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## World Youth Day is October 26!

### Suggestions for Preparations

#### Inform the Parish

Advertise and promote World Youth Day by hanging posters and using the parish bulletin to announce any activities your parish is planning.

#### Involve the Parish in Praying for Teens

Make your own prayer cards using the Our God, the Great I Am prayer and place the name of a young person from your parish at the bottom of each. Distribute these at Mass and ask parishioners to keep these young people in prayer throughout the year.

**Involve youth** and their gifts in various liturgical ministries during the weekend Masses.

Include prayers for youth during the **General Intercessions**.

**Highlight Youth leadership**; decorate bulletin boards with pictures of youth doing various forms of ministry and service; create a list of youth involved in ministry and insert in parish bulletin; offering a blessing of youth involved in leadership roles in Catholic Youth Ministry or in your Catholic Youth Organization.

The World Youth Day prayer, suggested bulletin announcements, General Intercessions and additional ideas may all be found in the blue *Our God, The Great I Am* resource manual sent to every parish.

Check out [the NFCYM website](#) for additional blessing and prayers you can use to celebrate youth on World Youth Day and at other times throughout the year.

Click [here](#) for information on the Diocesan World Youth Day Celebration taking place on October 26 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parish.

**Prayers Please!!**

Chase Kear from Sacred Heart parish in Colwich suffered severe

**October is Respect Life Month**  
Make a commitment to join the Diocesan Pilgrimage to DC for the [March For Life](#)

head injury while pole vaulting. Please join with Chase's family and friends in praying for his recovery. Add prayers and get updates [here](#). The password is prayers4chase. To petition Fr. Emil Kapaun for a miraculous healing download this [prayer](#).

Register now for the monthly payment plan.

## TRAINING AND FORMATION

### LOCAL:

[Live & Local Ministry Formation](#) in Your Backyard - for all adult leaders and volunteers! These seminars have been very well received by participants. Don't miss out--there are two remaining!

Oct 18 - Cathedral, Wichita

Oct 25 - St. Joseph, Ost

### NATIONAL:

[OnCourse](#) - an online training program developed by Ministry Training Source and the National Association of Catholic Youth Ministry Leaders (NACYML)--check it out!

Dec 4-7 NCCYM 2008 in Cleveland [click here](#) for details - **early bird discount deadline is October 17!!** (Save even more by joining NACYML)

## DIRECT MINISTRY FOR YOUTH

- [Diocesan World Youth Day Event](#)
- [TEC](#) weekend December 13-15, 2008
- [March For Life](#) 2009

## THE POPE WANTS TO MEET YOUR FAMILY!

The organizers of the 6th World Meeting of Families are creating a mosaic of family photos that will form an image of Benedict XVI. They are collecting 7,000 digital images of family photos.

Families who want to send their picture to be included in the mosaic should downsize it to less than 4 megabytes and [email](#) it in JPG or GIF format. The email should include the name of the person sending the image, the last name of the family, along with the family's hometown and country. The deadline to send the images is December 12.

### Welcome Anna!

The Offices of Religious Education and Youth and Young Adult Ministries have a new Office Coordinator. Please join us in welcoming Anna Gittemeier to our staff! Chris Edmonds caught up with Anna recently for a chat:

C: What in the world possessed you to sign on with the Youth &

### UPCOMING

#### October

Live & Local Formation

Diocesan World Youth Day Event

#### December

NCCYM in Cleveland

Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) in Wichita

Eve of the Eve Dance

#### January

March for Life  
Pilgrimage to DC

[click here for full  
calendar](#)

**SAFE  
ENVIRONMENT  
EDUCATION FOR  
YOUTH**  
All 9-12 graders  
whether they are  
in PSR, CYO or CYM  
are expected to  
cover safe  
environment issues  
each year. Reports  
are due to the  
Religious Education  
Office by  
November  
14th! Click [here](#)  
for curriculum.

### New Diocesan Website!

From the diocesan  
front page, just  
click on "Ministries  
and Offices" to find  
the Youth and  
Young Adult  
Ministries page.  
Our new site  
features youth,  
leaders and young  
adult sections.  
[check it out!](#)

### Religious Ed offices?

A: I had no idea what I was getting into!  
Well I have done a lot of volunteering with Youth Ministry in  
churches in the past and I thought it might be fun. A friend at  
my church knew I had been looking for a new job and brought  
the ad to me one week and just said that she had thought of  
me when she found it and thought I might be interested. I  
guess she was right.

C: What has been the most gratifying thing so far with your  
new job?

A: Definitely the people I work with here. I get to talk to so  
many people that are here because they want to help people  
and make a difference. You just don't get that with corporate  
or government jobs. Everyone smiles when they meet and  
blesses you when you sneeze. It's such a wonderful and  
welcoming place.

C: What has been the most surprising/unexpected thing?

A: I had no idea the diocese had such a huge library. I guess  
just being a librarian surprised me. That, and the back closet.  
I really didn't expect to find hula hoops and jump ropes in the  
office.

C: What is something quirky about you that most people don't  
know? (Of course, if this is a lie, we'll never know!)

A: I love to do kids crafts. Gluing wiggly eyes on things is just  
always a stress reliever. I make ornaments for everyone at  
Christmas out of whatever I find. I have quite a collection of  
snowmen/reindeer/santas ornaments made out of odd things  
like tin cans.

C: What is one thing you'd like to tell everyone reading this  
about your service to them? (Is this a leading question?)

A: I think this is a leading question.

### Until next time,

Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministries  
Youth & Young Adult Ministries / Catholic Diocese of Wichita

[Forward email to an interested friend](#)

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