

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO
OFFICE OF YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY
& CAMPUS MINISTRY
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Breaking Free

Mary Jansen



Being surrounded by thousands of monarch butterflies is a dizzying experience. A hundred feet away there were none and now there are thousands. You feel the beauty and excitement well up inside you at the discovery. Our San Francisco Young Adult Visioning Team was taking a break from our annual planning retreat at the end of January. Natural Bridges Beach in Santa Cruz is a site where the monarch butterflies live during the cold winter months.

Our retreat is an opportunity for us to not only vision and plan for young adult ministry but also have fun as a group. The butterfly experience became representative of our need to be still and be in awe of God's creation. One can sit for quite sometime and marvel at the Eucalyptus trees covered with orange wings. However, this beauty is only possible by the journey the caterpillars take to become butterflies. The cocoon: a transformative process of breaking free from our old forms to take on new light and presence.

This Lenten season is also about transformation and breaking free from old habits. We don't have to only do this during Lent. For the Visioning team, we are looking at new ways to reach out to parishes to further ministry with young

adults. In April, we hope to visit with parishes in Marin, San Francisco and San Mateo counties. Through this *Parish Visitation Program*, we want to find out about the many ways parishes minister to and with young adults throughout the Archdiocese.

In addition to offering leadership through the Visioning Team, the SFYAM&CM offers parish peer leaders opportunities to gather for the *Young Adult Leaders' Forum* about five times a year. We dialogue on topics that nurture our spirit and help us grow. Some of our 2004 topics included reaching out to younger young adults 18 to 25, appealing to different levels of spirituality, and a *Code of Conduct* discussion which helped many groups work more effectively with a diverse population. Minutes from these gatherings can be found on our website, www.sfyam.org, under programs.

As we near Easter, let us experience true transformation in struggling with ways of thinking that bring light into our hearts and mind instead of darkness. Our internal struggle, although sometimes emotionally and as with Jesus' agony in the garden, physically painful, will bring Easter in all it's dizzying beauty. Like the butterflies, Jesus' resurrection is one to breath in and be still with as is our own transformation as we celebrate the glory of Easter.

If you would like to participate in the **Parish Visitation Program** and/or **Young Adult Leaders' Forum**, please contact us.



Young adult leaders from the Hispanic Youth and Young Adult community, Our Lady of Angels, Stanford Circle, St. Agnes, St. Vincent de Paul, St. Dominic and Notre Dame des Victories at Buca de Beppo Restaurant.

In This Issue

- 1 *Breaking Free*
- 2 *Social Justice Corner*
CP&BC
Catholic Lobby Day
- 3 *Tongan Young Adult Spotlight*
World Youth Day 2005
- 4 *Campus Ministry Corner*



Visioning Team (r to l): Bottom row - Joe Bernabe, Ann Knievel, Michelle Carlos. Top row - Anne Stricherz, Mary Jansen, Piya Wannachaiwong. Not pictured - Stephanie Esposito.

SFYAM & CM
The Newsletter of the Archdiocesan Office for Young Adult Ministry & Campus Ministry

It is not speaking that breaks our silence, but the anxiety to be heard.... ~ Thomas Merton

Social Justice Corner

Tim Kortenkamp

The Archdiocese of San Francisco has recently developed a coordinated action plan to further bolster Catholic lay leadership and full political participation. The Archdiocese Leadership Training Day, Saturday February 26 at Most Holy Redeemer Parish was the first phase; it invited people to learn to build laity capacity and leadership in their parish. It was a free training that worked to foster greater collaboration between parishioners and Clergy.

From the Leadership Training Day, we will be coordinating interested parishioners to meet with their Assemblymember to voice their concerns, as a precursor to our 7th Annual Catholic Lobby Day on Tuesday, April 26. Catholic Lobby Day is an event that invigorates Catholics to come together as one voice to bring about positive social change from their legislators. Catholic's travel from across the state to meet, pray and lobby in Sacramento.

