



## September 2011 Youth & Young Adult Ministry Connections Department of Youth & Young Adult Ministry



### Dear Friend in Ministry,

Welcome to autumn! I hope you have survived the "rush" of September! This time of year brings its own joys to be sure, but it also ramps up the busy-ness and stress. I pray that you still keep a breath of summer joy inside!

As we head into this new year of ministry (new school year, new fiscal year, etc.), it's important for our staff to provide you with an update of our ministry during this past year. **I hope you'll take just a minute to read our [2010-2011 Annual Report](#).** This report is a brief summary of where we are as a department and what we'll be working on in 2011-2012. (If you really want details, you can also check out our [revised Action Plan](#) and see our progress.) It's been a productive and grace-filled year, and I hope that you enjoy this update! And please [send me your comments or feedback!](#)



I hope you'll take special note of the items in this e-newsletter. Among other helpful items, you will find important information about the [Feed His Flock Campaign](#) (a special project in honor of our Bishop!) and the new **"[Witness the Spirit](#)"** event. Please make plans for your parish to participate in both of these opportunities.

Please also note the following important updates on our department staff:

- **Greg Coogan** left our staff in August to begin a position as the Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry in Camden, NJ. We wish Greg many blessings in his new position!
- A search for Greg's replacement (Young Adult Ministry Coordinator) is underway.
- Wedding bells have rung for **Heather Wolcott** and Rob Hoffman! Please note that Heather's last name and email address have changed - **Heather Hoffman** can be reached at [hhoffman@buffalodiocese.org](mailto:hhoffman@buffalodiocese.org). Congratulations, Heather and Rob!

Peace and blessings,  
[Kathy Goller](#)

Department  
of Youth &  
Young  
Adult

Feed His Flock

## Ministry

### October

**23rd** - [Senior High Retreat](#)

**24th** - turn in number of items collected for **Feed His Flock** to [Mary Tepley](#)

**27th** - [Level I, Youth Ministry Leadership Training Program](#)

### November

**3rd** - [Level I, Youth Ministry Leadership Training Program](#)

**5th** - [Level I, Youth Ministry Leadership Training Program](#)

**11th** - [Witness the Spirit](#)

**17th-19th** - [NCYC, NCCC](#) (National Catholic Youth / Collegiate Conferences)

2012

Parishes and schools are invited to engage their young people in a unique way to honor our Bishop on the occasion of his Jubilee Celebration for his many years of service to the Church. To commemorate the occasion, in the spirit of Bishop Kmiec's motto of "Charity and Service," we invite you to collect non-perishable canned goods for donation as part of the **"Feed His Flock" Campaign**.

Donations can be given to the charity of your choice in your area. **Simply send the final tally of the number of items collected to [Mary Tepley](#) by Monday, October 24th.** The Division of Catholic Education will present Bishop Kmiec with a certificate to commemorate this charitable effort undertaken in his honor by the youth of the Diocese of Buffalo.

A [flyer template](#) is available for your use in your parish and school (see the link under the September e-Newsletter). Simply fill in the name of the charity you choose and the collection location at your parish or school. If you have any questions please contact [Mary Tepley](#) at 716-847-5520.



**February  
17-19th**

**60th Annual  
Diocesan  
Youth  
Convention**

**Contact Info**

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*"Yes, dear friends, God loves us. This is the great truth of our life; it is what makes everything else meaningful. We are not the product of blind chance or absurdity; instead our life originates as part of a loving plan of God. To abide in his love, then, means living a life rooted in faith, since faith is more than the mere acceptance of certain abstract truths: it is an intimate relationship with Christ, who enables us to open our hearts to this mystery of love and to live as men and women conscious of being loved by God."*

From Pope Benedict XVI's scripted remarks at the World Youth Day prayer vigil, Aug. 20, 2011

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