



Working Together

The Newsletter of the Young Christian Workers Movement

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"I joined YCW 'cause there was nothing else to do. I stayed because it was great, the group was about us, what we wanted to do."... Lar, 29

Working Together to go on line

For many years now the YCW newsletter "Working together" has been bringing you news and events happening with Young Christian Workers. We are delighted to announce that it will be soon possible to get your copy of Working Together in a more ecologically friendly manner as we will soon be offering an online version of our newsletter!



In the coming months, you will be able to receive "Working Together" directly into your inbox, whether it be your work email, personal Yahoo! Mailbox or your Parish Outlook account. This will not only help YCW save costs on postage and stationery but will also give a little help to the environment as we will use less paper! For those who still wish to receive a hard copy it will still be possible to receive a printed version.

Our web site will soon be updated to reflect these changes, allowing you to subscribe to the new online version of the newsletter and the option to unsubscribe or update your details.

If you wish to be one of the first persons to receive the online newsletter, please send us an email to info@ycw.ie including your name, the name of your organisation / company / Parish, your email address and telephone number.

Fr. Eoin becomes PP

Congratulations to YCW's National Chaplain, Fr. Eoin McCrystal on his appointment as Parish Priest of Holy Trinity Parish, Donaghmede, Clongriffin, Balgriffin.

Eoin was inducted as Parish Priest on Saturday the 20th of September by Monsignor John Fitzpatrick who regaled us with stories from Eoin's past and gave special mention to his work and commitment to the YCW Movement.

We wish Eoin every success in his new post and look forward to seeing a YCW group in Holy Trinity Parish real soon.

Have young adults from your Parish been to WYD? Have you?

Are you wondering how to keep the experience alive and live out your faith in a real and meaningful way? If so why not start or join a YCW group!

The Development Team are available to offer assistance & help you get started. Contact them today for further details.



Michelle Crowe (Prosperous YCW) travelled to Australia for World Youth Day in July this year. In this article Michelle shares what for her was a life changing experience

My journey for World Youth Day began on the 5th of July 2008 when I met the group I was travelling to Sydney Australia with. We arrived in Sydney airport on the 7th of July. The first week we spent doing a program called days in the diocese. This involved meeting the people of the parish that were hosting us and celebrating mass with them. They organised a social night for us; this gave us a chance to get to know the people of the Boorowa community.

After our first week in Boorowa we moved on to Canberra where we attended a commissioning ceremony. We had to camp out in a huge hall that night, a great experience that we all shared together. For our second week we moved on to Sydney where the celebrations for WYD had already begun. The streets were full of young pilgrims and bright lights, the atmosphere was electric, I never experienced such things in all my life.

The Pope arrived on the 17th of July to celebrate the WYD opening Mass. His entrance was truly fantastic as he came down along Sydney Harbour by boat. Every morning before we set off for Barangaroo we attended Catechesis in the parish church of the area we were staying in. For me this put a fun element in to going to Mass. We got to discuss various aspects of the Catholic Church as a large group which was then followed by the Mass itself.

Our WYD experience ended as we camped out under the stars at Randwick race course. This was great fun apart from the cold as it was actually winter down under. The next morning the closing mass commenced and Pope Benedict announced that the next WYD was to be held in Madrid Spain in 2011.

This brought our trip to WYD to a close; we spent a further two days in Sydney sightseeing and of course a bit of shopping was also involved.

Our journey home was longer than going over as we had to stop off in Korea for a nights stay in a hotel there, a gorgeous way to end a life changing experience that I will never forget or never bore of talking about.



Michelle Crowe



YCW Development Worker, Jenny Casey with Cardinal Sean Brady in Australia

The next WYD will take place in Madrid, Spain in 2011. Be ready!

Congratulations to YCW Australia for all their hard work during WYD.

YCW Retreats

YCW is currently preparing a series of Retreats for young people 18-25 years. Using the YCW method of See, Judge, Act and lead by Gerry Keegan these retreats promise to provide a real and meaningful opportunity for young people to explore and share their faith

If you are interested in hearing more about these planned retreats and how you could participate you can contact Vicky at the YCW National Office 01-8780291 or by email vicky.rattigan@ycw.ie

Volunteering Opportunities

Are you a YCW member or former member with a bit of spare time on your hands?

Are you interested in giving a bit back to the Movement?

Why not volunteer to assist in the development of the Movement either at local level or by assisting at the National Office.

