

Youth

Speaking Out

By Gina Stepanik
Our Lady of Mercy High School

This summer I spent nine weeks at Camp Stella Maris, learning and growing, not only through a leadership program I participated in, but also from those around me: the campers.

The campers, who ranged in age from seven to 14, taught me the importance of patience, love and trust.

Parents drop their kids off at camp for any time period ranging from one to four weeks, entrusting us, the counselors, with their precious children.

The campers at CSM are all unique, and come from different backgrounds. They might or might not have sisters or brothers, and they varied in age. Despite their differences, they all have one similar need — the need for love, the need to feel love, and the need to see love around them.

One way we share this love with each other is through the Sign of Peace during Mass. Instead of just a handshake, we give each other an embrace and say not only, "Peace be with you," but also, "I love you" through our actions. The feeling in the chapel is one of full acceptance and love for one another, regardless of whether you know or don't know that person.

Patience is one word that comes to mind often when I review the summer. I learned that patience doesn't always come naturally, and that it can be a struggle to keep. I also found that when I remained the most patient, I gained the most and was able to learn the most from campers.

The campers reminded and taught me the importance of laughter, even when I felt like crying, and they taught me the importance of acting like a kid every now and then, just to do something crazy. They taught me the importance of growth. Now, when I look back, I realize that I not only grew with the campers and my co-workers, I also grew with myself, and inside myself.

Camp Stella Maris was certainly the most important growing and learning experience for me ever. As I return to school, I find myself continuing the process of the never-ending cycle of learning and growing.

Elmira Notre Dame High School

What kind of person will you try to be in your last high school year?

JASON TITUS, Senior:

I would like to be an academic achiever. If I can achieve success in college, my goal to be a radio or TV broadcaster will be easy to reach. Personally, I would like to be an open person — a person anybody can talk to freely.



VINCENT KUNG, Senior:

I will strive to be both kind and understanding. Yet, I also want to be self-reliant. In my future, I would like to achieve success in all my endeavors.



As Teens See It

PAT KROOUZE, Senior:

Basically, I want to be my own person. My life is something I want to control. I don't want to be tied down to depending on others; I want to fend for myself. I would like to be secure of who I am and what I am doing. Happiness in life is what I strive for.



Leadership day to feature three keynoters, many topics

Three nationally known speakers and 36 workshops will be featured at the annual diocesan Leadership Day Saturday, Oct. 15, at Cardinal Mooney High School, Rochester.

Monsignor Alvaro Corrado del Rio, Hispanic auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Washington, DC, and Sister Patricia Haley, SCN, a program coordinator for the National Black Sisters' Council, will address the reality and vision of Hispanic and black Catholics, respectively. The prioress of the Benedictines of Chicago, Sister Mary Benet McKinney,

OSB, will also address "Responding to the Call to Be and Build Church."

Two sessions of workshops will be offered on topics ranging from parish financial administration and emerging models of ministry to sacred dance and bereavement counseling.

Registration is \$10, excluding lunch, which is available for an additional \$4.50. All participants must register by Friday, Oct. 7. Contact the Office of Parish Services, (716) 328-3210, for more information.

HOUSE OF GUITARS

Most New Album And Tape Releases Just \$5.98
CD's From \$8.98 - \$11.98 Each

We received 19 correct entries identifying Roberta Flack as the recording artist of the 1972 hit "First Time Ever I Saw Your Face."



The winner was Betsy Agrasto of Geneva

MUSIC TRIVIA

This week's question:

What are the first and last names of the Righteous Brothers?

A:

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip Code _____
School _____

Rules:

Each week, the Courier-Journal, in conjunction with the House of Guitars will feature a Music Trivia contest. All you have to do to enter is answer the question, fill in your name and address and the school you attend (if applicable), cut out the coupon, and send it in to the Courier-Journal. If more than one correct entry is received, a drawing will be held and one winning entry will be drawn.

If you're the winning entry, you will be mailed a coupon for a free album or tape of your choice redeemable at the House of Guitars, 645 Titan Ave.

All entries must be received within seven days of this paper's issue date. Winning names and answers will be printed the week following each drawing.

The Courier-Journal
Music Trivia
1150 Buffalo Rd.
Rochester, N.Y. 14624

Games kids play at church

By Robert Doolittle
NC News Service

Please read the following description and decide if you think it's a valid expression of Church.

You walk into a youth meeting and find a circle of people laughing and cheering as two girls stalk warily around a boy on his hands and knees between them on the floor. At a signal, both leap for his back, the quicker one holding him around the middle and hanging on for dear life, while the slower one tries to pull her off and claim the poor lad for herself. After a brief struggle, one emerges victorious.

