

The Word of Youth

3G Y Publication

December 2011

Suggested donation: 80p



St Andrew's Night Ceilidh organised by St John's Keep in Touch group with the 18-35 AGAPE team - raised over £100 for 3GY

How important is HOPE and have your expectations let you down?

On Saturday 10th December, parents and their teenage young were invited to take some time during Advent to think about the impact of two very important influences on their relationship with one another: Hope and expectation. Expectations are an integral part of our lives: Expectations are necessary, although often unrealistic; they are sometimes achievable and yet, interwoven with our own egos and ambitions, occasionally short-sighted and self-ish.

Those taking part were helped to explore the kinds of expectations that influence their relationships. The expectations that young people have of their parents : to support them (no matter what); to provide for their material needs; to offer unconditional love; to treat their young as equals and many of the other expectations that children often unwittingly load onto their parents. For parents the expectations: that they be respected in their role as parent; that their

children 'give back' some of the commitment that parents invest when bringing a child into the world; that they be loved by their children; that children have the same values and beliefs as their parents and many more besides. These expectations are normal and are not particular to just one family – no matter how much we may try to compare our own family relationships with other families.

We cannot invest all of our energy in our own expectations and so the rest of the day focused on the reminder of Advent that our lives should be filled with hope if we are to be truly ready for the coming of the Lord. To hope is to remember what is important in life since it is bound up in our innocence and in our deepest desire: To love and to be loved in return as God loved the world when he sent us his only begotten Son. This should be the keystone of any of our expectations and is the building block for true, considerate and loving family life.

October Holiday Adventure Writing Competition

£15 VOUCHER
WINNER

Horseback holiday by Patrycia Kowalinska

The first day of the October holidays I went horse riding at Trans Wales Trails, it was amazing. If you don't know what it feels like to ride a horse well I'll tell you, so you're sitting in the saddle. Your knees are not gripping but your legs are lying against the horse. Your feet are in the stirrups and your heels are pushed down, when the horse walks, you can feel his back sway under the saddle. You will feel a slight bounce but your seat should be relaxed. If you do post, you just gently lift out the saddle every other beat. I always feel more contact with my horse's sides with my legs when I post.

The second day of my October holiday I went to Mon-trose, Lunan bay, with my family and friends. It was a lovely day. The sun was shining on us. Me and my friends took our horse and went for a ride round the beach; the beach was gold with sparkly sand catching your eye and the heat going from the sand to your feet. Then we went galloping through the sparkling water, Water particles splashing against the horse's legs, all we heard was our horse noises as they gallop throw the sparkling water, splashy splash splashy splash. Near the end of Lunan bay long time ago there was coastal erosion happening and it is still happening now. All the soft rock has eroded and left the hard rock so it formed an arch. Me and my best friends went right under it but the others had stayed in their place. They were too scared to go with us. After 15 minutes we have returned to our stables to put the horses away, feed them and have a long rest after having fun all day. I have done much more but I guess that's the end for just now hope you like it.



Ruaridh's Rome

During the October holiday I went to the place where the Pope is, where Angels and Demons was set and where Assassins Creed Brotherhood was - the city of Rome. We woke up on the first day to get to the airport in time to get our luggage in but the traffic was dreadful and we left early to avoid the traffic. I guess other people had the same idea. We decided to take a short cut and we arrived in time. Now I haven't been on a plane since I was eight so I was still pretty scared but once I was in the air I was amazed by the view. It was like we were flying over a sea of marshmallows. We stopped at Amsterdam and then a plane to Rome which was absolutely beautiful at night. I had a laugh saying to myself "Attention Italy. Ruaridh Blain is back!" We arrived at the Grand Hotel Tiberio and had a good sleep.

We went to St Peter's Square the next day. During the trip to St Peter's square me and my little brother counted how many smart cars there was. We had to stop at fifty because there was so many. It was amazing seeing so many people there to see what I assumed was a Mass at world youth day and I had a laugh saying to my dad that if one of the pigeons fell into the fountain during the Mass it would be baptised. My dad just said "I don't think St John the Baptist spent his time baptising pigeons."

We then went to castle San Angelo and when we arrived I was shocked to see some of the symbols used by the Nazi Germans. I thought "those sick people". We then visited later in the holiday the Vatican which was so brilliant I had trouble putting it into words. There was so much ancient artifacts and so much history in the Vatican and so much art in it it could have been classified as an art museum.

The day before we left we went to St Peter church and the first thing that went through my mind was the fact that it was so huge. Picture our church but twice the size. We saw the whole thing and it was amazing. I thought as well how much marble there was. Even after we left Rome I was still amazed how much the Christian church had made Rome so amazing. My experience in Rome is one experience I will not soon forget.

