

Preparing for Life Beyond World Youth Day

Since August 2005, Australia has been gearing up for World Youth Day 2008. Over this time people have become more aware of the event and the possibilities it brings for developing ministry with young people and renewing parish and community life. With only a few months before the event occurs, the time to focus on life after WYD is now.

Where to Start

Through deciding to participate in WYD, parishes and communities have already been developing their ministry with young people. Most communities now have coordinating groups of adults and young people preparing to participate in Days in the Diocese or World Youth Day. Communities have also organised and participated in large deanery and archdiocesan events which, we hope, stimulated the spiritual life of all who attended, e.g. Journey of the World Youth Day Cross and Icon in August 2007. The infrastructure established to participate in WYD is the same infrastructure needed to build a sustainable ministry with young people.

Immediately after WYD don't let these networks, groups and resources disappear. Encourage your community leaders to continue to support this

Opportunities for children & families to engage in Days in the Diocese

- Become a 'Brizstay' host family.
- Prepare children to participate in the parish 'Welcome Mass'.
- Invite parish school children to perform music and drama in the church.
- Have a family picnic at the 'Heart of City' festival at Roma St Parklands.
- Invite families to tie a ribbon around their letterboxes for the duration of this event.

infrastructure which can now be focused on local engagement of young people, social service projects and family ministries. More importantly, make the time to thank, celebrate and support those fulfilling each of these roles within the community so they can sustain their commitment.

Post WYD Planning

Over the coming months communities will be busy with last minute preparations for Days in the Diocese and the journey to Sydney. Don't forget, during this period to make time to prepare for the community's immediate needs post WYD.

Has your parish planned and publicised a post WYD gathering? This could be a Reunion, Thanksgiving Mass, or Parish festival. This is the first step in reconnecting with those who participated in either Days in the Diocese or WYD Sydney and hearing of their experiences.

The parish could plan for further opportunities to gather, reflect and celebrate the experiences of

young people and families during WYD.

Don't Stop Now

In an effort to increase the level of involvement of young people in the local church, the Archbishop launched a *Strategic focus on Ministry with Young People* from 2006 until 2009. We hope that WYD08 will be the catalyst for this to occur.

Today's children are tomorrow's youth! How does your parish plan to provide them with ongoing spiritual nourishment? Remember—if you fail to plan, you plan to fail!

For further ways to plan for post WYD you can attend the Beyond WYD Stream at the next WYD Training day on March 8th (see calendar), or contact Youth and Children's Ministry on 3336 9168.

at a glance...

- RETOP Training
- CLOW Workshops
- Beyond WYD
- Movers and Shakers

Children's Ministry

Greetings and welcome to 2008!

It has been a hectic start to the year with Training sessions and Lent seminars being held both day and evening during February.

Lent being so early this year caught many people unawares, even though advertising to that effect commenced at the end of last year. As you know, we are part of the writing team for the Adult Lent Discussion program each year and write

the resource for Children's Ministry Leaders. This year's program (available on CD or printed book) is called *Gathered for Giving*.

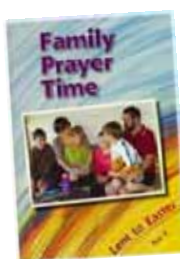


This year you will find the stories of *Jesus in the Desert*, *The Transfiguration*, *The Woman at the Well*, *Jesus Heals a Blind Man*, *The Entry into Jerusalem*, *Easter*, *Thomas*, *The Journey to Emmaus*, *Jesus, the Good Shepherd*, *I am the Way, the Truth and the Life*, *Ascension*, *Pentecost*. It was great for Carole, Rina and Paul to meet those of you who attended Lenten seminars held throughout the Archdiocese in early February.

Whilst most of you use *CRE* (formerly *Religion in Life*) or *Connect* curriculum, don't forget that the resource which we produce is full of great ideas for the classroom, for prayer and for background information about the Gospel stories, many of which come up during the year for State School RE - in fact 15 weeks worth of prayers, reflections, drama ideas and activities. You can see a sample of our resource *Gathered for Giving: Resource for Leaders of Children's Ministry* by visiting our YCM website www.bne.catholic.net.au/ycm

Family Prayer Time

Our new resource called *Family Prayer Time* is proving to be a big hit. It is a simple, easy-to-follow resource for families to pray together through Lent. If you have not seen a copy, why not buy yourself one for only \$5 and



accompanying CD for \$10. This resource is also suitable for the classroom and can be used any time of the year, not just during Lent. Children love the PowerPoint stories on the CD and parents and teachers are appreciative of the stories and meditations (on the CD). Some state school classroom teachers are introducing meditation to their students, so meditation during RE might be quite appropriate.

Ideas for the Classroom

On our YCM website www.bne.catholic.net.au/ycm under RESOURCES there is a section called CLASSROOM IDEAS. Here you will find some ideas for Lent and Easter seasons.

