

Integrating Faith, Service and Justice 2011

Catholic Young Adult Ministry for the 21st Century



Romero Center Ministries

2907 Federal Street - Camden, NJ 08105

Tel. 856-964-9777

info@romero-center.org

www.romero-center.org

Special thanks to the
Integrating Faith, Service and Justice 2011
Steering Committee:

Beth Ford

Saint Joseph's University - Philadelphia, PA

Frank Daggett

Saint Joseph's College of Maine - Standish, ME

Lois Dark

Stockton College -Pomona, NJ

Jeff Klein

University of Pennsylvania - Philadelphia, PA

Jonathan Lewis

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church - Mill Valley, CA

Widian Nicola

Center for FaithJustice - Lawrenceville, NJ

Michael O'Connor

Alliance for Catholic Education at Saint Joseph's University (ACESJU)
Philadelphia, PA

Brian Suehs-Vassel

Merrimack College—North Andover, MA



Romero Center Ministries ~ Mission and History

A ministry of St. Joseph Pro-Cathedral, the mission of Romero Center Ministries is to bring people of faith into the city of Camden and to awaken them to the true image of poverty in urban America. Through service work, study, and reflection, we invite participants to join us in deepening our call to authentic, Christ-centered discipleship; to walk with those whose stories and histories are different from our own; to reflect on those encounters under the light of Scripture and Catholic Social Teaching; and to open the path to conversion and transformation, through compassion, reconciliation, and justice.

Romero Center Ministries was founded on March 24, 1998, on the 18th anniversary of the martyrdom of Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador. St. Joseph Pro-Cathedral parish came into possession of a large former convent on its campus, and had a vision for an urban retreat center that would ground people in Jesus' call to serve the poor among us.

Romero Center Ministries began with the intention of bringing the Church community to Camden to experience an enlightened conversion and commitment. We wanted young people to see that there is both opportunity and challenge in the work of the Church. We wanted adults to understand their role in bringing about a societal commitment to end poverty and discrimination in our world.

From the very beginning we've told participants that the most important thing that will happen on these experiences is not what they will do for others, but what others will do for them. In the words of Archbishop Romero: "We learn to see the face of Christ – the face of Christ that also is the face of a suffering human being, the face of the crucified, the face of the poor, the face of a saint, and the face of every person – and we love each one with the criteria with which we will be judged: 'I was hungry and you gave me to eat,'" (Oscar Romero, Reflections on His Life).

Presently, Romero Center Ministries fulfills its mission and vision by providing a variety of programs geared towards students, young adults, adults, and church and lay leaders.

NCYAMA

National Catholic Young Adult Ministry Association

“Integrating Faith, Service, and Justice” is NCYAMA’s official Mid-Atlantic Regional Young Adult Ministry Gathering.

Many thanks to NCYAMA for sponsoring our wine and cheese receptions!

Mission Statement

The mission of the National Catholic Young Adult Ministry Association (NCYAMA) is to drive excellence and growth in the ministry to and evangelization of young adults in their late teens, twenties, and thirties, married and single, in the Catholic Church.

NCYAMA does this by developing and delivering resources for, providing ministry training of, and networking those who minister to and work with young adults in parishes, dioceses, and Catholic organizations across the country. On a national level, NCYAMA advocates for the full integration of young adults in the life of the Catholic faith community and for the expansion and professional growth of young adult ministry.

Vision of Young Adult Ministry

NCYAMA advocates for a vision of Young Adult Ministry that helps young adults bridge the gap between their adolescent experience of faith and being fully integration as adults in the Catholic Church. This vision is realized by connecting women and men in their late teens, twenties, and thirties, married and single, with God, with the Church, with the mission of the Church in the world, and with a peer community of faith.

