

Innovate

Spring 2008
3rd Edition



Diocese of Motherwell



Young
Adult
Ministry
Team

'Make Love Your Goal'

Message From The Team

Welcome to Innovate, the third edition of the Diocese of Motherwell Young Adult Ministry Team's Quarterly Magazine.

Inside we hope that you will find some inspiring stories of the events that have taken place over the past 3 months with the Young Adult Ministry Team.

There are dates for your diary for the coming months and we hope that you will think about coming along to some of what we have on offer.

There is a lot happening in the coming months with World Youth Day happening in July of this year as well as other major events over the summer months.

We hope that you will find this an enjoyable read and we welcome any comments you may have.

Read on and find out about all that is on offer these coming months.

We hope that you enjoy!

Fr. Stuart & Elizabeth



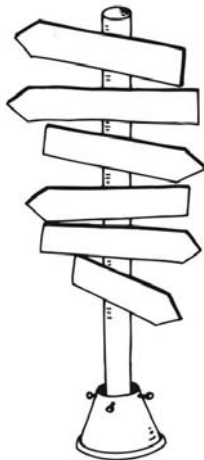
Rev. Stuart Parkes
Young Adult Chaplain

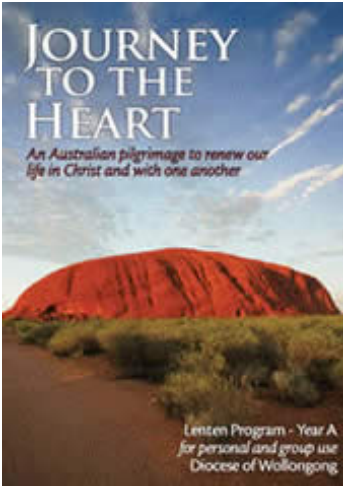


Elizabeth Duffy
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Journey to the Heart— Lenten Reflection Evenings

By Lisa Diver

“An Australian pilgrimage to renew our life in Christ and with one another”

A journey through the Lenten Gospels with an Australian twist for discussion points, prayers and meditations. Prepared and distributed by the Diocese of Wollongong with particular focus on those young adults participating in WYD’08.

This programme ran for four Wednesdays during Lent. The format laid down in the booklet was the same for every week so it was very easy

to understand, yet every week managed to have completely different though provoking passages which allowed plenty of room for discussions.

At the start of each week the theme was read out, with a brief explanation of what it meant e.g. Week 4 the theme was Signposts and Waterholes. The explanation given was; “The journey towards new life is full of struggle and hardship. We can feel very much in the dark. This week we reflect on what signposts and waterholes may assist us on our pilgrimage.” The icebreaker was time for everyone to discuss a time when they went on a journey unprepared. Many of the icebreakers were along the lines of “times were you did / didn’t should / shouldn’t have” with some very funny and poignant stories being shared.

Then followed the opening prayer and the Gospel reading, time was given to read, reflect and re-read the Gospel passage and to consider what the Gospel may be saying to me at this time in my life. We were then, if we wished, given the chance to share our thoughts with the group. The discussions were fuelled by the Gospel reflection points, the modern day stories that matched the Gospel passages and the reflection questions. These were all very imaginative and very different ways in which to find meaning and understanding in the Gospel passages. Also, beside the Gospel passage were “Scripture notes” which made clear particular phrases or statements within the passage. Pilgrim Pointer’s was the “homework” section it allowed you the chance to try out different methods of praying, meditation or reading a story or watching a movie which could have related to the Gospel passage.

An excellent way to journey through Lent with well planned and well thought out session, along with stunning scenery shots of Australia.

Young Adult Mass—1st Sunday of Every Month By Fiona Devlin

Where to begin? I am thinking at the start is my best option in this instance, so here goes. I'm almost certain you've all saw the monthly advert for the 'young adult' Mass in the helpful bulletin issued by YAMT every so often. My inquisitive nature got the better of me and it was time for me to hop along and check out this mass for myself.