An Italian Adventure

by Emilia Kenyon

It all started at the airport. Me and my family queued to go on the plane, shortly we here aboard and ready to start our holiday. We left Edinburgh feeling excited. When we were above Italy we saw the Alps out of the plane window. When we arrived in Milan we collected our luggage and went to find our rented car. We began our two hour drive to Lake Gada. When we got to our camp site we all felt tired. The next day we went to the campsites swimming pool because we all felt very hot. It was a good swimming pool with lots of slides and a water fountain. After swimming we walked down to the lake to watch the sun it was a good way to end the day.

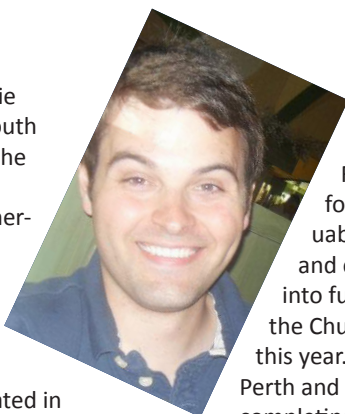
The following day we went to Verona. We went to the balcony where Romeo and Juliet met. We went into lots of shops it was a lovely place. We went to Venice and we had to get a boat there. We were all excited. It was one of the most beautiful places I've ever seen. We went to St Mark Square. It was so nice there were lots of pigeons. If you put your hand out one would land on you. I got hold of one. The next day we went to the tour of Lombardy. This is a famous cycle race. It was good fun. My dad has always wanted to go.

On our last day we went to Garda land theme park and it was so much fun. It was sad to leave but all good things must come to an end.

MEET OUR YOUTH LEADERS @ 3GY

FRANKIE MCGUIRE

Hello! My name is Frankie McGuire and I am the Youth Project Coordinator for the Catholic parishes here in Perth. I was born in Rutherglen near Glasgow and lived most of my life in the Lambhill area of the city before heading to Stirling University in 2005. In 2009 I graduated in History with Professional Education and packed off to Fife to teach for two years at St. Columba's High School in Dunfermline. During my time at Stirling I was president of CathSoc and a member of a residential chaplaincy team based at St. Mary's church where I helped to run the active youth ministry in the parish. Through the contacts I made during that time I was asked to come to Perth by Fr Tom in November 2010. I am enjoying this opportunity to develop youth ministry here in Perth and it has been a pleasure to get to know people in the parishes here.



FIONA TAYLOR

Fiona has been a leader in 3GY for a year now and has been invaluable in helping to set-up our arts and crafts group. Fiona was received into full communion with the Church at Easter this year. She is from Perth and is currently completing her induction year as a probationer teacher in St. John's Academy (Primary 7).



PAULA MONAGHAN

Hello, my name is Paula Monaghan and I am a youth leader at 3GY. As a former pupil at St Columba's High school who attends St Magdalen's, I understand the importance for a youth group such as 3GY in our parish. I

hope by participating as a youth leader it will help establish 3GY in our parish for many years to come.

As well as helping out at 3GY, I am kept busy being a new mum to a 5 month called Harry. I work at Perth Leisure Pool as a receptionist and am the National Director for PR and Marketing for the Scottish Touch Rugby Association in a voluntary role. I also recently graduated from Heriot Watt University with a MA Management with Business Law.



MARIE LAURIE

Hi, my name is Marie Laurie. I'm a high school Biology teacher living in Perth and I'm a former pupil at St Columba's High School.

As a parishioner of Our Lady's Parish in Letham, I thought it would be a good idea to get involved in the 3GY youth project. I help to run the music group for young people and enjoy working with the Caritas S6 pupils to bring together music and teach younger members of the group new hymns and songs.



JUSTYNA OLSZEWSKA

Justyna is our Polish team member and joined us recently as the number of Polish young people coming along to 3GY continues to grow. Her ability to bridge the gap between the language groups has been very useful.

Justyna studied theology and philosophy in Poland and currently a student at Perth college studying business and computer administration. She has been in Scotland now for four years. Justyna enjoys helping to build the friendship between Polish and Scottish young people.



LIAM PEARSON

Lived in Perth all my life (Our Lady's Primary then St Columba's High). Worked in insurance for 9 years, previously as a credit controller and currently as a commercial underwriter

I'm enjoying the opportunity to give something back to the Church and to hopefully be an example and connect with the children in this evermore secular society. Kids

need to realise that being a Catholic is cool man :o) I also see this as an opportunity to learn skills that will come in handy if I'm blessed with parenthood and a family centred on Christ.



RUARI MCPHEE

Ruari is from Perth and is a former pupil of St. Columba's High. Ruari completed his degree in Aberdeen and is currently applying to join the police while working at B&Q. Ruari is a keen model builder and gamer and he runs the 3GY Warhammer group. Ruari is a keen Karate enthusiast, in which he has a black belt – handy for crowd control issues!