You have just witnessed the climax of a game called Musical Boys, and you might well walk in on such a scene in some parishes I know. It's just like Musical Chairs, except instead of chairs you start out with a tight circle of boys, head to head on their hands and knees, with one boy fewer each time so you have the same mad scramble for spots, except this time it's a boy's back and the girls have to hold on to keep their men.

But is it Church?

Of course it is. Games like this do very good, very healing things for people. I'll name two big benefits just for starters.

1) A game like Musical Boys — even just the title — quickly wins friends for the Church. A lot of young people hold back and don't trust that mother Church wants them to enjoy life — this life. And they're especially not sure the Church wants them to enjoy life under her roof.

You may think that all the Church really wants is for you to get your beliefs and behavior straight so you can enjoy the next life. Well, one good, rowdy, crazy game throws that thought right out the window and says clearly: Church is about all-out good times.

2) And to any doubters who may say, "Fine, but how to games serve the Church's great spiritual purpose?" here's the second big benefit. When people get playful and laughing and, yes, physical, the atmosphere gets very relaxed and comfortable and open. People can

Coming of Age

be themselves. A feeling of community develops.

It becomes much easier for teens to go on to think together about their deepest questions, and even pray together about their deepest concerns. And if that isn't Church, what is?

Now let's get real frank. A lot of young people reading this go to parish programs with no feeling of community at all. They have well-intentioned teachers and leaders, but there's an important truth they haven't learned. Without good things happening between people, the kids hate to be there.

But listen, you dissatisfied ones. With what you're feeling, you could do something great. Most adult Catholics are a lot more reachable and open than you realize, for two good reasons. For one thing, Vatican Council II has been moving the whole Church further and further into "community" ever since the 1960s.

Second, most adults know that if we don't listen to you we'll lose you, as we've already lost so many. That's a sadness being felt all across the country in homes with grown children, and it has made us more humble and open as we think about your needs.

So be bold enough to bring the Gospel to your elders. They may never have heard that enjoyment of life — joy — is right at the core of the Gospel: "Ask and receive, that your joy may be full" (John 16:24). Pray first, then go with love and courage, and ask for the joy of community.

Bring along this article if you like. You can pass along this address for community-building resources: National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, 3900 Harewood Road, Washington, D.C.

Church office employees set workshop in October

Church Office Professional Employees (C.O.P.E.) are hosting a workshop for all parish secretaries, bookkeepers, office and business managers on from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 13, at Notre Dame Retreat House, Foster Road, Canandaigua.

The workshop will be presented by Roselyn Karaban, a professor at St. Bernard's Institute. The program will focus on communication skills and interpersonal relationships. The day-long workshop will conclude with a celebration of the Mass.

Participants need not be members of

C.O.P.E. The donation for the program is \$7. Call Mary R. Cantatore at (716)671-5520 for information.

Family center establishes jobs program for refugees

The Catholic Family Center has established an Employment Support Program as part of its current refugee-assistance activities. The program consists of labor-market analysis and such comprehensive employment services as applicant assessment, job training workshops, job development and job placement. The program, which is targeted to refugees receiving public assistance and to those who have been in this country for 18 months or less, is expected to place at least 75 clients in jobs.

Weekly group sessions will be scheduled to address concerns about reduction of public assistance as a result of employment. The program will also provide support after refugees are placed in jobs, by serving as liaison between the employee and employer. For information on this new program, contact Ed Patane at (716) 546-7220.

THE BATTERY

WINTER BASEBALL SCHOOL
November-December-January
15 weekly 2-hour sessions
Bobbie Bonner, Phil Huffman, Ric Lisi and John Valle
Hitting•Bunting•Base running• Outfield
Infield•Catching• Pitching
Players grouped according to age (8-12 and 13-17)
Several payment options
1520 Spencerport Road
(Beneath Big M Supermarket)
Rochester, N.Y. 14606
426-9388

FUND RAISING
Earn money through regularly scheduled paper drives.

CALL US WE'LL HELP YOU ORGANIZE

MONEY FOR NEWSPAPER
RECYCLED NEWSPAPERS ARE A VALUABLE RESOURCE

FOREST-WOOL INCORPORATED
CELLULOSE INSULATION

One Curlew Street, Rochester, New York 14608
FOR OUR QUALIFIED INSULATION CONTRACTOR IN YOUR AREA
(716) 458-0330
1-800-448-9800