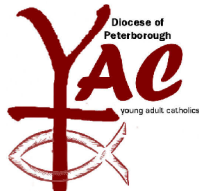


Young Adult Catholics

Written by Katie McGrath



Being a young adult Catholic can be both a joy and a struggle: a joy because it connects us to something far greater than ourselves and provides us with much needed meaning, guidance, and strength in our daily lives; a struggle because at times we can be misunderstood by our friends and colleagues. Our Young Adult Catholic group (YAC) was formed to enhance the joys and ease the struggles, to provide fellowship, knowledge, commitment, and truth. YAC, through programs like Theology on Tap, is a way for our Diocese to discover (or rediscover) young adults, and to invite them into deeper involvement in the Catholic community and all that it has to offer.

Theology on Tap is outreach to and collaboration with young adult Catholics in pursuit of spiritual growth. It is a method of invitation, based on a spirit of hospitality, which creates a space for people in their 20s and 30s to explore how faith in Christ can speak to their circumstances. We are told to bring the Gospel of Christ into the streets, to speak it from the housetops, and to go to where people are. This is what we aim to do with Theology on Tap. We choose to hold our events in a pub or restaurant, places where young people are already comfortable and feel welcome. The evenings feature a relevant theological topic, time for discussion, faith sharing, and community building. We aren't afraid to talk about the hard issues; we address topics that are relevant today, such as Satanism and the Occult, abortion, homosexuality, the media, and ethics, and provide the Church's real answers. Hopefully, by providing an opportunity to discuss these issues openly and in a friendly environment, we can open the hearts and minds of people to the truth, and the beauty of our faith.

YAC began with Theology on Tap as a stand-alone event; however, it has become a springboard for other young adult initiatives, such as faith formation evenings, service projects, and other activities.

Each one of us can look back at a relationship or time in our life and pinpoint it as a tipping point towards something greater. Whether it was an individual helping us discern a vocation, pushing us to excel in our career, or bringing us closer to God, having fellowship and support makes a huge difference. It's very difficult to be in the world but not of it; you need people you can turn to and who can turn to you. A very big part of what we look to provide through YAC is not just faith formation, but a community of fellowship.

Whether you go to church every week, have never been or haven't been to Mass in years, you are welcome to join us!

Katie is a parishioner of St. Peter-in-Chains Cathedral and has been co-leading YAC since it started in the Diocese of Peterborough in 2007.