**For more information about NCYAMA,
Representatives:**

contact the Mid-Atlantic Regional

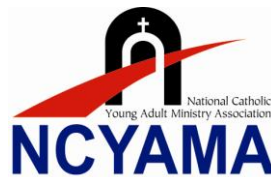
Genevieve Jordan

Romero Center Ministries / St. Joseph Pro-Cathedral / Camden, NJ
gjordan@romero-center.org

Widian Nicola

Social Justice Liaison
The Center for FaithJustice / Lawrenceville, NJ
wnicola@faithjustice.org

Or visit www.ncyama.org



Daily Schedule

Integrating Faith, Service and Justice:
Catholic Young Adult Ministry for the 21st Century

Sunday, May 22

- 5:00pm: Check In
Welcome & Introductions
- 6:30pm: Dinner
- 7:30pm: Demographics of the Young Adult Church and their Perception of Social Justice
Melissa Cidade
- 8:45pm: Closing Prayer
Sr. Julie Fertsch, SSJ
- 9:00pm: Wine and Cheese Reception
Sponsored by NCYAMA

Monday, May 23

- 8:00am: Breakfast on Your Own
- 9:00am: Burning Hearts: Your Journey in Ministry
Sharon Browning
- 11:00am: Service at Worksites in Camden.
- 2:00pm-3:30pm: Break
- 3:30pm: Theological Reflection
David Golemboski
- 4:45pm: Facilitated Sharing: Promising Practices &
Trouble Shooting Theological Reflection
David Golemboski
- 6:00pm: Dinner
- 7:00pm: Facilitated Sharing: Case Study Method of Theological Reflection
Beth Ford & Mike Laskey
- 8:30pm: Mass
Msgr. Bob McDermott

Tuesday, May 24

- 8:00am: Opportunity to Attend Daily Mass in St. Joseph Pro-Cathedral.
Breakfast on Your Own
- 9:45am: Opening Prayer
Frank Daggett
- 10:00am: Engaging Young Adults in Social Ministry through Invitation, Conversion, and Empowerment
Jeff Korgen
- 11:15am: Biblical and Traditional Roots of Catholic Social Teaching
Larry DiPaul
- 12:00pm: Lunch
- 1:00pm: Facilitated Sharing: Promising practices for bringing CST and Church Documents to Life
Widian Nicola
- 2:00pm: Panel Presentation: Moving from Service to Justice
Cheryl Mrazik & Kate Goodman
- 4:00pm: Service and Sacrament: How to Integrate Service and Social Justice into Sacramental Life
Andres Arango
- 4:45pm: Facilitated Sharing: Troubleshooting and Hopes for Integrating “Devotional” and “Action” Groups
Andres Arango
- 6:00pm: Dinner
- 7:00pm: Facilitated Sharing: Call and Response: Ministerial Challenges and Plans of Action
Michael O'Connor
- 8:30pm: Closing Prayer
Michael O'Connor

Wednesday, May 25

- 8:00am: Breakfast on Your Own
- 9:00am: Opening Prayer
Julie Fertsch, SSJ
- 9:30am: Service at Worksites in Camden
- 2:00pm-3:30pm: Break
- 3:30pm: The Pastoral Circle and Social Analysis
Pat Slater

5:00pm: Dinner

6:30pm: Panel Presentation: Service and Justice as Bridge from Campus to Parish Life

Young Adult Panelists

Jeff Klein

8:00pm: Closing Prayer

8:15pm: Wine and Cheese Reception

Sponsored by NCYAMA

Thursday, May 26

8:00am: Pack up

Breakfast on Your Own

8:30am: Burning Hearts: Your Journey in Ministry

Sharon Browning

10:15am: Mass

Fr. Tom Kiely

Presenters

Andres Arango

Andres is the Director of Evangelization, Young Adult and Campus Ministries for the Diocese of Camden, NJ. Currently, he is a member of the National Hispanic Catholic Charismatic Renewal (CCR) Executive Committee. He has been an active minister, preaching at retreats and conferences in a national and international level. He was a parish coordinator for Youth/Young Adults and Leadership Development (Sacramento, CA) and director of Leadership Training for the School of Evangelization (La Ceja, Colombia). Andres has a Master of Theological Studies from the Franciscan School of Theology (Berkeley, CA), a B.S. in Production Engineering (EAFIT University, Medellin, Colombia) and a Certificate in Leadership Formation from the International CCR Services Institute (Rome, Italy.)

