

Ideas for Celebrating the Year of Faith

Canadian Catholic Campus Ministry and Catholic Campus Ministry Association Meeting

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Global Conference of Chaplains in Higher Education

Yale University-New Haven, Connecticut

1. Theology on Tap
2. Brown Bag Series
3. Social media-Flock Notes
4. Celebrate 50 years of Vatican II as an ecumenical event.
5. Invite different faith expressions to give a talk or testimony of what their faith means to them.
6. One-on-one sharing of spiritual biographies
7. Coles notes (ie: Cliffs Notes) of documents, eg: key points of document on Constitution on the Church; questions to follow how the Church has and has not met the challenges of the document; where do we go now?; your hopes for the Church.
8. Reflect on "Year of Faith" in light of the activities they are already involved in, eg; going to a football game as a group, and then asking, "Where was faith operative here?"
9. Opening celebration: Mass, reception, lectio
10. "Virtual coffee shop" on NE: joint initiative (CCMA, CCCM).
11. Social media outreach
12. Year of Faith banner or symbol
13. JPPII: Crossing the threshold of hope; BXVI: Jesus is the hope for the world
14. Student witness videos
15. Martyr shrine pilgrimage
16. YOUCAT: Student presentations on main sections and discussions
17. 17: Café: Afternoon coffee hours discussing key figures of the Bible
18. Renewal of vows: professions, marriage, baptismal
19. Sharing vocational narratives (faculty, clergy, campus ministry...)
20. Weekend of workshops and lectures on "Vatican II Today"
21. Tap into the Vatican II Institute at St. Michael's at U of T (research center)
22. Ensure as campus ministers that we are reading and truly engaging the relevant texts. Engage our students with these texts.
23. Invite speakers into your university or college who have experienced Vatican II.
24. Engage students with the Vatican II video series.
25. Focus on ministerial/liturgical training for lay people (encourage students to serve in both an ecclesial as well as secular setting).
26. Hash out the terms "sacred" and "secular" and apply to your ministry. (This, according to Fr. François and the majority, requires rigorous study).
27. Re-educate students (re-catechize them) on the teachings of Vatican II to "fill in the gap" in regard to understanding the meaning. (In some ways, this education was lacking after the council).
28. Go to primary sources, and take time to engage, permeate and dialogue with them.
29. Allow the Holy Spirit to trump your "five year plan."
30. Ensure YOU are being an authentic witness to the Gospel.
31. Not here to just evangelize or catechize our students, but to help them form a personal relationship with Jesus.