

# Office of Youth Ministry Newsletter

September '10



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## Introduction

Once again, welcome back to the beginning of another school year, another great year of youth ministry. Many groups did some amazing things and took wonderful trips this past summer. And we have more events coming up. So, read through this e-newsletter and respond with any questions or comments you may have. Meanwhile, I pray your soul is nourished and spirit strengthened as you face the daily challenge of caring for and ministering to the children of God.

With Peace,  
Matt Boerke

## Prayer for New School Year

Spirit of God, fill our hearts with a desire to seek truth and rejoice in beauty.

Help us to know what is pleasing to you and to understand what is right and good in your sight.

Give us the spirit of learning that we may please you by our thoughts and love you in your creation.

Give all teachers your constant encouragement and guide them in their good work.

Spirit of God, make us effective witnesses of your truth to all whose lives we touch. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. **Amen.**

Taken from: <http://www.amm.org/prayers/prysch.asp>

# Mission Trip

**Saint John the Baptist youth spent a week-long mission trip at the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Read their story...**

Gandhi once said, "Be the change that you wish to see in the world." This statement was truly embodied by the Saint John the Baptist Youth Group ("YAB") who embarked on a mission trip to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. From July 24<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup> the young adults immersed themselves into the lives of the Oglala Sioux. The duration of the mission trip was divided into three main components: Kid's Club, painting, and tutoring.

Kid's Club is, in essence, the equivalent to a summer day care program. The youth volunteers were responsible for planning and executing activities that would engage the children while simultaneously promoting Christian values and teachings. Some painted inside a school building while other groups were responsible for various houses on the reservation. The orientation leader explained the significance involved in this particular task, noting not only the practical importance to painting shelters, but also the emotional benefits which flow from being proud of where one lives.

The final component was to assist the staff with the school's summer tutoring program. YAB Youth Leader and soon to be teacher, Elizabeth Graham, explained that the tutoring segment challenged the teens to discover the children's interests and consequently motivate them to learn. She said, "it gave students the opportunity to read together, something that is incredibly important in the cognitive development of a child. I believe that the benefits of the tutoring program are not only to help the students academically, but also behaviorally and socially."

Participant Hillary Butzin noted, "they just wanted to be loved. Regardless of whether it was through a hug, a high five, or simply a smile; they just want their presence to be acknowledged." And the SJB Youth Advisory Board President, Guy Todaro summarized the whole trip: "as if a lens had been lifted from our eyes and as our hearts opened...I especially love that when I die, Jesus will be in Heaven and will say to me, 'Thanks for painting my house when I was disabled, and for playing with me when I was lonely.' I actually got to be the change that I want to see in the world, and it helped me decide what I really want to do with my life; how to best serve Christ."

(Summarized and paraphrased from an article written by Patricia Graham, Youth Leader Intern)

## Steubenville San Diego

**Holy Family (Ogden) youth were blessed to attend the Steubenville conference. Perhaps your group can join them next year. Here's what a few youth had to say about the trip...**

"I loved it. I got closer to God in every way possible. I feel better about myself than I have in a long time!"

"I finally understood why everyone was so emotional during adoration. I opened up and felt God for the first time. It was so powerful that I had to be carried out of the stadium to the medical station. When I stopped sobbing and shrieking, I just felt calm. Perfect strangers were lifting their hands and praying over me. I felt like for the first time I belonged, I was loved and people understood me."

"I really enjoyed San Diego and it was soooo much fun! I really want to go back because it was so awesomely cool! ... It felt like I could really understand and believe what was going on! It made me happier than I have ever been"



# One Nation Under God

We are all members of the Communion of Saints. We are called to be holy, daily living a life which is pleasing to God. This painting highlights a few historic figures in American History who tried to live their lives in service to God and country.

On the website you can read about the painter as well as scroll around the painting to zoom in and learn about the figures and symbolism which are represented. Use this for your own inspiration. Or you can use it as a basis for discussion with your youth.

[http://www.mcnaughtonart.com/artwork/view\\_zoom/?artpiece\\_id=353](http://www.mcnaughtonart.com/artwork/view_zoom/?artpiece_id=353)



## National Catholic Bioethics Center:

<http://www.ncbcenter.org>

This website conducts research, consultation, publishing and education to promote human dignity in health care and the life sciences, and derives its message directly from the teachings of the Catholic Church. Many great resources. Many great “hot topics.”

