



A Message from the Diocesan Youth Office

Building a Dynamic

Since my appointment as the Director of Youth Formation in Dunkeld Diocese, I have settled down to work in the office. Every Tuesday and Wednesday between 11am and 4pm are the official hours I am in the Youth office at the Diocesan Centre, Dundee. I am happy to work with the Diocesan Youth Commission made up of some young, vibrant and dedicated youths. Their zeal and commitment gives me the confidence that they have what it takes to animate the Youth ministry in the diocese. We have had meetings and are planning for some programmes which are already being publicized in our parishes and schools. Also some of our past events have been reviewed as are mentioned in this message.

Our Advent Youth retreat comes up between Friday 8th and Sunday 10th of December, 2017. The theme is "Prepare the Way of the Lord" (Mark 1:3) We have sent posters and forms to the parishes, but these can also be downloaded on our website www.dunkeldyouth.org.uk. The Diocesan Youth Music Animation Team (DYMAT) led by our dear Misia Paul has commenced rehearsals in preparation for the retreat. If you play any musical instrument or are interested in singing and would like to join us, please visit our website for details. You can keep up to date with events and activities on our social media platforms, follow us on our twitter handle @RCDunkeld_Youth, like our Instagram page: [dunkeld_youth_](https://www.instagram.com/dunkeld_youth/) service and join us on Facebook: [dunkeld youth service](https://www.facebook.com/dunkeldyouthservice/).

I would like to express our appreciation to Bishop Stephen, our parish priests and parents for their spiritual, financial and moral support. With your assistance, we have been able to organize programmes and trips that help deepen our faith and enhance our integral formation. The great patron of the youth, Saint John Bosco once said "it's not enough to love people have to feel that they are loved." This is how you make us feel, that we are loved by you. We are grateful.

Shortly before I took up my new role with the young people of Dunkeld, some of our youths, led by Frankie McGuire, travelled to the Netherlands to attend the Lifeteen camp event. It was a wonderful experience for them and some have

FEEDBACK



The European Life Teen Summer Camp 2017 took place in the Emmaus Retreat Centre, Helvoirt, Netherlands in August 2017.

It was open for 12-19 year olds from various different countries, and was a week of fun, faith and new faces.

The theme for the week was "Unfinished", and this year was the 10th anniversary of the camp.



Life Teen was a really good experience. It was my first time doing a camp like that and I thought it was wonderful. Life Teen gave me the chance to do different things and as we weren't allowed to use technology much I was really able to focus on the time that I had with God. As we had to share rooms with people from other groups it was a really good chance to mix in with other girls and form friendships with them.

All of the staff were so friendly and welcoming and are really good at what they do and the Netherlands is such a beautiful

setting. The activities were really different and creative I personally loved the rosary walk and the adventure day we had. I did things I would never dream of doing (and didn't think I could do) but my team were wonderful. I also got the chance to bond with my small group and we had some wonderful conversations it was amazing, to bond together the way we did, and to talk through issues. It was great to embrace some Dutch culture and I got to spend a week with people I really love and value. I would recommend the camp to anyone and I can't wait to go back!!!! **Lauren Quinn**

Youth Ministry

decided to write about it. I hope you will enjoy reading how this event has made significant impact in their lives. We look forward to going on more of such pilgrimages would edify us.

May I also appreciate our youths and in particular those who filled in the online questionnaire in preparation for the next synod on youth scheduled for October 2018 in Rome. The theme of the synod, "Young people, the Faith and Vocational Discernment", chosen by Pope Francis shows we have a special and important role to play in the Church and in our society. We pray for the Synod fathers and all would be participants at the synod, that based on our responses and guided by the Holy Spirit, they will emerge with suitable

pastoral initiatives that will aid our growth towards Christian maturity and enable us fulfill our role in the world.

I encourage our youths in parishes and schools to key into our programmes and also come forward with ideas that will help us build a dynamic youth ministry in the diocese. I shall also be establishing contact with our parishes and schools to see how we can mutually achieve this wonderful task. Thank you for your time and please keep praying for and encouraging our youths.

Fr Samuel Alabi, MSP
Dunkeld's Director of Youth Formation

Two Advent Youth Retreats

**Friday 8th - Saturday 9th
December**
12-16 years

**Saturday 9th - Sunday 10th
December**
17-25 years

*Retreats run from 5pm - 5pm
with prayer, reflection,
confession, games,
catechesis and Mass*

Diocesan Centre

24-28 Lawside Road,
Dundee, DD3 6XY

Download an expression of interest form at
www.dunkeldyouth.org.uk

*let your parish priest know that
you wish to attend*

"I would 100% go again"

The Life Teen Summer Camp 2017 was truly an amazing experience. The whole week was full of fun from start to finish, but there was still time for serious reflection, prayer and teaching about our faith, through the stories and testimonies of many there, as well as small group discussions and quiet reflection times. It was also a great way to experience different cultures, as there were so many different countries represented within the people there.

There were team building activities to get to know people and to form lasting friendships, and many opportunities for free time to mingle together. As well as all the themed and team building activities, there were also opportunities to celebrate everyone's culture, with "About Our Country" presentations and a talent show at the end of the week. Everyone there was so warm, welcoming and supportive; there was a real sense of "family" that I have only ever experienced at similar events.

I would 100% go again, and I encourage anyone else who might be interested to do so too – there is something for everyone and it's just an all-around enriching and growth experience.

Charis McCrosson



Retiring director, Frankie McGuire, squeezes into one last selfie with the youth