ANDREW MITCHELL

Freshly retired from St John's Academy, although he calls it St Columba's High School, Andrew brings the bonus of his minibus driving skill to the group. He can be

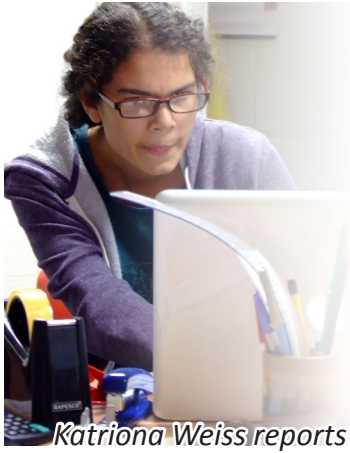
allowed to smile a bit, with pride, since he has also taught most of the other 'young' leaders. He has been working with the WOYO team on the newsletter and the website.



ANDREW CRINES

Andrew is from Perth and was recently a pupil at St. John's Academy. Andrew is currently on a gap year working in Boots and volunteering as a youth leader in the youth project. He hopes to go on to teacher training college to train as a PE teacher. Andrew helps run the sports group and enjoys the banter and the chance to meet new people.





Katriona Weiss reports

A SPIRIT OF SERVICE

Some of the 6th years from St John's Academy are helping out here at 3GY as part of their Caritas award. Their service is not just limited to the youth group, they also accompany some Eucharistic Ministers on their house-visits.

The opportunity to give something back to the community has given these youngsters a glad feeling, knowing that they've brightened up another person's day.

"It didn't feel awkward," said one of the participants, "we don't really know each other [the lady they were visiting] yet, but we definitely broke the ice, it was a good start."

The difference these simple visits make to a person's day is huge, some don't get many visitors and others are almost housebound.

As well as the Caritas award participants there are also a couple of Duke of Edinburgh award scheme participants who help at 3GY and assist in the cleaning of the church.

CAPITAL SKATING

Despite a week of hurricanes and arctic weather, around 20 young people set off after the 11am Mass on Sunday 11th December - to travel to Edinburgh. They had lunch outside the Scottish Parliament before heading indoors to see the National Museum of Scotland.



Ruaridh puts his skates on and has a narrow escape

Next, the group headed to Princes Street Gardens to enjoy skating at the Christmas Carnival - and a trip on the big wheel high above the capital. To finish with, chips and a drink, before heading for home.



Day out in Dundee for 3GY A GREAT DISCOVERY

The old days of 'Jute, Jam and Journalism' may be slipping away, however Dundee is still a great place to go to catch a film and enjoy a day away with friends. 3GY headed out to Dundee to the heights of the Law to enjoy a sandwich and a good gust of fresh air over the Tay.

After lunch we headed down to CineWorld to see one of Tin Tin's adventures (a blast from the past for the older contingent of the group). Coincidentally, the ship that featured in the film 'The Unicorn' shared its name with the world's 7th oldest ship, the 'HMS Unicorn,' which is moored in Dundee.

Those with a tolerance for small spaces – and the backs to endure the low ceilings – had the opportunity to explore the well preserved 18th century vessel. Finally, it was off to Camperdown country park for a muddy game of football before we headed home. A great day of 'Sailing, Sport and Spectacle' in Dundee.

Here at 3GY we are one of the first groups in our parishes where both Polish and English speakers mix together easily

While language is a large barrier to overcome we are doing so slowly but surely. We are lucky in that there is a range of ages, so explanations of the somewhat more complex issues discussed within our sessions pose less problems.



"Time is the key" our Polish leader said, "time is needed for any friendship to grow".



And that is one of the many great things happening at 3GY, the friendships forming and growing between speakers of different languages.

3GY Calendar 2012

TERM	SUB THEME	Day Out 1	Day Out 2	YOUTH MASS	OTHER NOTES
SPRING 2012 (Easter) January - April	"There's a Parable for That" Walk and Talk	Perth - Swim, Chips and Bowling Sunday 05/02 Walking	Glasgow - Theatre trip Sunday 04/03 Train	25th March St Mary Magdalene's Theme: 'Journey Together' After Mass all young people are invited to join us on our 'Cross Walk.'	"Godspell", Tuesday 3rd April. (Tbc) Rehearsals every Wed. From 01/02, (All day Inset 15/02) and Sundays 26/02, 13/03 and Sunday and Monday 1-2/04
SUMMER 2012 April - June	Keep Walking - Keep Talking Reaching God Together	M&DS - Theme Park Sunday 25/05 Mini-Bus	Stirling Castle - Blair Drummond Safari Park Sunday 17/06 Mini-bus	24th June St John's Theme: Final Mass and summary of theme	ROMA Pilgrimage to Rome July 2012 One week Big fund-raising push this term!