If you are interested in sharing your time and experience or feel you may be able to assist us in any way then why not chat to us today.

Volunteer contracts will apply.

We are currently working on a new volunteer policy for the Movement which we will share with you in future editions of Working Together.

Coming Soon—New YCW Resource to Inspire and Engage Young Adults

Challenge to Lead.

This exciting new project was designed by young people for young people between the ages of **16-25**. *Challenge to Lead* includes everything you need to start YCW and form a group of young leaders.

Background

This project was designed by YCW's from Ireland, England and Malta with each young person playing an active role in the project by writing, filming, producing and editing the accompanying DVD and enquiries and information sheets. Filmed on location in Malta the group produced 29 mini films to be used in conjunction with enquiry sheets on various issues relating to the lives of today's young adults.

All training in filming, including camera operations, sound recording and direction skills was provided by Bob Walters, a BBC accredited trainer.

The Pack

The pack contains a guide for young people and the adult or chaplain/ animator who will accompany them. It also includes the *Challenge to Lead* DVD, with 29 video clips presenting discussion starters and scripture reflections. The accompanying book includes twelve themed enquiries which guide the group through the DVD using the YCW method of See-Judge-Act.

Issues covered by the resource include:

Community, Work, Equality and Relationships, Interracial Issues, Religious Diversity, Church, Money, Education, Leisure, Drugs alcohol & tobacco, Environment, Taking a Lead.

Further details on this resource is available from the YCW National Office.

*Also coming Soon!
We are working on a series of Gospel Enquiries which will be available through our website. Keep an eye on www.ycw.ie for more details*

YCW LIFE SURVEY 2008

Have you taken part in the YCW Movements Life Survey yet?

This online survey has been designed to assist the YCW in knowing the realities of young workers today and to help us respond as best we can through our programmes and services.

If you haven't had a chance to complete the survey yet why not check it out now on our web-site www.ycw.ie

It will only take a couple of minutes so go on let us know what's important to you!

Log on to www.ycw.ie

YCW Development

Would your parish, youth centre or community be interested in hosting a YCW information evening?

Information evenings are designed to provide information and assistance to those considering establishing a YCW or IMPACT! Group or those interested in finding out more about the YCW Movement.

If you would like to host an event we'd be delighted to hear from you. All you need is to provide the venue the rest is up to us.

Call us today to find out more on 01-8780291 or email: info@ycw.ie



Young Christian Workers
Saothraithe Óga Críostai

YCW National Office
11 Talbot St.
Dublin 1
Tel: 00353 1 8780291

YCW TEAM

Vicky Rattigan
National Co-ordinator
vicky.rattigan@ycw.ie

Jenny Casey
Development Worker
jenny.casey@ycw.ie

Fr. Eoin McCrystal
National Chaplain
eoin.mccrystal@ycw.ie

Melanie Gutman
Webmaster
melanie.gutman@ycw.ie

General email address:
info@ycw.ie

Check out our staff profiles
on line
www.ycw.ie



YCW is committed to Action which promotes the dignity and meaning of young people's lives regardless of their faith, social background or colour.



YCW Time Out weekend

From the 29th - 31st of August 2008 a group of young people from Dublin and Kildare arrived in Glendalough for YCW's Time Out weekend.



This event, our first so far, was organised to provide an opportunity to escape the hustle and bustle of city life and relax in the beautiful surroundings of Glendalough.

We arrived on Friday afternoon to a beautiful sunny day and settled into our accommodation, Teach Lorcaín which is situated in the beautiful and peaceful valley of Glendasan near Glendalough (County Wicklow). The weekend was fun filled with walks, fly fishing lessons, trips to the local for games of pool and the Saturday night disco, as well as time for relaxation and basically just chilling out.



We hope to organise further trips away in the near future. Details of upcoming events can be obtained from the YCW National Office or through our website www.ycw.ie

The life and times of Young People

We are currently making plans to produce a calendar for 2009 showing the lived experi-



ences of young people today. If you are a budding photographer and would like to see your pictures in print then why not forward your photos to us here at YCW.

We are looking for shots showing young people in their everyday life at work, in their local areas, at play, socialising or making a positive contribution to our society.

The aim of this project is to encourage young people to become aware of their surroundings and to play an active role in their community. So if you are aged between 16 & 30 years of age we'd love to receive your photos.

You can email your entry to us here at the office to info@ycw.ie.