## The BioLogos Forum: Science and Faith in Dialogue

<http://biologos.org/>

The BioLogos Foundation explores, promotes and celebrates the integration of science and Christian faith.

“**Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.** In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.” ~1 Thes. 5:16-18

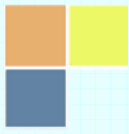
<http://www.prayforward.com> **Where Prayer makes a difference.**

<http://www.lolsaints.com/>

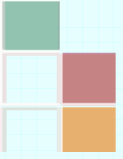


Need a quick attention getter or just a couple good laughs? Check out this website. You may never look at Catholic icons the same way again...





# Why I Still Call Myself Catholic



The following excerpts come from a blog by Jamie L. Manson. Jamie received her Masters in Divinity from Yale Divinity School, where she studied Catholic theology. You can read the full article here: <http://ncronline.org/blogs/young-voices/why-i-still-call-myself-catholic>

**Growing up in an Italian family “I did not meet a Protestant until I was in my early twenties. The Protestants that I eventually met were students and teachers at a divinity school, so they were pretty serious.”**

Less than a month into taking classes, worshipping, and eating meals with these folks, I realized that something was different. It wasn't the obvious things, like that they didn't have a pope or a daily Eucharist, but something much deeper, more nuanced that differentiated us.

After talking with a few Catholic professors, I realized that a key difference was in our vision, more specifically the way in which we understood human nature and the power of grace. The distinction could be traced all the way back to the Reformation. The key theological concept that distinguished the Catholic view from the Calvinist view was in the conception of the relationship between grace and nature. For the Calvinist, humanity is sinful and fallen, and God saves human beings in spite of themselves. For the Catholic, grace perfects nature. God redeems us only from our sinfulness, not from who we are, because we are intrinsically God's beloved children. **For Catholics, there is a dynamic relationship with God, and human beings cooperate in their own transformation.** Paradoxically, Catholic guilt is not nearly as heavy as Protestant guilt!

This essential distinction grounds so much of the Catholic theological tradition. The notion that grace perfects nature forms the basis for the uniquely Catholic idea that all finite things in creation are capable of revealing truths about what is infinite or eternal. Catholics have a sacramental view of the world. That is, for a Catholic, all of creation is good, and everything in our finite world can be a vessel of God's presence and God's transforming grace. This idea provides the foundation for Catholicism's rich mysticism and spirituality, its unparalleled social justice doctrine, its care of the poor, and its exquisite legacy of artists and writers. [end article]

**So, does faith define your life? Does it define who you are?  
Or is it something you participate in when it's convenient?  
Is all of life and creation sacred and a sign of God's grace  
in your life and in the world?**



## Liturgy of the Hours Workshop

What better way be Catholic than to celebrate one of the two official liturgies of the church?

**Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup> --- 9:00-12:30pm**

Attend the Liturgy of the Hours Workshop in Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel at the Skaggs Catholic Center. It is free of charge and open to anyone interested in learning about the LOHs. But, registration is required. Contact the Office of Liturgy to register: Timothy Johnston: [timothy.johnston@dioslc.org](mailto:timothy.johnston@dioslc.org) 801.328.8641 x 321)



# Fall Activities

If you're looking for a few fun activities this fall, other than the obvious; the **State Fair**, ponder these:

**Take a Hike!** With snow covering the peak most of the year and soon to come again, now's the time to hike Mount Timpanogos. It's one, long hike if you bag the peak. But, your group may be interested in just doing the mile and a half to visit the cool caves. Or visit Bridal Veil falls and hike to Steward Falls in Provo Canyon. The Cottonwood Canyons, Bells Canyon, and even Lamb's canyon also offer great fall foliage.

**Corn Mazes** provide a fun way to get outside and enjoy the beautiful weather in a safe, family-friendly environment. Plus, they're reasonably priced and love to offer discounts to Catholic youth groups.

**Pumpkin Picking...and chucking:** Visit a pumpkin patch and carve jack-o-lanterns. Or visit the Cedar City or Moab Pumpkin Festivals. I'm sure they don't compare to my hometown's...but I'm sure they're fun. After all, I come from the Pumpkin Capital of the World! <http://www.pumpkincapital.com/> See...told ya!

## Autumn Catholic Teen Social



**Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup> ~ 10:00am-6:30pm ~ Skaggs Catholic Center**

Students in grades 6-12 are invited to join us for another fun fall rally! We're still working out some of the logistics and details, including official registration info and flyers. But, here's something to start building excitement!



