

UNITED STATES CATHOLIC
YOUNG ADULT
CONFERENCE

NATIONAL
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REPORTER

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NEWS FROM THE
EDITOR'S DESK

Father Pat O'Neill, O.S.A.

As the lead story of this issue relates, we are preparing for our Second Annual Workshop: "Focusing the Diversity of Young Adult Ministries." News of that event is related in the article and we hope that you can be with us. As part of that program we will be meeting with several bishops on the final day who are anxious to relate their concerns for Young Adult Ministry and to hear from you.

Our first major publication, *Young Adult Ministry Resources* is now available. We feel that this booklet offers practical responses to the kinds of things that you have been asking for as you begin to establish a focus in ministry with young adults. We encourage its use as a vehicle to educate the larger Church community, using this resource as a basis for discussions, workshops and seminars at the diocesan and parish levels.

The forthcoming Synod in Rome in September has as its primary focus the evangelization of youth and young adults. We are well aware that this is a very important ministry in the Church and a consideration of it at this time will give new visibility to the emerging and special needs of young adults. We have been working closely with the four bishops from the United States who will be our representatives at the Synod in Rome.

I call your attention to the "News Events" column in this issue which gives some initial news on our forthcoming Young Adult Leadership Training Workshop to take place in early September in Milwaukee; I urge you to mark your calendars.

FOCUSING THE
DIVERSITY OF YOUNG
ADULT MINISTRIES

"Proclaiming the Gospel means putting our good names and security on the line by being with the disenfranchised in their struggle for liberation from those things which prohibit them from realizing their full potential as human persons loved by God. In that way, we are called to be both advocates and facilitators ... to confront both Church and secular decision-makers and to enable the disenfranchised to speak for themselves. ... Open to the realm of possibilities of new forms the community may take, it is our calling as ministers and as Christians to bring together all persons, regardless of their language, into a celebration of the Good News."

"Learning the language of the disenfranchised" was the theme of the statement drafted by the United States Catholic Conference Young Adult Board at the First Annual Young Adult Ministry Conference last June at Catholic University. This concern to minister to and with young adults who "speak a different language" will be further explored at the Second Annual Young Adult Conference, "Focusing the Diversity of Young Adult Ministries ... an Exploration of Ministries with the Disenfranchised" from May 30 to June 3, 1977 at St. Catherine's College, St. Paul, Minnesota.

The Conference will consider the question, "How can the Church have a relevant ministry with the mass of today's young adults who have not followed traditional patterns of growth and who continue to move

beyond Church, family and other institutions of society?"

In order to answer this question, we must first look at young adults, their values, attitudes and life styles. Only then can we answer the question, "What shall we do?"

The goal of the Conference is to focus these questions, gather experience and provide resources and direction for the future: personal and collective plan of action for ministry building with young adults.

Who are the disenfranchised young adults? divorced young adults, singles, prison and correction personnel, sexual minorities, unemployed, Blacks, Hispanics, women, military, etc.

The USCC National Young Adult Working Board will be the major resource for the Conference. Presentations focusing on the diversity combined with small group and personal dialogue have been carefully planned.

Registration fee is \$35.00 and on-campus housing and board are available: single (4 days) room/board \$55.00; double (4 days) room/board \$40.00.

For further information and registration forms, please contact: Rev. Pat O'Neill, O.S.A., USCC, Department of Education, 1312 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.

DEVELOPMENTALLY
SPEAKING ...