The story of Godspell speaks to the passion of Jesus Christ, to teach love and joy in the hearts of the people, rather than hate and sadness. It speaks of loving your neighbour, forgiveness, tolerance and celebration.

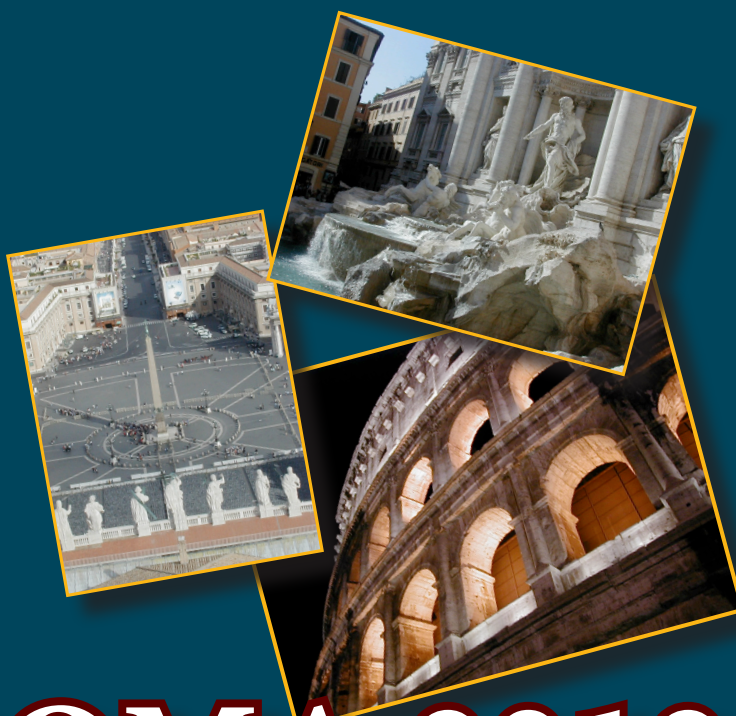
AUDITIONS EARLY JANUARY - JOIN US AND JOIN US
 RECRUITING NOW FOR MUSICIANS AND PRODUCTION TEAM



3GY are planning a trip to the Eternal City in July 2012. As the heart of the Catholic Church it is the perfect course for 3GY's first pilgrimage and already there is a lot of interest in going.

Rome is a city of churches, parks, monuments, cafes, restaurants and great spectacle.

The trip will cost £450 per young person - although the actual cost will be around £600. Our youngsters are being asked to commit themselves to fund raising the difference over the coming months.



To book a place - contact
 Frankie McGuire 01738 635074

ROMA 2012

ASK THE PARISHES

This week we ask the young people of the parishes if they were to ask God for one thing, what would it be?

"I would make world peace"
Harris Blain Age 13

"I would give myself wishes"
Bradley Lammond Age 13

"I would bring back extinct animals"
David Harrow Age 12

"I would cure global warming"
Ruaridh Blain Age 14

"I would bring back lost family members"
Laura Hutchison Age 14

"I would make it that every gun in the world would disintegrate"
Matthew Clark Age 14

If you would like to discuss these questions or add any questions of your own come along to 3GY.

CHRISTMAS QUIZ

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

- 1 Adeste Fidele - is a popular Christmas Carol .
What is it's title in English?
O come all ye faithful
- 2 Who started the Christmas Tree tradition in the UK?
Clue - it was in Windsor Castle.
Prince Albert, Queen Victoria's husband
- 3 Which two of the Gospels describe the birth of Jesus?
Matthew and Luke
- 4 How many wise men were there?
The bible does not state a number
- 5 What was the Christmas No. 1 in 2010?
When We Collide
- 6 Traditionally what seasonal plant do people kiss under?
Mistletoe
- 7 When did Father Christmas first appear dressed in red?
It's Goes Cold in 1931
- 8 Who wrote a Christmas Carol?
Charles Dickens
- 9 When does Christmas end?
epiphany
- 10 Where did the angel tell Joseph to take Mary and Jesus?
Egypt

3GY QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Life is a hard fight, a struggle, a wrestling with the principle of evil, hand to hand, foot to foot."

Florence Nightingale

Contact Details

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Youth Worker

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"How beautiful on the mountains,
are the feet of one who brings good news,
who heralds peace, brings happiness,
proclaims salvation,
and tells Zion,
'Your God is king!'
Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices,
they shout for joy together,
you ruin of Jerusalem;
for the Lord is consoling his people,
redeeming Jerusalem.
The Lord bares his holy arm
in the sight of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth
shall see the salvation of our God". ISAIAH