### **The Keynote Presenter:**

Mike Patin uses energy, humor and stories to affirm the goodness of God's presence among us while inviting others (and himself) to take the "next step" in our journey with God. Watch [Include Me](#) (3 minute talk)

### **The Band:**

Our band hails from the University of Utah, leading praise and worship Tuesday nights in what is called UteNited. Core members are: Ben Robie, David Aksvig, and David Figge, among others. Just the two members below played at our Catholic Summer Camp and brought the little chapel's house down. We can't wait to see what the whole band brings to ACTS!

Watch Ben (guitar) and David (drums) rock out in the Utah desert:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qEwLN3YXkZk>

# Youth Ministry

## It can be easier...

**Saturday, October 16 at Skaggs Catholic Center**

Estimated times are 12:00-6:00 (exact schedule TBA)

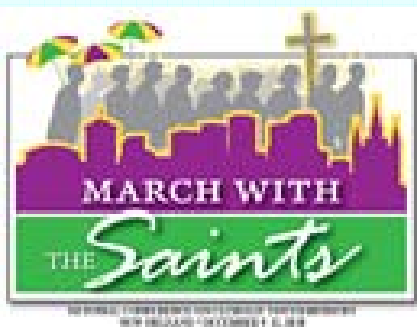
Cost is \$20, but no one will be turned away

Pre-registration is required

All adults who work with youth, teach youth, or who just so happen to live with them should attend this conference. Catechists, parents, and youth ministers alike will learn and be inspired (and most definitely entertained). We'll feed you spiritually and physically : )

Featuring Mike Patin: <http://www.mikepatin.com>

## with these 2 conferences.



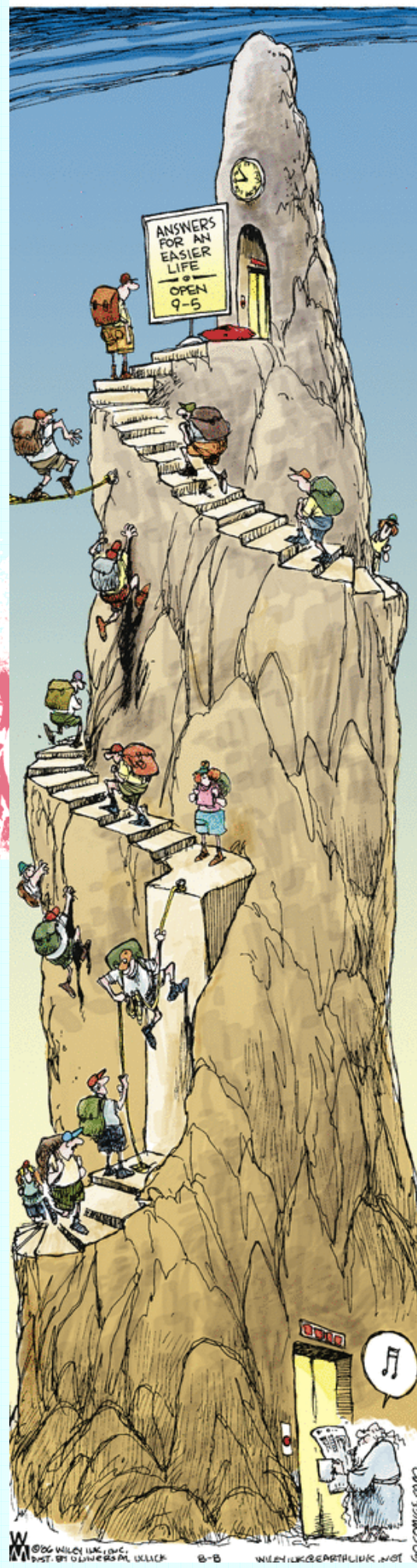
## at NCCYM in New Orleans December 9-12th

The National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry is quickly approaching. But, there's still time to register. Talk to your pastor about helping you attend. The Office of Youth Ministry may be able to provide a little financial assistance as well.

After seeing Mike Patin at ACTS, you can see him in his home state of Louisiana at NCCYM as he is one of the emcees for the conference. That's just one of the reasons you should attend...

