

# The Word of Youth

A 3GY Publication

August 2012

Suggested donation: 80p



Usually, I would find it very difficult to summarise a whole term or, indeed, a whole year without a hefty word count, plenty of leaping back through the diary, and copious amounts of tea. Thankfully though our very own Benedict XVI has helped me out this year with his letter 'Porta Fidei,' in which he quoted St Paul's letter to the Corinthians:

**"Caritas Christi urget nos." (2 Cor 5:14):  
the love of Christ fills us and urges us on.**

I read the letter – written to announce the Year of Faith for Oct 2012-Nov 2013 – for inspiration and ideas before I sat down to plan the next 3GY year and these inspiring words from St Paul immediately struck a tuneful cord. It all at once summarises the past year for the youth project and fills me with the confidence to gather up the community and point confidently onwards into and beyond the next year of full-time Catholic youth ministry in Perth. You would not be blamed for asking: 'what's this got to do with last year', and 'what about next year?'

Firstly a concession; themes come and go and the challenge for the people who devise them and prepare the content is to help everyone involved to connect with the spirit and purpose offered by having one in the first place. 'Young

Christians Reaching for God' was the 3GY theme for the school year 2012/2013 and one of my experiences from the year, I believe, lives up to the magnitude of such a call and bears witness to St Paul's insight: My own experience in the Edinburgh marathon.

Few things are better for a man's ego than being able to tell his friends that he ran in the Edinburgh marathon; the admiration and proverbial 'pats on the back' are enough to swell any head to the size of a prize water melon. Admittedly though, I did have to add in at the end of the fantastic tale that it was, in fact, a relay run with three other youth leaders. What's important to note here is that the point in running the Edinburgh marathon was not really for personal glorification, but rather to attempt to gather up the

sponsorship money needed to help fund the 3GY pilgrimage to Rome. What I didn't expect to happen was for the whole marathon experience to become a metaphor for all the work I had done together with the youth team, clergy, teachers and parishioners from all over Perth throughout the year – but it was.

That May morning in Edinburgh started with the biggest challenge of the experience – getting to the starting line, but an Edinburgh taxi and a small fortune later I was at my starting point waiting for my team mate to 'pass the arm band' for me to shoot off on my leg of the race. It was the hottest day of the year so far. I started well and took great delight in overtaking numerous very tired looking fellow runners. There were brass bands, rock bands and pipe bands to entertain the runners and the crowds; the good people of Edinburgh were out in force to clap, rattle and shout us on; the grannies had their hands out loaded with wine gums for energy – although I had no idea it would be so hard to chew and run at the same time; and small children took great delight in joining the garden-hose-wielding grandads with water guns to cool down the over-heating participants. Further up the road there were a number of stewards pointing us

in the right direction where a barrier had come loose and, distressingly, we happened upon a very ill looking participant receiving some serious looking first aid from the medical staff. The only direction to go is straight ahead, you would think, but close to the end of my leg I chuckled to see a woman out jogging against the tide of the marathon. The companionship, the bizarre costumes, the varied styles and backgrounds, the scale of the operation and the sheer 'buzz' helped me effortlessly(ish) through to the finish line. That's when it happened. Sitting in the grass afterwards this thought came to me naturally: I could not have described youth ministry better.

We set ourselves up at the starting line (sometimes struggling to find it), we head off on the race and we experience a marathon of friendship and support, entertainment, first aid and challenge, of praying and striving and living. Ultimately, we all get there in the end: young people and the people who care about them, reaching God together. Often, like me at the end of my leg on the Edinburgh marathon, they want more – and so to next year. Please enjoy this summer's edition of WoYo.

Frankie McGuire



# Mary, Mary.... how does your garden grow?



by Natalia Konopka

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touched for years. Mrs Eileen brought a rotavator and taught Matthew how to use rotavator it safely. The youngest girls took and filled water cans and planned the layout of some nice flowers like Salmon Beauty, Firethorn and many more.

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enjoyed more fun and ice creams. When the break finished they went back to work. Ladies said that this step was very hard but everyone did very good work and they expected planting soon.

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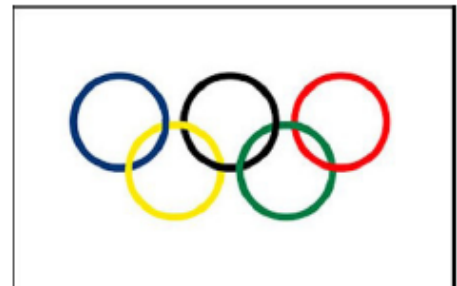
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the chips and made them symmetrical.

Achillea, Artemisia, Astilbe (chinensis), Ceanothus, Eriophyllum, Firethorn, Gaura, Germanium Ivy leaf, Halimium, Hebe, Japanese Acer, Leontopodium, Pieris, Salmon Beauty. The variety of plants and flowers looks really good, every plant was put in the ground with heart of these people. The young people will be are pleased now that there work can be seen and enjoyed.