As we strive for further change the 9th annual *Archbishop Quinn Colloquium on Catholic Social Teaching*, Saturday March 12th at the University of San Francisco, provides an ongoing dialogue between Catholic politicians and Catholic constituents by asking; **"How does a Catholic politician integrate fidelity to the Magisterium, personal conscience, and responsibility to constituents in forming public policy today?"** The overall goal is to deal with some of the themes that came up during the last election regarding Catholic identity and the political process. A variety of nationally known speakers will represent a cross-section of perspectives on this timely issue.

Last November held some exciting possibilities for statewide change and our combined efforts proved successful in winning critically needed health care for the mentally ill. There are many issues still unresolved and we hope Catholics of all ages will join us together in solidarity to strive further to create the just society we all seek.

If you are interested in joining or helping with any of these exciting events please contact The Office of Public Policy & Social Concerns, 415-614-5570.

Tim Kortenkamp works in the Archdiocesan Office of Public Policy and Social Concerns.

Editor Note: Although some of the events have past, this is still an opportunity for you to get involved. Catholic Lobby Day is April 26. Take the day off from work and join us! The Office of Young Adult Ministry will travel to Sacramento to lobby on behalf of the poor and marginalized in our society.



Join the Catholic Professional and Business Club of the Archdiocese of San Francisco. We are a membership organization that meets on the second Wednesday of each month from 7:00 am to 8:30 am, excluding July and August.

We gather to hear from and be motivated by dynamic speakers, network with our Catholic business community, and deepen our relationship with God.

Annual membership is only \$45

Register Today
www.cpbcsf.org



6th Annual

Catholic Lobby Day

April 26, 2005

9:00 am–4:00 pm

Crest Theatre • 1013 K Street
 Sacramento, CA 95814

The California Catholic Conference (CCC) is hosting Catholics from all over California who are interested in exercising their "faithful citizenship" in their state's Capitol. The CCC welcomes all who are interested in meeting with elected officials to speak on behalf of those who are poor, vulnerable or voiceless.

Buses will be chartered as needed to leave from and return to San Francisco. Legislative visits are currently being scheduled by Archdiocesan staff.

The day will include a liturgy, march and rally to the Capitol and legislative visits. Parish visits providing an overview of current legislation and lobbying tips is available.

For young adults interested in attending, please contact Mary Jansen, 415-614-5596, jansenm@sfarchdiocese.org.

Listen to God's speech in his wondrous, terrible, gentle, loving, all-embracing silence. ~ Catherine de Hueck Doherty



Parish Spotlight: **San Mateo Lataki Tongan Catholic Young Adults**

Soana Painsi

St. Timothy parish in San Mateo is home to the Tongan Catholic young adult group, known as the San Mateo Lataki. Our group is open to all single young adult Catholics in the area. In an effort to strengthen the participation and involvement of the youth and young adults in our parish, our Lataki is responsible for many activities geared for this particular age group.

The Lataki is an integral part of the Tongan community in San Mateo. Although the number of members fluctuate throughout the year we usually have about 20 to 30 active members in San Mateo. Our goal is to gather all the Tongan catholic young adults in our parish together to share a spirit and unity both catholic ideals. "Our enhance the and, most spiritual our members and organized designed to personal needs and the needs of the Tongan community."

Sharing a Spirit of Christianity and Unity for the Whole Parish.

While we work alongside the entire parish of St. Timothy, our main support system is the Tongan Catholic community in San Mateo. Fr. Saimone Moala is the chaplain of the Tongan community in USA and is now assisted by Fr. Tupou. We are fortunate to have the constant advice and guidance of these spiritual leaders as well as our parents and community to help direct us. In working closely with our Tongan adult community we are given the tools and knowledge to grow in our own culture, better our attitudes and enrich the spirituality of our members.

Our group meets regularly according to what activities are planned. There is a six member council who work together to plan the various activities that the Lataki is involved in. These positions of leadership are voted and chosen by all members of the group once a year. We

attend retreats and seminars to enhance our own Catholic knowledge and meet other Lataki members from different cities and parishes. Last year, our group attended the annual Tongan Catholic young adult seminar in Reno and some of us attended a

Tonga this past December.