- Inspiring keynotes and spirit-filled prayer services
- 85+ workshops to choose from, ranging from high school ministry to adolescent catechesis
- Network with over 2,000 other Catholic youth ministers!
- And enjoy a Taste of New Orleans food and culture!
- Develop skills and renew your passion for our Catholic Church and its young people

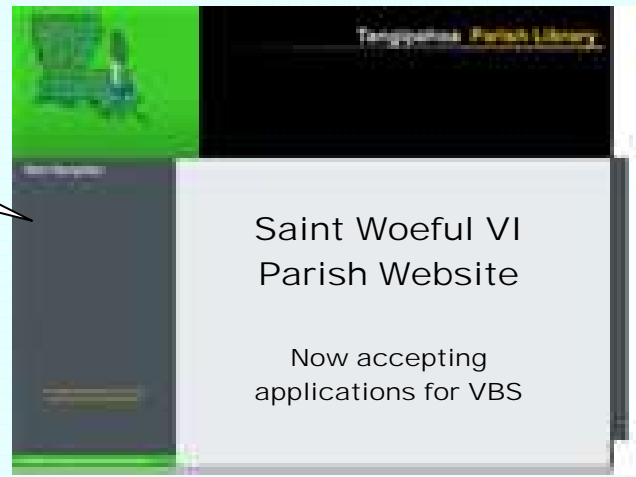
NON SEQUITUR  
BY WILEY



*Please update me!*

## 7 Deadly *Sins* of Parish Websites by Matthew Warner

1. Turn off the music, eliminate cheesy animated gifs and flashing text, remove any visible visitor counters and get rid of (what you might think are) really cool animated menu thingies.
2. Get rid of that gaud-awful background image.
3. Get rid of the crazy colors and fonts.
4. Remove “upcoming event info” from last year.
5. Simplify the bazillion links on your main page.
6. Super-summarize (or just delete) any gigantic blocks of text, currently serving as the center piece of your front page.
7. Start spending more time and money on your website than you do on donuts.



Widgets  
APPS  
& dashboards  
Oh my!

Click here to [read the whole article](#), with explanations.

*Aren't I just angelic?!*



Get **free Web Widgets** from many sources to liven up the place and provide timely content you don't have to update!

### Get these widgets from Busted Halo:

- Question of the Day (with answers)
- The Daily Jolt (inspirational quotes)
- The Headlines (current hot topics)

### Get a TV/Video Player from CatholicTV.com

This widget allows you to link to their shows, right from your website; while their server hosts all the video. Cool

### Then there are the Apps.

They're like mini programs for your Iphone, Blackberry or Droid.

One helps you pray the Rosary, another sends you a bible verse of the day. Still others turn your phone into a flashlight and can help you find local, organic restaurants nearby.

Need I say more?

Read the article from where this quote comes:

[Best Practices for Building Church Websites](#)

It's the “what to do” and “how to do” rather than the “Shalt nots.”

“Just because you pray a lot doesn't make you a good website designer.”



# Diocesan Events

## September 13<sup>th</sup>:

Greater Salt Lake Council Boy Scouts Meet  
At the Diocese 7:00pm.

## September 17<sup>th</sup>:

Red Mass for lawmakers, lawyers, judges;  
Noon at the Cathedral of the Madeleine

## September 18<sup>th</sup>:

Farmer's Market with music/food at  
Hidden Valley shopping center  
2:00-7:00pm

## September 19<sup>th</sup>:

Mass for persons with Disabilities  
7pm at Cathedral of the Madeleine

## September 22<sup>nd</sup>:

Bishop's Dinner for the Cathedral  
6pm at the Grand America

## September 26<sup>th</sup>:

100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass for Catholic  
Charities; 11:00am at Cathedral

## September 30<sup>th</sup>:

Concert at Christian Life Center in Layton  
See Big Daddy Weave, Aaron Schust, &  
Andy Kirk for \$15, pre-purchase!

## October 9/10<sup>th</sup>:

Encuentro Matrimonial a la diócesis

## October 16<sup>th</sup>:

Adult Youth Ministry Conference/workshops  
At Skaggs 12:00-6:00pm (tentatively)

## October 17<sup>th</sup>:

Autumn Catholic Teen Social  
At Skaggs 10:30-6:30pm (tentatively)

**A couple more thought provoking and discussion-starting videos for you and your youth.**

Okay, so they're just funny...