Robert W. Ross, Ph.D.
University of Minnesota

On January 9, 1977, Professor Daniel Levinson, a research psychologist at Yale University, addressed those attending a national

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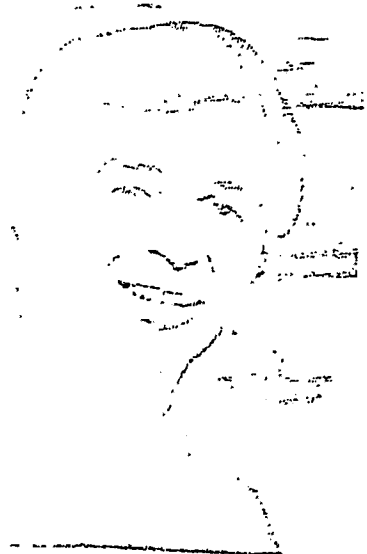
YOUNG ADULT PERSONALITIES

Jim Kolar works out of the Catholic Youth Center in St. Paul, Minnesota, and has been involved in many dimensions of youth and young adult ministry during the last five years. For three years he was the Associate Director of a relationally based program in youth ministry called Manalive. Currently, he is coordinator in a growing experimental Christian community, and serves in many aspects of the St. Paul Center's programs to/with/for youth and young adults. Jim is president-elect of the USCC National Young Adult Board for 1977-78.



Jim Kolar

Father Paul Shanley has been engaged in youth work for over 20 years and has received numerous awards for his work in mental health: the Mayor's Citizenship Citation in Boston, the Distinguished Service Award for "lasting contributions to the community and nation," and the 1960 citation from the Eastern Massachusetts Mental Health Association. In addition to lecturing at Harvard, he is a former campus minister at Boston State College and currently teaches graduate courses there. Assigned by Cardinal Medeiros to a "ministry to the gay and bisexual communities," he is perhaps the first priest to be so assigned by a Bishop. Sensitive, yet forceful, Father Shanley brings understanding to this issue. With a team of doctors he has lectured throughout the archdiocese of Boston, and has been elected to the Priests' Senate for three terms.



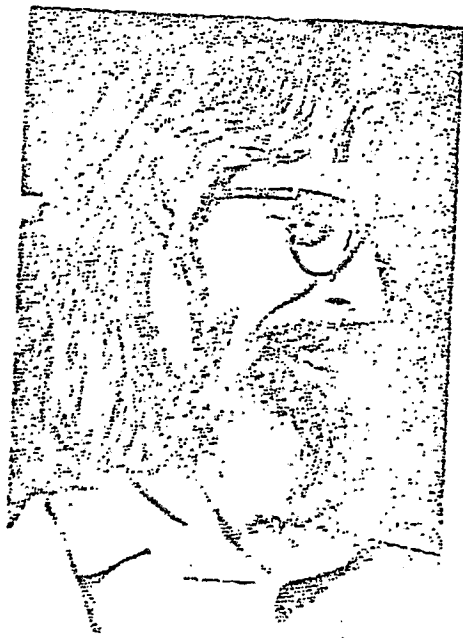
Fr. Paul Shanley

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Nancy Hennessy Cooney

Nancy Hennessy Cooney is a youth consultant in the office of religious education in the archdiocese of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She has worked in youth and young adult ministry and catechesis in Milwaukee and New York City, and has taught in the religion department of Alverno College. In addition, she is the author of several religious education books and articles. Nancy is also a member of the Grail international women's movement.



Scott Hope

Scott Hope, along with his wife, Glenda, directs the San Francisco Young Adult Network. In addition, he teaches English at San Francisco State University, works as a campus minister for the unchurched at the university, works as a clinical psychologist, and writes. Wearing his "many hats," Scott is concerned with the mental, spiritual, emotional, political and economic empowerment of young adults, especially those who work and live in San Francisco's inner city.

WHO'S SIDE IS GOD ON?

Brian McNaught

When Marquette and Notre Dame compete in basketball, what side is God on?

Sitting in borrowed blue jeans, borrowed socks and underwear and only a few short steps from a checkbook indicating financial disaster, the words of television's "Jesus of Nazareth" came as comforting balm.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for what is right; for they shall be filled ... Blessed are those who are persecuted in the cause of right; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven ... Blessed are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you for my sake."

The eyes of those persons watching in our living room watered with gladness. Our chests collapsed with a sigh of appreciation. We shall be filled.