And so I hopped... arriving prompt as ever at the Glass Chapel in Carfin, an apt setting for the events to follow. The usual friendly 'hello's' greeted me on entrance and I got comfy for my very first experience of "reflecting on the scriptures" (Lectio Divina).

We firstly all relaxed, allowing our surroundings to fade to the back of our minds and the scripture was read. This was perhaps the first time it had truly received my full attention as I had no other distractions to fill my over active mind. It was read again, opening up yet more avenues. It was at this point I wandered around the Grotto pondering on what I had just heard, twice over. Although there was much I did not understand I felt so much more connected to it than ever before.



We then gathered together to discuss what we all got from the passage.

No-one dared to speak at first but gradually most of us had our input. I didn't want to speak out loud but was happy listening to what each person said, and taking it all in for further thought.

And now the fun! We learned some new songs, in different languages to sing during the Mass. This was extremely interesting because no-one seemed to think they could sing... but that didn't seem to last long and we were soon all singing from the same hymn sheet (so to speak).

The priest arrived, Mass began.

Everyone joined in whether it was singing, reading, or on a spiritual level. A great sense of community was upon us and perhaps an element of spiritual awakening as we said each prayer and sang each hymn with some extra oomph. The Mass ended on a cheery note and every person in the small glass chapel had a smile on their faces.

All in all, it was a great way to spend my Sunday evening. I met some new people. I learned some new songs. I opened up a whole new level of my faith – reading the bible!

Oh, and the refreshments were awesome too. Tea anyone?

Next Young Adult Mass will be on

Sunday 4th May 7pm Carfin Grotto in Glass Chapel
(6pm Lectio Divina)

With Refreshments after Mass



Palm Sunday Retreat—16th March'08

It all began with a survival exercise, it was a scenario that allowed people to think about what they would need to take with them if a plane crashed and they survived. The exercise generated much hilarity as we explored 40 different ways to light a fire but all of us forgetting about the chocolate that would get us through the night!!

At first I was a bit confused about why we were doing this exercise I mean what did it all this have to do with Palm Sunday and God? It soon all became clear when the day progressed and we looked at our spiritual needs and survival kit—what baggage did we have and what could we put down and move on from?

The day was really thought provoking and I learned a lot about myself and the things that are really important to my journey in life. It left me in a ideal place as we entered into Holy Week.



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St Bernadette's Parish Retreat

By John Paul McKeown

(Was organised and delivered by Fr Stephen Reilly (Assistant Priest St. Bernadette's Parish) and Elizabeth Duffy (Young Adult Ministry Team))

Skeptic.-a person who maintains a doubting attitude, as toward values, plans, statements, or the character of others.

I suppose I always maintain not to be a skeptic (only realised today that you spell it with a k and not a c) But deep down I suppose there is a skeptic in every one of us. It's a long time since I have spent so much time with my faith (probably school) but skeptic was probably too strong a word to describe how I was feeling about the retreat organised by Fr Stephen for people in there 20s at St Bernadettes'. Our parish has always had a strong young persons congregation, although it would probably be fair to say that for most of us it was limited to attending mass on Sunday and Holy Days.

That is of course until Fr. Stephen came along. So,

when he asked if we would be interested in going on retreat (conjuring up ideas of Graham Norton in a caravan singing Ebony and Ivory) we all said YES!! Probably secretly hoping that someone else would scupper the plan. But on the 9th April eleven young people (I'm clinging on to the word young with dear life) headed for Dunblane. Along with Clare Muir, I was left to organise the provisions. At the end of the retreat, as we were packing up the extras for the homeless, I commented to Fr Stephen that the next time we double the number of people on the retreat we will at least know how much food to get. 'Yes, about half of that!' he commented.



The theme of the retreat was "How to pray". Like most people I was a little apprehensive (I knew I'd find a better word than skeptic) as prayer to me had always been a very private thing. The day started with listening to the daily prayer from www.pray-as-you-go.org. We then began looking at how we prayed as children, and what struck me about the entire event was how open and honest people were from the outset.

