

**Archdiocese of  
Miami  
Office of  
Youth & Young  
Adult Ministry**

# SonLight

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## "A STORY OF GIVING"

by MOTHER TERESA

### Calendar of events:

- Dec. 6th  
*Hoop Heaven XII*
- Dec. 13  
*Certificate  
Program Exam  
Day*
- Jan. 14th  
*Miami Dade  
Youth Council*
- Jan. 17-18  
*YA Certificate  
Course: "Making  
the Connection I"*
- Jan. 26 Broward  
*Youth Council  
Meeting*
- Feb. 27- March 1  
*Peer Ministry II*

I had the most extraordinary experience of love of neighbor with a Hindu family. A gentleman came to our house and said: "Mother Teresa, there is a family who have not eaten for so long. Do something."

So I took some rice and went there immediately. And I saw the children - their eyes shining with hunger. I don't know if you have ever seen hunger. But I have seen it very often. And the mother of the family took the rice I gave her and went out.

When she came back, I asked her: "Where did you go? What did you do?" And she gave me a very simple answer: "They are hungry also."

What struck me was that she knew - and who are they? A Muslim family - and she knew. I didn't bring any more rice that evening because I wanted them, Hindus and Muslims, to enjoy the joy of sharing.

But there were those children, radiating joy, sharing the joy and peace with their mother because she had the love to give until it hurts.



"We can keep the joy of loving Jesus in our hearts, and share that joy with all we come in contact with"

-Mother Teresa

And you see this is where love begins - at home in the family.

So, as the example of this family shows, God will never forget us and there is something you and I can always do. We can keep the joy of

loving Jesus in our hearts, and share that joy with all we come in contact with.

Let us make that one point - that no child will be unwanted, unloved, uncared for, or killed and thrown away. And give until it hurts - with a smile.

- The fruit of silence is PRAYER
- the fruit of prayer is FAITH
- the fruit of faith is LOVE
- the fruit of love is SERVICE
- the fruit of service is PEACE.

## 2008-2009 Calendar

To help you as you begin planning your next school year of events, here is a list of what our Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry will be offering for the 2008/2009 school year:

December 6	Hoop Heaven XII, Chaminade/Madonna High School Gymnasium
December 13	Certificate Final Exam Day
January 14	New Years Celebration & Workshop — Miami Dade Youth Council Meeting
January 17-18	YA Certificate Course: "Making the Connection I"
January 26	New Years Celebration & Workshop — Broward Youth Council Meeting
February 27-March 1	Peer Ministry II, Miami Youth Center
TBA (Tentative)	YA Certificate Course: "Making the Connection II"
April 18	Catholic Day at Islands of Adventure

## Recent Youth Events



Mini-Olympics - Having Fun!



Mini-Olympics - First Place: Corpus Christi



Peer Ministry I Retreat: Leadership



Peer Ministry I Retreat Photo with Auxiliary Bishop Estevez

## Advent Ideas

### "Stocking Stuffer Relay"



- For every five participants have one stocking. Before the youth arrive put in each stocking one of each of the following stuffer items: baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph, a shepherd, an angel, a king, a bell, a small cross, a star, a rosary, and a small box wrapped for Christmas. Place the stockings in a line across one end of the room.
- Gather the participants into groups of no more than five team members. Line the teams up at one end of the room, opposite of the stockings. Explain that the young people are going to work with their team to write a Christmas prayer using the items that are in the stocking. Give one person on each team a sheet of newsprint and a marker. Then present the following instructions: "One member of each team runs up to the team's stocking, removes an item, and takes it back to the team. Together the team members write on the newsprint a one-sentence prayer about the item. The prayer should relate to the Christmas story."
- When you are sure the young people understand begin. The winner is the team that completes the prayer first.
- Conclude by reading Luke 2:1-16 and Matt 2:1-12 aloud. Ask the youth to compare these two versions of the Christmas story. Point out that the story we have generally received is a compilation of what is in the Scriptures and what has simply become oral tradition. Close the session by having each group read aloud the prayers created in the relay.

#### **\*Two Key Advent and Christmas Resources:**

1. *Holidays and Seasonal Ideas for Ministry with Teens*, St. Mary's Press.
2. *Ministry Ideas for Celebrating Advent and Christmas with Teens, Families, and Parishes*, St. Mary's Press.

## National Migration Week 2009

Renewing Hope, Seeking Justice  
January 4-10, 2009



*Renewing Hope, Seeking Justice* is the theme of 2009's National Migration Week, held January 4-10. The observance began over 25 years ago by the bishops to be a moment for Catholics to take stock of the wide diversity of the Church and the ministries serving them. As the face of the local churches continue to change, these materials are becoming more and more necessary. A wide variety of youth resources are available through USCCB publishing at <http://www.usccb.org/mrs/nmw.shtml>.

## FYI . . . EVENTS & NEWS

### **Young Adult Ministry Certificate Course**

Register Today!

January 17-18, 2008

Course: "Making the Connection I"

Where: *St. Thomas University*

Who: *All Young Adult Leaders & those interested in YA Ministry*

**NOTE:** A Minimum of 25 participants are required to be registered by the **Deadline of Friday, December 15.** If not the course will be cancelled!

*For more information call  
305-762-1099*

### **HOOP HEAVEN XII 2008!**



#### **PREPARE!**

Sat. Dec. 6, 2008 (9am-4:00pm)

A 4 on 4 co-ed half-court basketball tournament

Where: *Miami Youth Center*

*To Volunteer as a Referee or for more registration information call 954-525-5157 ext. 1099 or 305-762-1099*

### **New Year's Celebration & Workshop!**

All Adult Youth Leaders and Teen Leaders are invited to attend this celebration gathering which will include:

- **Recognition Ceremony** by Auxiliary Bishop Estevez for adult Youth Ministry Coordinators who have reached their five or ten year mark!
- **Sharing**
- **Mini Youth Ministers Workshop**

#### **MIAMI-DADE YOUTH COUNCIL**

Wednesday, January 14, 2009

7:30—9:30 P.M.

St. Michael's Catholic Church

#### **BROWARD YOUTH COUNCIL**

Monday, January 26, 2009

7:00—9:00 P.M.

St. Helen's Catholic Church

### **PREPARE TO JOIN US FOR**

### **National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC)**

**Kansas City, Missouri Nov. 19-21, 2009!**

A biennial three-day experience of prayer, community, and empowerment for Catholic teenagers and their adult chaperones: Keynote Addresses; Concurrent and Workshop Sessions; Opportunities for Liturgy, Reconciliation, Prayer, and Worship; Recreation and Special Activities.

Limited Space! RSVP Office of Youth Min.!

More Info Contact Office of Youth Min.

(305) 762-1099