[Ashes](#) (2 min standup by Judy McDonald)

[Baby Laughing](#) (2 minutes to brighten any day)

## October 21<sup>st</sup>:

DDD Celebration/Kick-off dinner at 6:00pm  
At Saint Andrew Parish

## October 21/22:

Hispanic Engaged/Marriage Encounter-  
6:30pm @ the Diocese

## October 23<sup>rd</sup>:

Rocky Mountain College Fair  
Over 200 colleges represented  
1:00-4:00pm at JDCHS

## November 13-15<sup>th</sup>:

Human Rights Film Festival at JDCHS-it  
would be a great chance to talk social  
justice with your youth!

## December 4<sup>th</sup>:

Diocesan Advent Day of Prayer/Reflection  
8am-2pm. Contact [Timothy](#) for more  
information/to register.

## December 9-12<sup>th</sup>:

National Conference on Catholic Youth  
Ministry (NCCYM) in New Orleans. 2,000+  
attendees celebrate their faith, renew their  
passion, and hone their skills in youth  
ministry. Great chance to network!

## December 10<sup>th</sup>:

Diocesan Vigil for Our Lady of Guadalupe  
I'd like to see more youth groups  
participate this year. It's a fantastic cultural  
experience and truly a beautiful tradition.

## December 19<sup>th</sup>:

Diocesan Posada-again, a fabulous way to  
learn and experience the traditions of our  
church (and a good excuse to eat churros)

Many of these events have flyers and information in  
attachments. Please contact me if you have any  
questions or wish to register for anything.

I appreciate your help to get the word  
out to our parishes and people!



**STUDY WEEK**  
**2011**  
FEBRUARY 2-5, 2011  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

**49<sup>th</sup> Annual Southwest Liturgical Conference**  
**“Ever Ancient, Ever New: Preparing for the Revised Roman Missal”**

at the **SALT PALACE CONVENTION CENTER**  
\$130 Early Registration

This study week provides youth ministers, educators, and parishioners with the resources and foundation you need to celebrate the Mass with the revised text. These workshops will be both professionally beneficial and personally interesting as you encounter theological & liturgical scholars to share broad perspectives on the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy with the Revised Roman Missal.

- Focus on practical applications and methods of implementation of the revised Missal in your parish community
- Discover the roots and history of the way we pray
- Network with others from across the Southwest
- Engage in continual faith formation, study, pray, and capture the mystery of the Risen Christ in the liturgy

**Plenary addresses by:**

Dr. David Fagerberg  
Fr. Paul Turner  
Bishop Gerard Kicanas  
Dr. Jane Regan

**Prayer services led by:**

Bishop Wester

**Music showcases by:**

Dr. Jerry Galipeau & Fr. Ron Krisman

**For more information contact:**

Timothy Johnston, Director of Liturgy  
(801) 328-8641 x. 321

[Timothy.Johnston@DioSLC.org](mailto:Timothy.Johnston@DioSLC.org)

Or visit <http://www.swlcslc.org>



## Form Central

As a reminder, I posted online all the pertinent and necessary forms for youth ministry in the 2010-2011 school year (including the summer after). They are pretty much the same as you've seen before, but all versions are now editable digitally-yeah!

Please read the instructions below and use the proper forms.

**Medical/Consent Form:** This must be filled out once per year for each child (under 18). It must be kept in a secure location when not in use and must be present at all times the child is participating in a parish/diocesan sponsored event (no matter where it takes place).

**Field Trip Form:** Use this form to let parents know you are leaving the usual meeting space. It should be descriptive enough to let the parents know what is happening, who is in charge, and what their son/daughter will be doing.

**Driver Form:** Anyone who transports minors for diocesan/parish events must complete this form. It demonstrates they have proper insurance and accept responsibility for the minors they transport. This form should be present while traveling and kept locked in the volunteers safe environment file at the parish otherwise.

**Incident/Accident Report:** Use this form (or something similar) to keep records any time someone gets hurt or into "serious" trouble. Keep them secured and on file for five years. This form is useful should insurance claims be filed or you simply need more record/proof than "he said, she said."

All forms are available in English and Spanish.

Download them here:

<http://www.dioslc.org/ministries/youth/youthministers/forms>



### **Friendly Safe Environment Reminder:**

All those working with minors, even if they are minors themselves must complete the online training: <http://v015u02dig.maximumasp.com/dioslc/default.aspx>

In addition, all adults (18+) having regular contact with minors (ie, drivers, assistants, coaches, and other volunteers) must complete a background check through their local Director of Safe Environment (DSE).

Contact this person, your pastor, or myself for more information or assistance.