In addition to attending other parish fundraisers, our group hosts our own fundraisers to help our community and church. We have hosted a



very successful luau in addition to the smaller plate sales we run throughout the year. These social events are geared to help our members realize the importance of unity and team work. We have had picnics, sports games, trivia activities, and dances. Our members participate in mass celebrations, bible study and volunteering in the local Samaritan house to help make sandwiches and food for the needy.

The continued success of the San Mateo Lataki depends on the commitment and participation of our members and most importantly from the help and guidance of our Lord. We feel truly blessed to have been given such a variety of talents to work with in our young adult community. We hope to continue to grow physically, spiritually and emotionally with the Holy Spirit in our endeavors to build a stronger community for Tongan Catholic young adults.



Photos are of Lataki members during liturgy at Assisi, Italy for 2000 World Youth Day. St. Timothy sent eight members to WYD with the Archdiocesan pilgrimage.

20th World Youth "Young Adult" Day August 11-22, 2005

Experience the **pilgrimage of a lifetime** with the Pope and half of million Catholics in their late teens, 20s and 30s. Join the Archdiocese of San Francisco on a 12 day pilgrimage to Germany.

Fundraising Available!

**Office of Young Adult Ministry:
415-614-5596
www.sfyam.org**

**REGISTER TODAY.
Deadline is March 21**

Campus Ministry Corner

Submitted by San Francisco State University and St. Thomas More Parish Newman Center

It has been a joy to work in the Newman Club Campus Ministry of San Francisco State University since this past fall of 2004, and it has also been an interesting challenge to find creative ways of reaching out to our student population. Our youth of today, especially in a university of a cosmopolitan city like San Francisco, have many opportunities to meet and be enriched by people of all cultures, religions and ways of life. Therefore, our campus ministry knows the importance of being open to dialogue and the questions of its students while remaining authentic and clear in our Catholic faith.

Our mission on the campus is the intellectual and spiritual development of the student on campus. The space to grow, develop and ask questions about one's Catholic faith. The formation of the Catholic towards seeking and creating a deep and real transformation

of the world for peace, justice and unity.

The programs that we offer try to cover a wide range of interests so that all might feel welcome and comfortable to join the club in its activities, and find a community that seeks to discover and grow in faith and life. Our activities include mass on campus, weekly faith sharing and prayer groups, weekly information tabling, weekend retreats, one-day hiking retreats, social outreach activities, and social activities like bonfires at the beach.

We had our first Ash Wednesday Mass on campus, and it was truly a wonderful experience to have a small conference room packed and overflowing with about 60 students who came to participate in mass, even though most had to stand the whole time.

We hope to continue our work in

building a community of faith on our campus and bringing our students

to a deeper relationship with God as they personally discover how to integrate their life with faith.

SFSU Newman Club Campus Ministers:

Roselle Ruperto, VDMF
Sibele Moreira, VDMF
Su Fern Khoo, VDMF

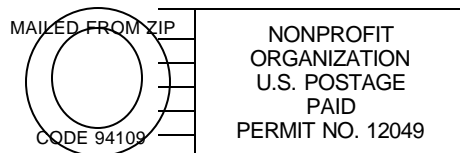
SFYAM&CM hopes to highlight different campus ministry programs and student experiences in the Archdiocese. The logo above is from the 2005 Catholic Campus Ministry Association (CCMA) Conference in San Antonio, Texas.



seeing with new eyes
PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL ON CAMPUS IN A CHANGING WORLD



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Lenten Blessings!



2005 Upcoming Events

April 2 Fall Fest Planning Retreat
April 16 YA Leaders' Forum
April 26 Catholic Lobby Day
April 29 & 30 Hispanic YA Conference
June 24-30 El Paso, TX Mission Trip
August 11-22 WYD Germany
September 24 Fall Fest, YA Conference

Sign up for monthly e-mail:
www.sfyam.org

Connecting Young Adults in their late teens, 20s and 30s