

MESSAGE TO YOUTH -staff to Relig teens

"We can make a difference" Year end Rally 2004

all: DEAR YOUNG PEOPLE,

In you, we see the face of God.

You are the young Church of today and our hope for the future.

You are a mosaic of life reflecting the diversity of our nation and Church. You are truly a gift, and we praise and thank God for you. You are a special gift to the Church and to the world!

We have great confidence in you, because of who you are today and what you can become tomorrow. We see and hear how you put your beliefs into action by standing up for the sacredness of human life and the dignity of the individual, by working with the poor and reaching out to those who struggle through life.

We see you as leaders among both your peers and the parish community.

all: We commit ourselves to helping you meet the difficult challenges and ask you to look to Jesus Christ to give meaning to the struggles and pain in your life.

God, our Father, invites you to discover the meaning of life centered in Jesus Christ. This conviction provides a foundation for your life.

It gives you values and beliefs that can keep your dreams alive as you face the many challenges of life.

Look to Jesus and his values:

honesty,

generosity,

compassion,

chastity,

kindness,

tolerance,

justice,

respect for all life,

and peacemaking.

These are the gospel values that will bring you true happiness and manifest God's love for the world.

We encourage you to invite other young people to hear God's word and experience God's presence in our Catholic communities.

Through you, they can meet Jesus, their brother.

Relig tries to help you recognize your special talents and role in the life of the Church. You bring to the parish community youthfulness, energy, vitality, hopefulness, and vision.

Don't be afraid to share these wonderful traits and talents, and don't be discouraged if you don't always get the welcome you'd like to get.

WHAT are you TO Do WITH your Lives? BE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST!

As baptized members of the Church, Jesus Christ calls you to follow in his footsteps and make a difference in the world today.

all: You can make a difference!

Offer your youthful energies and your talents to building a civilization of Christian love. . . commit yourself to the struggle for justice, solidarity and peace.

You can make a difference now!

At home, in school, with your friends,sports and after-school jobs.

You can do this by treating all people justly and with respect;
by being a voice for the voiceless, especially the unborn; by being a peaceful person in your language and actions;

by sharing your time, talent, and money with your family and those in need;

by being a friend to those who are lonely or shunned;

by being a healer and reconciler when conflicts arise,

by helping friends do the right thing; and by valuing people who are different from you - people of different cultures, people who are disabled, people who think differently from you.

When you do these things you will make the world - your family, school, community - a better place, a place where Jesus Christ dwells.

It will not be easy. You may be misunderstood and made fun of at times, but you will never be alone. Christ and the Christian community walk with you.

all: We invite you to know Jesus Christ as a companion and friend, teacher and savior, and to discover what he has to offer as you live your life today.

See in Jesus Christ the one whose life gives meaning to the joys and sufferings of millions of people over thousands of years.

See in Jesus Christ, the One who can help you live your life to the fullest!

Jesus, who came so that you may have life and have it more abundantly"

Remember, you can make the world a better place.
You are not too young!"
Go out into the streets and, like
the apostles, preach the gospel message of Christ.

all: We promise that we will walk with you as Jesus does.

We will work with you for justice and peace in your schools, in your families, and with your friends.

We will stand by you in the future in carrying out your vocation whatever God calls you to be in this world.

all: So much depends on you
We have great confidence in you,
We have great pride in you;
We are filled with encouragement,
We are overflowing with joy
Because we know how much God has loved us with the gift of you
Joining with Our Lord & Brother Jesus we say "We love you"