Sharon Browning

Sharon Browning shepherds JUST Listening, a social enterprise which fosters personal and social change and transformation through the practice and teaching of conscious, intentional, compassionate, and non-judgmental listening and communication skills. The project focuses on being present to and accompanying people on the social margins. Browning is an attorney and former Executive Director of Philadelphia VIP pro bono legal services in Philadelphia. She is also a spiritual director and supervisor, and facilitates retreats and workshops on a variety of topics.

Melissa A. Cidade

Melissa A. Cidade, M.A., is the Director of Parish Surveys at the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University in Washington, DC. Melissa's research specializes in parish life, Catholic education, and young adult Catholics. Most recently, she is the co-author of a forthcoming article in the Journal of Catholic Higher Education about the recent increase in young adults graduating from Catholic colleges and universities with degrees in philosophy and theology. She also co-authored an article for Catholic Education: A Journal of Inquiry and Practice that examined the changes in faith life of Catholic students at colleges and universities with diverse institutional backgrounds. She has given lectures on young adult Catholics, including being a featured responder at this January's Lost: Twenty-Somethings and the Church, sponsored by the Curran Center and Fordham University's Center on Religion and Culture. Melissa has a Master's of Arts in Sociology from The Catholic University of America.

Larry DiPaul

Larry presently serves as Director of Life and Justice for the Diocese of Camden. He was born, baptized, educated, and raised in Our Lady of Angels Parish in West Philadelphia. He received a Masters of Divinity degree in 1973. He was involved in Parish ministry from 1973 to 1996, serving in mostly Philadelphia inner-city Churches. From 2004 to 2007, he served as Director of Romero Center Ministries, a Peace and Justice Retreat Center, and a ministry of St. Joseph Pro-Cathedral Parish in East Camden. He taught and directed the Christian Service Programs at Malvern Preparatory School and Bishop Eustace High Schools, from 1997 to 2004. He served as a Pastoral Counselor for Compassionate Care Hospice in 1997.

David Golemboski

David Golemboski has extensive background in justice-based ministry. For two years he served as Associate Director of CrossRoads Ministry, an urban retreat ministry in Louisville, KY. He serves on the Board of Directors of JustFaith Ministries, and contributed as a program writer for the college version of JustFaith's JusticeWalking process. David is currently Associate Lobbyist for NETWORK, a National Catholic Social Justice Lobby, in Washington, D.C., where he advocates on issues of global trade, nuclear disarmament, healthcare reform, and peacemaking in Afghanistan. David holds a B.A. (Philosophy, Spanish; 2007) from the University of Louisville and an M.T.S. (Religion, Ethics, and Politics; 2009) from Harvard Divinity School.

Kate Goodman

Kate Goodman is a faith-based community organizer for Camden Churches Organized for People. At CCOP, she helps people explore how their faith journey is interconnected with the fight for justice in Camden. She has previously dedicated herself to the broader struggle for social and economic equality as part of the immigrant and labor movements in Chicago and Phoenix. During her last year in Camden, she has been moved and inspired by the dedication of Camden's lay and clergy to achieving a more just community. Currently, CCOP's community of regional faith leaders is making great strides in improving the city's policy towards vacant homes, improving residents' access to jobs and increasing local access to quality healthcare.

Jeffry Odell Korgen

Jeffry Odell Korgen is the Executive Director of the Department of Diocesan Planning for the Diocese of Metuchen. From 1998-2008, he worked at The National Pastoral Life Center as Director of Social Ministries. Jeff has also worked in community organizing, interfaith relations, and youth ministry. He is the author of *Solidarity Will Transform the World: Stories of Hope from Catholic Relief Services* published by Orbis Books (2007), *My Lord and My God!: Engaging Catholics in Social Ministry*, published by Paulist Press (2007), and co-editor of *Living God's Justice: Reflections and Prayers* published by St. Anthony Messenger Press (2006). His articles on community organizing, Catholic social teaching, pastoral planning, and youth ministry have appeared in publications such as *America*, *Social Policy*, and *CHURCH*.

Cheryl Mrazik

Cheryl Mrazik is the Advocacy Program Officer in the Northeast/Mid-Atlantic Office of Catholic Relief Services in Radnor, PA, where she helps to develop the region's advocacy strategy. Before coming to CRS, Cheryl worked at Romero Center Ministries on the staff of Urban Challenge, a social justice education and retreat program for high school and college students. She also completed a year of service with the Augustinian Volunteers, where she worked in the Campus Ministry office of St. Augustine High School in San Diego, CA. Cheryl has bachelor's degrees in English and Philosophy from the University of Scranton and a master's degree in International Development from the University of Pittsburgh.

