

A Powerful Presentation
on the
**Religious and Spiritual Lives
of Today's Youth**
for
Parents, Parishes and Schools

*Will
Our
Kids
Have
Faith?*

Agnostic
Anglican
Apostolic
Atheist
Ba'hai
Baptist
Buddhist
Catholic
Confucian
Evangelical
Hindu
Jew
Lutheran
Mennonite
Methodist
Mormon
Muslim
Pentecostal
Presbyterian
Quaker
Unitarian

*Passing on the
faith is
tougher than
ever.*

*Find out what
we're up
against.*

*Learn what it
will take for
our kids to
have faith.*



Youth & Young Adult Ministry & CYO Office
Department for Marriage & Family Ministry

Parish & Community Ministries
Catholic Charities Health & Human Services



Will Our Kids Have Faith?
Passing on the Faith to the
"Whatever" Generation

Youth/Young Adult Ministry & CYO Office
Department for Marriage & Family Ministry
Diocese of Cleveland
7911 Detroit Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44102



"I want our kids to have faith, but it seems like they're drifting away."

"I'm afraid that when our kids grow up they'll abandon their faith."

"We sent our kids to Catholic school to get a good foundation, but they still don't seem interested in the faith."

A Parent Reflects on "Will Our Kids Have Faith?"

"After listening to the talk, I was encouraged to hear that our teenagers are listening to us and largely following in our parental footsteps, which caused me to pause and examine my own example. How am I demonstrating Catholicism as a way of life and not just another checklist commitment? And further, how often does my family take time to talk about our faith and its daily impact in our lives? As I continue to challenge my family and friends with these questions, the preliminary answers have led to some wonderful table conversations in our home. Thank you for providing the information to spark further communication with our teens and families."

—Angela Brockman, parent of three boys, 16, 13 and 10 years, Incarnation Parish

“...No previous generation of American Catholics inherited so little of the content and sensibility of the faith from their parents, as have today’s Catholic youth.” Church historian R. Scott Appleby

WILL OUR KIDS HAVE FAITH?

This eye-opening presentation will:

- Explore the startling findings of the *National Study of Youth & Religion (NSYR)*.
- Redirect our efforts towards what will really make a difference in the faith of teens.
- Offer practical steps to respond to the challenges we face.

A WAKE-UP CALL FOR CATHOLICS

Parents, Catholic schools and parishes have every reason to worry that our young people are drifting away from the Church. In a major national study it was discovered that, despite all the wonderful programs, initiatives and guidance that parishes and schools provide, Catholic teenagers consistently scored lower on most measures of religiosity — 5 to 25 percentage points lower than their conservative, mainline, and black Protestant peers.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND AND WHY

- **Parents** will be motivated to take action to form the faith of their kids.
- **Parish Staffs** will gain shared perspectives on the challenges we face, and develop collaborative responses.
- **Schools** will rally around their central mission of passing on the Catholic faith.
- **Parish Clusters** will learn what’s working and what’s not in youth faith formation – and work together to meet the challenges.

A VARIETY OF FORMATS

This presentation can be tailored to fit your needs. We can adjust for time and audience, from an hour discussion with parents and/or catechists to a day-long staff or faculty in-service. Some typical formats:

- Parent meetings for sacramental preparation
- Faculty in-services
- Parent-Teacher Organization meetings
- Parish staff meetings
- Pastoral region gatherings



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Youth/Young Adult Ministry & CYO Office

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WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT “WILL OUR KIDS HAVE FAITH?”

“This information needs to be in the hands of parents. They love their children and want the best for them. We now have current research that tells us what does and doesn’t work when trying to pass on our Catholic faith to our teenagers. Working with parents and supporting their efforts to live their faith in their families is vitally important for families and the Church. Parents, parish leaders, religious educators and youth ministry leaders will all reap huge benefits from this presentation!”

- Libby Peterson, Coordinator of Youth Ministry
Holy Angels Catholic Church, Bainbridge

“Every Catholic family, parish and school needs to join the ongoing conversation about this study and its compelling implications for people at all levels of faith formation. We have cause for dismay, but also for hope. An understanding of both—and the sooner the better—is absolutely vital to the future of our Church and the success of our kids. These presentations are a great forum to begin these discussions and to help our children grow in our Catholic faith.”

- Danny O’Brien, Youth Minister,
Church of St. Clarence, North Olmsted