communication & listening skills, human development, group work & leadership, and prayer & liturgy. Skills, which are all relevant to young people in many areas of their lives. If your parish or youth group would like to host the course, please contact Peter Lucas.

For further details of any of the above items, or any comments you would like to make, please come along to our networking meetings, or don't hesitate to contact me, or see our website at www.bcys.co.uk

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