



THE Youth SUNDAY NEWS



AN UPDATE FROM YMT SINCE LAST YOUTH SUNDAY...

This year, the theme for Youth Sunday in England and Wales is "Come and See", and encouragement to young people and all of us to actively engage with opportunities within the Church to encounter Jesus, whether that be through prayer, service or community involvement.

INTRODUCING...

Welcome YMT's Team 2023-24! We are pleased to welcome young adult volunteers from the Diocese and beyond who are committed to sharing their faith with others. They have embraced all the opportunities within the Youth Ministry Internship so far!

From Left to Right (above), meet Lily (from St Mary's 6th Form, Newcastle), Becca (from Gateshead), Matthew (from Bangkok), Eva (from Madrid), Janine and Ryan (from the Philippines), Ebony (from El Salvador & Cardinal Hume 6th Form), and Ann (also from St Mary's, Newcastle).

We thought we would also take the opportunity to share with you a brief update from YMT and what's been going on since last Youth Sunday, which is quite a lot to fit onto two sides of A4...

We are endlessly grateful for the prayer and financial support we receive to be able to facilitate peer ministry and evangelisation, and share God's message of love to young people.

And so, without further ado, Come and See...



RETREATS

Our fantastic new team have settled into the Youth Village and have embraced the opportunity to welcome many primary and secondary school groups for retreats already. We've had a great time meeting you all!

Miss Gallagher is a year 4 teacher at St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School, Walbottle. She remembers coming to the Youth Village when she was in school and was excited to return as a teacher!



She said "I remember the YMT team visiting my school in y7 and then I took part in the secondary festival and camped at the village in year 9! I enjoyed my time so much that I returned in 6th Form when the lodges were opened, and I remember singing around the campfire and even star gazing! It has been a pleasure to come back with our year 6s and see them enjoy something that I have loved too."



FESTIVAL FORTNIGHT

The Festival Marquee was full of singing, dancing, celebrating and praying with 6 days of Primary School Festivals, welcoming over 3000 year 6s from over 100 schools!

The Festival stage at Secondary Festival was adorned by headline Christian artists, Guvna B and Adenike, as well as performances from several young people attending the festival too! It was three days filled with HOPE for young people and the Church, culminating in Mass shared with over 500 year 9s & 10s attending too.

Throughout the festival fortnight, the Festival Volunteer team were a constant witness to the Joy of the Gospel, involving students from universities and sixth forms across the Diocese. Thanks to all the adults and young people who served during this time.





FLAME

Over 800 young people from Hexham & Newcastle travelled to Wembley Arena for the UK's largest Catholic Youth Congress. Members of YMT were actively involved in the planning and production of Flame, including several current and recent team members who processed into the arena with Our Lady as a symbol of commemoration and remembrance of Fr Dermott Donnelly who had been a key founding member of the Flame team.

SIGNIFICANCE DAY

We hope this event to become an annual celebration at the Emmaus Youth Village, open to all. With a speaker, music, Mass, a BBQ and profits supporting Fr Dermott Donnelly's legacy charity, The Significance Foundation. More information to follow.

POPE JOHN PAUL II AWARD

71 Sixth Formers received the Pope John Paul II award in recognition of their service, volunteering and reflection amongst parish and school community groups. Congratulations to all recipients!



FAITH IN ACTION AWARD

The Faith in Action Award encourages young people from Year 6 to Year 10 to reflect on their faith and to see how it connects to their life as they take action to serve others. Well done to the 1, 200 young people from our Diocese who received this award this year!

COMING UP...



The YMT Youth Ministry Conference: "Investing in the Fearlessness of Youth"
 For anyone involved in delivering Youth Ministry in parish, school and other settings
| 3rd February 2024 10am-3pm | Cardinal Hume School, Gateshead



The Source is back!
 Music, Speaker, Worship, Prayer & Chips for Y9+
7pm at 21st March 2024 @ St Mary's Newcastle

Festival Fortnight
 Primary Festival: 24th June - 1st July
 Secondary Festival: 3rd - 5th July
 Bookings for Schools open: 15th January

Significance Day
 Saturday 29th June (With Overnight Stay Option)

WAIT A MINUTE...



Our Advent & Lent online series will continue in December, with short video reflections shared from across the Diocese and beyond...



YOUTH SUNDAY RESOURCES

This year, we look forward to joining with many of our Diocesan schools as part of the World Youth FUNday livestream event on Friday 24th November.

YMT have also significantly contributed to the National Youth Sunday resources for schools, youth groups and individuals. Check out resources to download or Register for the FUNday Livestream event at: worldyouthsunday.com