Pat Slater

Pat Slater is the Pastoral Associate for Justice and Community Outreach at Christ Our Light Catholic Community in Cherry Hill, NJ. Pat has a Masters in Communication from Bowling Green State University, a Masters in Pastoral Ministry from Boston College and completed a residency in chaplaincy at the Hospital of the University of

Pennsylvania. Pat previously served as the director of the Romero Center Ministries in Camden, NJ, an associate director in the Office of Justice and Peace for the Diocese of Richmond, VA and a staff chaplain for Bon Secours Hospital system in Richmond.

Service Sites

We will have opportunities on Monday and Wednesday to participate in service and theological reflection. Please see the list of service sites below. Participants will have the chance to sign up for the site of their choice on a first come, first serve basis (sign up sheets available on the day of service.) Space at each site is limited.

Important note for all sites: *Please pack a lunch (sandwich, fruit, chips) during breakfast time. Bring a water bottle. Make sure to dress appropriately (casual, closed toed shoes, no tank tops or shorts.)*

Service Sites – Monday, May 23

Abigail House and Camden Immersion Tour

Abigail House is a center for nursing and rehabilitation in Camden, NJ. Participants at this service site will begin their day in a ministry of presence in Abigail House's activities department. In the afternoon, participants will have the opportunity to see and learn about the city. We encourage participants who have never been to Camden before and would like to see and learn more about the city to sign up for this site. NOTE: Do not pack a lunch on Monday.

Hopeworks 'N Camden

Hopeworks 'N Camden is a program that empowers the lives of inner-city Camden youth by expanding the learning opportunities available to them, pointing the way to a future full of hope and working together to create that future. Their main programming focuses on technology training, such as web site design, geographic information services (GIS), computer networking and repair, and video. Participants at this site will help with Hopeworks' outreach program, which involves going door to door to advertise that these services are available to youth in the city. You will most likely be walking outside, so dress weather appropriate, wear comfortable walking shoes, and wear sunscreen.

Generations Plus

Generations Plus is an adult day care program. It is located in Pennsauken (which borders Camden) and accommodates residents from the City of Camden. Participants at this service site will be asked to immerse themselves in programming, including social activities, meals and general elderly supervision. Please wait to have your lunch until residents begin to depart, after 1pm.

Genesis Elder Care Center

Genesis Elder Care is a home for the elderly in Pennsauken, NJ, which cares for about 80 residents. Though the home is in Pennsauken, many of its residents are from Camden. Participants at this service site will serve through a ministry of presence, as many of the residents do not have visitors throughout the year. You will have a break for lunch from 12-1 while residents are taking their own lunch and medicines.

New Visions Homeless Day Shelter

New Visions is a day service center that meets the needs of basic human dignity for all homeless and at-risk patrons. It is the only center in Camden that serves men as well as women and children (during non-school hours.) The shelter provides breakfast and lunch, shower and laundry facilities, a food pantry, a clothing closet, mail services, and assistance to patrons in finding jobs. It is the only day shelter in Camden that provides showers for women. Participants at this site will help serve lunch and to be with people in a ministry of presence. *Please note that part of this experience will include taking the bus to New Visions (you'll have very specific directions and maps.) The roundtrip costs \$ 1.50 each way. We ask that you pay for the bus fare (please try to have exact change.)*

Martin Luther King School

Martin Luther King School is a state funded organization that provides early childhood learning for children between the ages of 2-5 years old. Most of the teachers and children are from the city of Camden. Participants at this site will have an opportunity to learn, play and serve in their program. Please wait to eat your lunch until the 1:30 naptime.

Service Sites - Wednesday May. 25

Abigail House

Abigail House is a center for nursing and rehabilitation in Camden, NJ. Participants at this service site will serve in a ministry of presence in Abigail House's activities department.

See the description of the following sites above.

Hopeworks N' Camden

Generations Plus

Genesis Elder Care Center

New Visions Homeless Day Shelter

Martin Luther King School