



Dept. of Evangelization &  
Catechesis

Growing Disciples – Wednesday Wrap  
Glorifying God – Growing in Faith  
Living our Catholic Faith in the World

September 20, 2017 Edition

**4 Things to Know About Potential Volunteers in Your Programs by Project YM:**



Michael at Project YM shared information with me that was recently printed in an article authored by John Rinaldo. He outlines four

key things you should know about potential volunteers for your programs.

**1. It is not just about giving of their time and talent. It is about receiving.**

Yes, people do volunteer to give. But the moment they stop receiving, they will stop volunteering. What do volunteers receive while they serve? There are practical things that they receive, (training, food, and maybe even little gifts), but more importantly, they receive the gift of knowing that what they are doing is making a difference. If at any point a volunteer does not feel that, they jump ship. Volunteers need to receive while they give.

**2. Volunteers are busy.**

I don't know any volunteer that is not busy. They have work, spouses, children, homes to take care of, and social lives to be lived. Why would they say "yes" to one more thing? The fact is that busy volunteers do say yes to ministry and are willing to work and work hard for you. However, you need to be flexible with the time that they give. You cannot expect every volunteer to commit to a program once a week. That's just not realistic for many volunteers. You need to provide other opportunities to serve in which they can volunteer from home, or for one-time events. As the leader, you're the one that needs to be flexible, not the volunteer. (Although flexibility is always a great strength in volunteers.)

**3. Most people won't ask to volunteer.**

It's very rare for a volunteer to come up ask to volunteer. Why? For starters: they are busy; they're not sure if they have the right gifts; and they're not clear about the opportunities that exist. That means you need to take the initiative and show them how they can volunteer while busy, what gifts they have that match the ministry, and share with them the many ways they can serve.

4. **They care about the “why” of your ministry more than the “what.”**

You can share with prospective volunteers all day long what you do in your ministry, but until you articulate why your ministry exists, it’s hard for people to stay excited for a long period of time. If they are excited about the “what” and don’t know the “why”, they will only volunteer until the “what” is not exciting any more (which always happens). If they know why the ministry exists and how it is making an impact in the world, then no matter what the “what” is, they will remain excited and committed to the ministry.

These simple truths that you need to understand about your prospective volunteers, so that you can more adequately speak to the needs and desires of your volunteers.

For more resources from ProjectYM follow this link: <http://projectym.com/>

**50 Ways to share Jesus: Ideas for evangelizing different age groups by Catechist Magazine – Part 3:**

Catechist Magazine is exploring evangelization in their September issue. This excerpt will explore ideas 11 through 20. For more on this article you may want to subscribe to Catechist Magazine through this link: [www.catechist.com](http://www.catechist.com).



#11 – Point out Jesus. Let them know that Jesus is present in the gathered community (wherever two or three are gathered in His name), in the Word proclaimed, in the Sacraments, and also in the person of Christ administering the sacraments.

#12 – Have children and teen splay Gospel charades.

#13 – Encourage the children and youth to offer each day to Jesus.

#14 – Invite those in your class to talk about seeing Jesus in the people they encounter. How can we do more of this in our lives?

#15 – Encourage children and youth to bring a friend with them when they do works of mercy or justice.

#16 – Take away the fear of confession by sharing with the class that they are having a conversation with Jesus.

#17 – Meet each child and teen where they are in their faith and listen to them and their journey (this includes their parents.)

#18 – Help those in your class meet Jesus in prayer.

#19 – Meet Jesus in Scripture when you not only read what Jesus did and said, but why he did it or said it.

#20 – Help your class find Jesus in others, especially the poor and those who are new to America.

Next week we will look at ten more ways in which to share Jesus.

## **Inclusive Ministry Conference – November 3 & 4 at Lutheran Church of Hope:**



This conference is an opportunity to inform, support and equip families and ministries impacted by individuals with special needs.

Early bird registration is just \$20 per person until Oct. 15. Or \$25 until Nov. 1 and \$30 at the door, so register early! There are special breakouts designed specifically for families, ministry leaders and professionals.

The schedule is:

### **Friday, Nov. 3**

5:30-6:00 pm: Conference Check-in

6:00 pm: Opening Speaker, Karla Evans

7:00-8:00 pm: Breakout Session

### **Saturday, Nov. 4**

7:30-8:30 am: Check-in & Exhibitor Hall Opens

8:30 am: Keynote Speaker, Emily Colson

10:30-11:30 am: Breakout Session A

11:30 am - 1:00 pm: Lunch

1:00-2:00 pm: Breakout Session B

2:30-3:30 pm: Breakout Session C

3:45-4:45 pm: Breakout Session D

4:45 pm: Closing Remarks & Giveaways

Breakout sessions include:

Sessions will provide the opportunity for families, volunteers, ministry leaders, teachers and professionals to learn, experience and equip themselves.

- The Role of Pastors in Disability Ministry
- Start with Hello
- Developing Independence: One Step at a Time
- PTSD in Parents
- Going Beyond Babysitting: Nurturing Spiritual Growth
- Age-Specific Transition Panels
- Make and Take IEP Binders
- Parental Advocacy: Your Role in Church, School and Community
- Parenting Round Tables

Jess Streit attended last year and felt the opportunity was fantastic. She was very pleased that the conference was well attended by many Catholic leaders and hopes for more this year. Father Ray McHenry from Saint Francis will be participating in the Pastor's Panel. To register go to <http://www.inclusiveministryconference.com/registration/>

**Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference (DCYC) Update – Save the Date for October 22:**

DCYC 2017 is going big after many comments suggested a larger venue and opportunities that mirror aspects of NCYC and the Steubenville Conferences. We listened.

**WE ARE BOLDLY SENT**

IOWA EVENTS CENTER - OCTOBER 22, 2017

Our keynote speaker is Chris Padgett with special musical guest, Eric Webster. Attached is the flyer.



Your challenge – HELP US FILL THE VENUE! More to come in your mail and digitally. For more information or to help, contact Justin White at [jwhite@dmdiocese.org](mailto:jwhite@dmdiocese.org).