## The Glorious Games

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### Contact Details



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**Parish Youth Worker**

**Tel 01738 635074**

### 3GY QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Faith grows when it is lived as an experience of love received and when it is communicated as an experience of grace and joy. It makes us fruitful, because it expands our hearts and hope and enables us to bear life-giving witness: indeed, it opens the hearts and minds of those who listen to respond to the Lord's invitation to adhere to his word and become his disciples".

**Pope Benedict XVI**



# A winning night 3GY's Italian Meal

*by Ruairidh Blain*

3GY manage to raise over one thousand pounds for the pilgrimage to Rome on Friday the 1<sup>st</sup> of June. The adults were cooking and the young people and young adults served as the waiters throughout the evening. As the guests came in, they were offered sparkling wine with an option of salami, olives and brochettes followed by the vegetarian lasagne. The waiters were then organised to serve the main courses of veal and her-

bed potatoes. The cooks worked quickly, the cleaners worked just as fast and the waiters kept up the pace so the guest could have a pleasant night.

There was one person that was there in case more people wanted the raffle tickets that were available. The tiramisu and the ice cream came next. While the guest were having their desert the waiters were having extras of potatoes, veal and lasagne which, in my case,



was delicious but what annoyed this writer was that he couldn't get any of the tiramisu.

Some of the waiters, before the raffle, pestered Frankie to be able to go to the premier shop up the street. Once Frankie agreed some of the waiters

jumped and ran to the shop and got food and drink to add to their meal they had. After they arrived, late for the raffle, they waited to come out and receive the claps and hurrahs they deserved for the meal they helped serve for the guests that were happy to come.

It was then announced that the night had made up to one thousand pounds. It then meant that they had enough for Rome which was a relief for the waiters which meant that there night was worth it after all.

## Edinburgh Marathon 27<sup>th</sup> May 2012 in aid of Rome Pilgrimage

*Interviews by  
Natalia Konopka*

- 1) Are you looking forward to the marathon?
- 2) How much training have you been doing?
- 3) What exercises are you doing in preparation?
- 4) Have you run in a marathon before?
- 5) What's the secret of your success
- 6) Looking back at the experience how was it to run in the Edinburgh marathon?

### Frankie

I am a little nervous about the marathon because I'm not sure if I'm really fit enough for it! I haven't done much running in the past, but to prepare for the marathon I'm trying to run a couple of times a week. Closer to the time I'll try and do a little more! Normally I go swimming two or three times in the week and I'm trying to run every other day. I have never run a marathon before! My secret for success is that I'm focused on the 3GY pilgrimage to Rome and I hope this fundraiser will help us to meet our target of £2500. In the

end it was a beautiful day in Edinburgh and the atmosphere was electric. The great support of the people along the route and the helpful 'scoosh' from kids with water pistols help make it easier – by the end of my leg I wanted to keep going!

### Ruari McPhee

Yes, I was excited because I've never run in a marathon before. I had been out running a couple of times and it's been good running together with Frankie. I planned to intensify the training as the marathon gets closer. Jogging and my normal karate practice. No - I was



not really looking forward to it. My competitive edge will help me – I don't like people being in front of me. But looking back on it now, it was a great day with a lot of buzz and encouraging support from the public. I'd like to do the full marathon next year and maybe have a go at beating the Kenyans?

### Fiona Taylor

Yes, I am a little worried that the marathon will be physically, mentally and emotionally challenging. I've been out running a couple of times helped and motivated by my fiancé (now husband) Ruari. The main exercise I took was jogging around Perth and up Kinnoull hill – it was a real challenge. I have never run a marathon before. My secret of success was to keep trying



and never give up and to say lots of 'Hail Mary's' It was challenging at the beginning and we had some hiccups just trying to get to the starting line! Otherwise, it was a great community experience and it was, for me, a big personal achievement. It felt fantastic to cross the

finish line!

### Andrew Crines

Andrew wasn't available for interview; however, he did very well in an uphill leg on the relay and it looked like his ipod and headphones came in very handy. Well done Andrew!



# Summer trip to M&Ds



## FEEDBACK

Harris - The roller coaster was so cool

Andrew - the dodgems were cooler than I remembered

Patrycja K - the Tsunami Ride was amazing

Marie - I loved the bomber - it was terrifying

Patrycja - It was good I loved it

Emilia - I loved it so much I want to go again





**All together now**



**BCY ROME PILGRIMAGE JULY 2012**



**A moment in the shade**

All roads indeed lead to Rome,  
but theirs also is a more mystical  
destination, some bourne of which  
no traveler knows the name, some  
city, they all seem to hint,  
even more eternal.

**Richard Le Gallienne**



**Night owls**

It was really good and I can't wait to go back again.

