



# Fostering Connection

The adolescent years are difficult, full of stress and confusion. Like all kids, Catholic kids need caring adults to cut through the chaos and help them revitalize their connection to Christ and the Catholic Church.

Young Life leaders cultivate relationships that forge those connections with middle school kids, high school kids and college students. Through friendship with Christ and a ministry of accompaniment, Young Life leaders reach the disconnected and walk with them as they grow in faith and reconnect to the local parish.

"Nobody does evangelization with adolescents better than Young Life, and by partnering with them, the Catholic Church becomes better in all areas of its ministry with the young church."

— Craig Gould, Director of Youth Ministry,  
Archdiocese of Baltimore, Maryland

## Young Life and the Catholic Church

1. Young Life enters the world of kids and invites them to experience the fullness of life as God designed it to be lived.
2. Young Life effectively re-presents the *kerygma* to Catholics and walks with them through authentic relationships.
3. Young Life helps Catholic kids grow in their faith and reconnect to a local Catholic parish where they can grow for a lifetime.

*"Young Life is the reason I'm the faithful Catholic I am today."*

— Robby Kiley, University of Notre Dame graduate

To get involved, find your local Young Life office through [younglife.org](http://younglife.org) or call 877-438-9572.

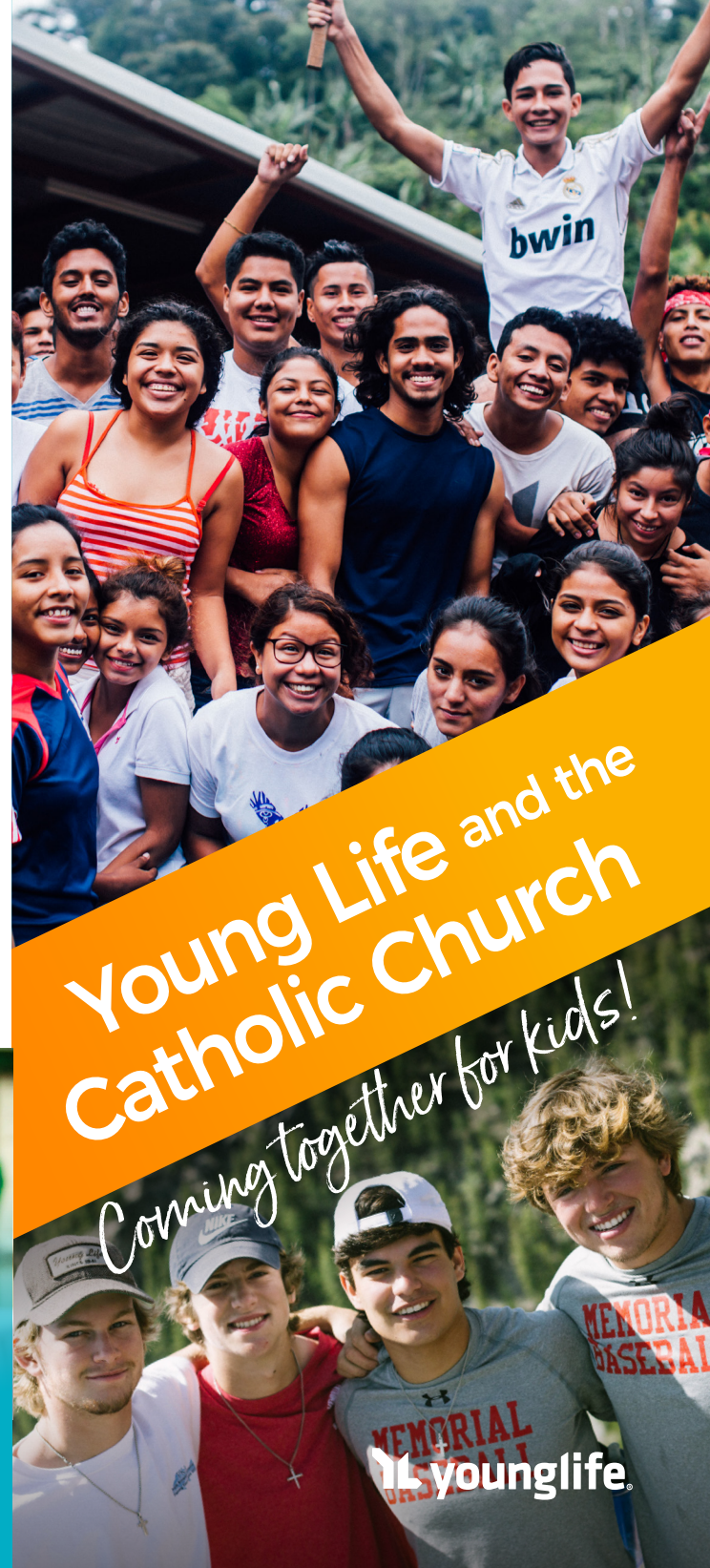
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**Young Life and the Catholic Church**

*Coming together for kids!*

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# Faith For a Lifetime

Together, Young Life and the Catholic Church have tremendous opportunity to reach every kid, everywhere with the gospel. Through a shared passion for Christ, kids and mission, this rising tide of cooperation is making significant contributions to the *new evangelization*.

**Young Life is committed to working with the Catholic Church by:**

- Training our staff and volunteers to minister to Catholic teens in ways that respect and reanimate their Catholic faith in Jesus.
- Encouraging Catholics to serve as Young Life staff, volunteer leaders and committee members.
- Working with Catholic dioceses, parishes and schools to invigorate the faith of young Catholics.

Pope Francis understands the valuable work youth ministers do and the incarnational approach of Young Life necessary to reach kids today. It is this ministry of accompaniment, meeting kids where they're at and walking with them through all of life's challenges, that creates real and enduring connections.

***"You are the ones who accompany young people on their path, helping them find the way that leads to Christ. Much more than promoting a series of activities for young people, you walk with them, accompanying them personally in these complex and difficult times."***

"There has never been a greater opportunity for unity and alignment in God's mission of reaching young people. An ecumenical, worldwide, Jesus-centered movement of Protestants, Catholics, Pentecostals and Orthodox believers are unifying as never before, and Young Life is in its sweet spot in developing leaders who know how to reach adolescents and help them become disciples who make disciples."

— Marty Caldwell,  
Chief Foundation Officer

"Young Life makes an impact on Catholic young people in a powerful way, bringing them to a genuine encounter with Jesus Christ and connecting them with their Catholic faith communities. This shared mission is a blessing to our ministry to, with, for and by the young Catholic Church!"

— Bob McCarty, former Executive Director,  
National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry

*"Young Life is an organization that has a long history in the United States, announcing the kerygma and, through a process of friendship and accompaniment, getting teens connected back to their faith tradition. That's why our relationship with Young Life is so important."*

— Bishop Daniel Flores  
Diocese of Brownsville, Texas

