

©Diocese of Dunkeld - Scottish Charity No. SC001810



Dunkeld Youth Service have kicked off once again with a brand new look and a rejuvenated programme for Catholic Youth across the diocese.



Dedicated to young people, the mission of the DYS is to support and encourage faith formation in a fun and engaging way, to make young people feel comfortable in their parish communities and to help them to explore and deepen their faith. The DYS aims to connect young people to other places and events which can help in their journey, and to provide a safe place for them to open their hearts to Christ.



Canon Tom is the Vicar Episcopal for Education for the Diocese, as well as the Youth Director. He oversees diocesan youth activities and ensures that things keep moving along so that we can continue to make an effort to provide Catholic youth opportunities in our local areas.

#### YOUTH DIRECTOR

**CANON TOM SHIELD** 

**CHARIS SOARES** 



#### YOUTH CO-ORDINATOR

#### DUNKELD YOUTH COMMISSION



Starting off as a teen attending events herself, Charis has worked for the Youth Office for several years, co-ordinating youth events, doing administrative tasks and generally working hard in the background to make sure everything goes smoothly! She also leads and facilitates some of our events, and hopes to share the joy that she has found in her faith through youth events.

The Dunkeld Youth Commission was established in September 2016 in the wake of World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland. The mission of the group is to carry on the spirit of World Youth Day and to draw young people from the edges, involve those who are already interested, pass the church to young people and pray for the change of hearts and rediscovery of the gospel and of the sacraments. The Commission is made up of several young people across different ages and areas within the diocese. They meet regularly to discuss the Youth Service activities and plan events for young people in the diocese.

PAGE 1

# FUN, FAITH & FELLOWSHIP AT HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT

On Sunday 15th May, the Dunkeld Youth Service and NET Scotland hosted a retreat for high school youth at St Mary, Our Lady of Victories Church, Forebank Rd Dundee.

The day was packed with fun-filled games and activities, filling the hall with hilarity as the 33 young people broke the ice and got to know one another. When their energy was spent, the NET team gathered everyone together to introduce the day's theme: "Fully Alive – What does it mean to be fully alive with God's presence?" The teens explored this theme throughout the day, learning through a series of testimonies, skits, small group discussions and wider talks.



PART



The day wrapped up with a time of prayer and reflection, with the teens moving into the beautiful main church at St Mary's. Here, they were led through some reflection activities, including sung worship, a skit, and a small talk equipping them with 4 'tools' to help bring God closer to their lives: Prayer – Sacraments – Fellowship – Service. They then went into a really beautiful time of prayer and contemplation, with many of the young people taking advantage of the opportunity for confession. The retreat was concluded with Mass, celebrated by Bishop Stephen Robson.



## A SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE IN THE MOUNTAINS

From the 2nd-5th June, young Catholics gathered in the Scottish Highlands for 4 days of sun, song and Holy Spirit. Youth Co-ordinator Charis Soares joined as a participant, and shares; "The experience was deeply moving, with the theme focusing on the story of the prodigal son. The blessed sacrament was exposed 24 hours a day throughout our time together, and we celebrated Mass every day, so that we truly felt the presence of God in our midst. We celebrated the feast of Pentecost with a baptism in the Spirit, and many of us (including myself) had a very profound experience. It was a true blessing to spend time with young Catholics my age, and to be in such a wonderful place of prayer."









Stronghold Festival is a four day event for those who want to draw deeper into relationship with God the Father through his Son Jesus, in the wonder-working power of the Holy Spirit. The Festival is hosted at Craig Lodge Family House of Prayer, nestled between the beautiful mountains that surround Dalmally in Argyll, Scotland. Set in the epic landscape of the Scottish Highlands, young adults (16-30) are invited each summer to truly come away to be with the Lord and experience His love in a new way.

Craig Lodge also runs retreats and has ministries for all ages, including a yearlong mission school for 18-30 year olds.! You can find out more about Craig Lodge on their website, www.craiglodge.org.



#### PARISH YOUTH MINISTRY

## LAUNCHING AUTUMN 2022 P6-S2 PUPILS ST FILLAN'S, CRIEFF

# DO YOU HAVE A HEART FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?

DO YOU WANT TO HELP BRING THEM CLOSER TO CHRIST?

The Dunkeld Youth Service is looking for local Parish volunteers to facilitate youth groups.

WE WILL PROVIDE TRAINING, SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

Preparations and planning over the summer - launching in Autumn 2022

For more info or to register interest,

GET IN TOUCH WITH CANON TOM: stfillancrieff@dunkelddiocese.org.uk





#### <u>Background</u>

World Youth Day began in 1984, when Pope St. John Paul II invited over 300,000 young people from around the world to an International Jubilee of Youth on Palm Sunday in St. Peter's Square, Rome. As he saw how many turned up, he exclaimed, "Who claimed that today's youth has lost their sense of values? Is it really true that they cannot be counted on?" Every Palm Sunday has since been designated as a World Youth Day.

The first official International World Youth Day event was held in 1986, and there has been one every three years since, rotating around the world with a different theme each time. Groups of young people travel great distances to attend, and it is always a truly spiritual experience.



#### WYD 2023

The next international World Youth Day will be held in Lisbon, Portugal in August 2023. The Diocese of Dunkeld hopes to be able to send a group of young people to this event – keep your eyes and ears open for updates as they come! Sign up to our mailing list and keep an eye on our website/social media for the registration link.



To learn more about World Youth Day 2023, head to https://www.lisboa2023.org/en.

# NATIONAL YOUTH PILGRIMAGE SATURDAY 24TH SEPT DUNKELD & BIRNAM

MORE INFO & REGISTER ONLINE www.dunkeldyouth.org.uk/sign-up



**14-25 YEARS** 



### WRITTEN FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, ABOUT YOUNG PEOPLE AND BY YOUNG PEOPLE

This newsletter will feature what's going on for the young people in our diocese, what you can get involved in, upcoming DYS events, teaching and testimonies, activities and more! We will publish each edition as a pdf on our website, free to view at your leisure.

## **HOT OFF THE PRESS!**

Want to be kept up-to-date and informed? Subscribe to our mailing list via the Dunkeld Youth Website and we will also send a copy of the newsletter directly to your inbox!





## **BE A REPORTER**

If you are interested in writing and sharing your experience, or if you think there's an important issue or event we should include in our newsletter, please get in touch! This is your platform!

## **EVERYONE'S A CRITIC**

We want to make sure that we are producing material that you are really interested in - so if you have any suggestions for how we can make our newsletter even better (either the content that we publish, or how it looks, or any other ideas you have) please use our online suggestion box, or contact us directly at youth-office@dunkelddiocese.org.uk



STAY CONNECTED DUNKELDYOUTH.ORG.UK OUNKELDYOUTHSERVICE ODUNKELD\_YOUTH\_SERVICE