**Sean Foley**

**Always smiling**



Seeing the Vatican was very impressive and the spectacular view from the top of St. Peter's dome is a must for anyone visiting this great city. The Vatican museums include a huge amount of arts works and the visit ends with a visit to the breath taking Sistine Chapel. The rest of Rome was more beautiful than I imagined; full of fascinating architecture and steeped in history. The food was delicious – plenty of carbohydrates! The youngsters were very good despite the very intense hot weather and we all managed to keep up with Frankie's fast walking pace – most of the time. Overall, it was a very enjoyable experience and I look forward to going back to Rome in the future.

**Marie Laurie**

**Eventful**



**Saluting Rome**





**Grounded in faith**

Rome was a great experience and I enjoyed the company of the leaders and the kids (who were all good fun). I've been to Rome before but to see the city again through the eyes of the young people was a privilege.

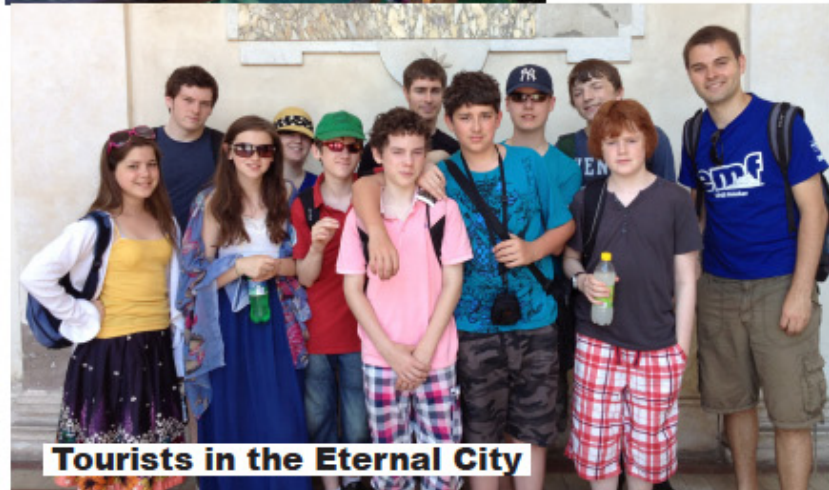
Donna Smith



**Collosal fun!**

The best part of Rome was when Harris and I got the massive ice creams that looked a lot like the Olympic torch! It was annoying on the last day that my feet felt like they might combust because it was so hot – the pool solved that. It was great fun to hang out with my mates and Rome is very lively at night time when the city is lit up.

Ruaridh Blain



**Tourists in the Eternal City**



**Poseful**



**I scream!**



**Look at me**



**Beautiful churches**

My favourite thing about Rome was the weather because it was so much hotter than Scotland and we knew that people back home would still be having bad weather. One of the best places to visit was the Vatican, since I got to altar serve in the crypts of St. Peter's basilica and I felt closer to God than I did at home.

Harris Blain



**Places to explore**



# Thrilling Safari Adventure

by Ruaridh Blain

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of June the youth group embarked on a journey to see the animals at the Blair Drummond safari park. They left the hostel on the journey and once arrived they went on the car journey safari to see the animals.

Mr Mitchell had a laugh saying "hey Ruaridh remember that picture with you and the rhino in the museum, well how about we take another here."

I just replied in horror at the thought of me getting attacked by the rhino. We then saw the lions and I told Matthew and Harris to have a star-

ing contest with them. Matthew and Harris won (but only because the lion gave up).

We then went on the boat to see the monkeys on Monkey Island. Harris said he was using me as a human shield. I just replied by saying that I would use Matthew as a shield and he would use me as a shield also. Matthew didn't find it funny.

We then went to check out the park. We went on the slide, the arcade (I lost a good amount of 10p coins as some of the other boys did as well) and on the obstacle course as well (got wet). After we explored the

parks we went to the sea lion show, by the way very good show, it was great fun. We then went to the petting zoo and feed the lamas, donkeys, pigs, goats and horses which was great fun.

We then went on the slide again (well me, Matthew, James and Harris). We then joined the others on the obstacle park and had a game of football. While the others were playing football me Matthew and James went on the slide, we liked it too much, and then we went on the bumper cars (because the bouncy castle was shut) and then the arcade for the second time.

When we were told the BBQ was on we rushed to get there but had to wait as the second lot of food was getting cooked. After that we went to the obstacle course for the last time and ten left. Personally we had a brilliant time and got a good amount of pictures and videos.





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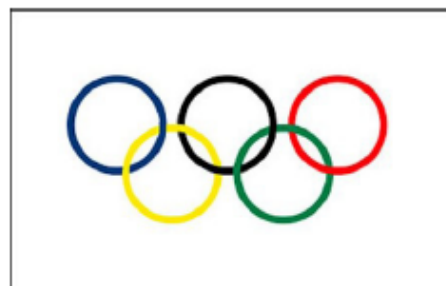
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