Over the two days we were guided through various different types of prayer from the Jesuits Examen through Lectio Divina and praying with icons in an effort to demonstrate that it is possible to pray whilst doing almost anything. We did of course have to put that to the test at the exceptionally conveniently located Tappit Hen Pub.

In the morning Fr Stephen also celebrated Mass to a rather bleary eyed yet enthusiastic bunch in the beautiful little chapel at Scottish Churches House. We returned to the little Chapel later in the day where we experienced my own personal favourite workshop The Guided meditation. This basically involves someone guiding you through a gospel passage as though you are actually there.



I know that throughout this article I have been a bit tongue in cheek at times but I can truly say that the Guided meditation was one of the most spiritually uplifting things that I have ever done and would recommend that if you ever get the opportunity to do this, that you give a try. The final part of the retreat was given over to “roots

shoots & fruits” which basically gave us all a chance to identify the good things in the parish, the things we could improve on, and a way of doing it. It was probably enlightening to find out just how much common ground there was amongst the whole group. I can tell you, one of the things to come out of the two days was a resolve by everyone there to ensure that another similar retreat took place very soon and that we got even more people the next time .



The retreat I suppose has served the parish in many ways not only spiritually but also practically, so here's to the next one. Skeptic- Who mentioned that word.



**World Youth Day '08
8th-23rd July
Sydney**

Well World Youth Day will soon be upon us, I am not too sure where the year 2years of planning has actually gone but we have 22 young adults from across the Diocese of Motherwell attending this international festival with over 300,000 young people from across the globe.

It is sure to be an exciting and inspiring time for everyone! The momentum is building with the draft itineraries being issued on the WYD'08 website and for the Days in the Diocese of Wollongong- a clear sign that it is fast approaching.

Our August Edition will give you a break down of the entire experience from those involved!

Coming Months

**Young Adult Mass- 1st Sunday of Every Month
in the Glass Chapel at Carfin Grotto**
(6pm Lectio Divina at the Glass Chapel)

- Sunday 4th May
- Sunday 1st June
- Sunday 6th July

School Retreats:-

S6 retreat with John Ogilvie High School in June

Interfaith Events :- There will be an interfaith event happening every second month in different locations across the West of Scotland organised by the Scottish Inter-faith Youth Committee. On Thursday 24th April we had a gathering of 24 young people from different faith backgrounds coming together to learn more about what interfaith is all about -the event was a great success.

The next event will take place on:

Tuesday 10th June'08
at 7pm in Strathclyde University Chaplaincy,
John Street, St. Paul's Building Opposite the Union where a Buddhist
Speaker Lama Khemsar Rinpoche who is a patron of the Peace Mala
organisation and will be speaking on compassion

WYD'08:- Sydney 8th-23rd July'08

100 Mile Walk:- 27th July—2nd Aug'08 with
Holy Ghost Fathers (Spiritans) from Lancashire to Yorkshire
if you would like to attend please contact Elizabeth.

A thought

“No matter how short the distances and familiar the route you travel on a given day, you can do it as a pilgrim — and no matter how long the journey or how sacred its destination, it is possible to be nothing more than a tourist. Whether the journey is within your own backyard or takes you to the other side of the world, the potential is there for the greatest of adventures: a journey not only toward Christ but with him.”

The Road to Emmaus
Pilgrimage as a Way of Life
Jim Forest (2007)





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Charity No. SC011041



Are you interested in finding out more or you know someone who is?

Why not complete your details and be added to our mailing list?

And come along to the forth coming events.

Name

Address

Contact Number

Email:

Do you like what you see?

Have you thought about making a donation to the continuing work of the Young Adult Ministry Team? Cheques can be made payable to “Diocese of Motherwell” and sent to the address on the reverse of this page.

Many thanks!!

The Diocese of Motherwell
Young Adult Ministry Team