RETOP Training sessions

The basic Training Course scheduled for Paddington in early February was cancelled, since there was almost no interest for training in this location. However, the training Course held at Redcliffe was attended by 40 people over the two weeks. Thank you to Helen Dowling, Fay and the team for the organisation of this event. Rina and Carole really enjoyed presenting the prayer/reflection/storytelling at the Commissioning Ceremony and RETOP Certificates to those who attended the training Course.

Ipswich: The training day held at St Mary's, Ipswich was a resounding success with people from Laidley, Ipswich, Booval and surrounds attending. Perhaps you saw the Centrepont article in the *Catholic Leader* 17 February and the photograph of Cath Wood, Aileen Kelly, Carolyn Miller and Fr Peter Casey? Thank you to Pastoral Associate, Bernadette McAndrew and May Sherman for organising a recruitment weekend at the end of last year and then this follow-up training session for new and experienced RE volunteers.

Rochedale: The dynamic team of Robyn Payens and Robynne Turner have once again organised a basic Training Course to be run over 3 Fridays during February. 15 people have attended and will receive a Certificate upon completion. This is in line with the new requirements of Education Queensland stated in the Policy on *Religious Instruction in school hours*.

Children's Liturgy of the Word Workshops

Basic training sessions were offered in the beginning of the year, at Graceville, Camp Hill and Bulimba. These were well received by new children's liturgy teams. If your parish team requires any training or just some fresh ideas, please give Rina or Carole a call.

The next Children's Liturgy session will be held on the **29th May** at **Alexandra Hills** from 7.30 - 9.00pm. This workshop will focus on the Ordinary Time Scriptures and participants will be provided with some background information on Matthews' gospel and lots of creative ideas for presenting these Scripture to children.



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Youth Ministry

MOVERS & SHAKERS

Christian Youth Leadership Training

Movers and Shakers will be offered again in 2008. Movers and Shakers is exceptional Youth and Young Adult Leadership training that has been developed to be as experiential as possible. It invites young people to reflect on the various activities they will undertake during the week and discover for themselves the learnings that emerge. The young people will share in small groups and will be challenged to work together in problem solving situations. For more details on Movers and Shakers please contact Malcolm Hart on 07 3336 9169 or hartmal@bne.catholic.net.au

Youth Ministry Retreat

In June, YCM will be offering a retreat for those involved in youth ministry in parishes, deaneries, schools and movements. The retreat will be an opportunity to take time out for personal prayer and reflection.

The retreat will take place at:

Venue: Manly Retreat Centre
(26 Kooralgin St, Manly)

Date: Friday 20th 6pm to
Sunday 22nd June 1pm.

Cost: \$180 (all inclusive)

To find out more about the retreat or book a place, contact Paul Catchlove on 07 3336 9170 or catchlovep@bne.catholic.net.au



The next ydinner will be on Friday 14th March, 6:30pm at the Story Bridge Hotel. For more information contact Paul Catchlove on 07 3336 9170 or catchlovep@bne.catholic.net.au

Beyond WYD Stream

With less than 150 days to go until WYD08 there is now an urgency for planning and preparation for life after WYD. For the first time the Archdiocesan WYD Training Day on March 8th will offer a stream for *Beyond WYD*. The stream will offer strategies for ministry with young people immediately after WYD, integrating young people into the life of the community, and creating sustainable opportunities for youth ministry into the future. To register go to www.wydbrisbane.org.au every success in your future endeavours.

Certificate IV Christian Ministry

With WYD nearly upon us it is more important than ever to have appropriate training and support for those engaged in ministry with young people. To assist, the *Institute of Faith Education* has created a *Certificate IV in Christian Ministry* which will provide participants with opportunities to learn and develop skills in Christian leadership. In 2008 a 'pilot' version of the programme will be offered with only limited places available. If you to find out more about this programme please contact Paul Catchlove on 07 3336 9170 or catchlovep@bne.catholic.net.au

Resource Review

Spirited

PRAYERS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

This small resource offers young people a variety of prayers for different occasions in their lives. Whether prayers in times of need, prayers for WYD or just for their day to day journey, *Spirited* offers young people a chance to connect with prayers from peers and from past holy men and women.



For just \$5 every young person should be able to have this excellent prayer resource. To order ph (07) 3336 93451 or got

WYD 2008

Upcoming World Youth Day Events

Archdiocesan Training Day
Saturday 8 March

Archdiocesan Training Day
Saturday 14 June

Days in the Diocese
10th -13th July

World Youth Day Sydney
15th -20th July

WYD Secretariat
Phone: 3336 9341
Email: wyd@bne.catholic.net.au



6th – 11th April 2008

Sunshine Coast

Movers and Shakers is a week-long Christian leadership training program for youth and young adults (aged between 16 and 25) who are interested in developing leadership skills.

Cost: \$295 (includes accommodation and meals)

applications close 29th February 2008

www.movers-and-shakers.org.au

MOVERS & SHAKERS



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