

Fall 2008 Newsletter

from the Catholic Student Group at Trinity University

About Us...

Hello! We are the Catholic Student Group at Trinity University, and we are so excited to tell you a little bit about the things that we do on and off campus. First of all, our patron saint is Saint Anthony of Padua. An intriguing thing about Saint Anthony is that he is often depicted with the child Jesus in his arms. Since Saint Anthony was a brilliant preacher, it is possible to interpret this popular depiction as symbolic of his excellence at communicating the Word of God, Jesus, to his listeners. Like Saint Anthony, we too hope to know and proclaim the Incarnate Word to those around us.

As for what we do, we have Mass on Sunday nights at 8:00 pm. On Mondays we pray the Ro-



Gathered for a picture at the end of our Fall Retreat "Heaven on Earth"

sary together, and on the last Monday of every month we have Eucharist Adoration on campus. General meetings are held on Wednesday nights; activities at our meetings vary, but once a month we bring in a speaker from the Archdiocese of San Antonio.

This semester we are focusing on vocations — we are exploring our general call to holiness as Catholic Christians and also examining what it means to have a personal vocation to religious life, single life, lay consecration, or marriage. (continued on pg. 2 ...)

Our First Retreat: "Heaven on Earth"

On September 12-13, we held our first CSG retreat in recent years. The theme was "Heaven on Earth: the Mass, the Eucharist, and their Impact on our Daily Lives." Twenty-one retreatants gathered at the

Antonian Retreat Center after sharing dinner at a restaurant popular with Trinity students: Main Street Pizza. Friday night commenced with some silly icebreakers to help us get to know one another. After

a wonderful praise and worship session led by our cantors and musicians, we prayed the Rosary in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament and then had time for board games before (continued on pg. 3 ...)

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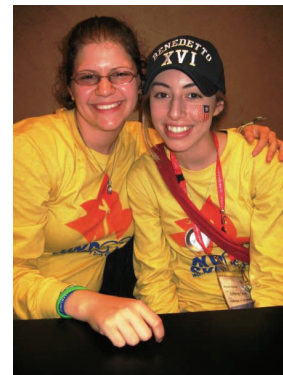


Father Martin Leopold talks to us about the Mass

Trinity Students Attend World Youth Day 2008

This summer two of our current Trinity students and three spring 2008 graduates traveled to World Youth Day in Sydney, Australia along with other Catholic young adults from San Antonio. Katherine Crain, CSG president, and Katie Burchfield, CSG music coordinator, shared their experiences during our retreat. The theme for World Youth Day 2008 was: "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses" Acts 1:8. Both young women affirmed the power of the Holy Spirit at work during their stay in Australia. They were both powerfully moved by the presence of the Holy Father, and by the experience of celebrating Mass with thousands of Catholics from around the world. For them, being at

World Youth Day made the universality of the Catholic Church visible and concrete; they witnessed diversity and unity spun together in beautiful harmony. In addition to the joy of sharing their faith with young adults from around the world, both women enjoyed spending time in the presence of priests and religious who made the pilgrimage to Sydney alongside the youth. San Antonio's newly ordained Bishop Oscar Cantu traveled with their group, and Katherine and Katie also had the wonderful experience of attending a holy hour of Eucharistic Adoration with the Sisters of Charity, the religious order founded by Mother Theresa. Both women are looking forward to the next World Youth Day, which will be held in Madrid!



Katie Burchfield and Katherine Crain at World Youth Day 2008

About Us (Continued...)

In addition to our more serious events, we also have a social event every month — our September social was a trip to a delicious ice cream shop just off campus. We also like to do regular service events. On September 20th, several CSG members joined with Catholic students from around San Antonio to volunteer for Habitat for Humanity.

Two other initiatives begun last year include our observance of the First Friday devotion, and the creation of sister and brother groups loosely modeled on those at

the Franciscan University at Steubenville. Sister and brother groups are small groups of women and men that meet once per week for fellowship and to help support each other in our faith. Last year we founded three sister groups and one brother group, and we are hoping to get the program going again in the next few weeks. We are also working on getting more involved in the Archdiocese of San Antonio and in the events that it puts on for Catholic college students in San Antonio. On September 19th, we participated in a

Our approach to God and to our Catholic Faith: Know. Love. Serve.

Commissioning Mass for Catholic student group leaders around San Antonio. We enjoyed mingling with students from other campuses, and we definitely felt excited about the start of a new year for CSG!

Our CSG Ministry Team:

Campus Priest: Father Tom Ovalle, OMI

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Linda B. Specht

President: Katherine Crain

Vice President: Kristi Beauchemin

Secretary: Amanda Ong

Treasurer: Theresa Hupf



Service Chairs: Ashlee Welch (fall)/Avery Callon (spring)

Social Chair: Chantal Van Esch

Music Coordinator: Katie Burchfield

EM/Lector Coordinator: John Ligon

Sacristans: Matt Coffey & Timothy Amen

Retreat (Continued ...)

heading off to bed.

Saturday began with morning prayers from the Liturgy of the Hours, led by our campus priest, Father Tom Ovalle. Our first speaker, Father Martin Leopold energetically addressed the topic of the Mass. He stressed that we need to approach Mass as a time to worship God and to offer ourselves in union with Christ's sacrifice on the cross. We receive many blessing from our participation in the Mass, but we need to be willing to give of ourselves first in order to receive. He also explained how the Mass is a conversation that takes place between us and God, with the priest often acting as mediator. God speaks to us in the Scriptures and in the priest's homily, and we respond in the

prayers of the Mass and in our participation in the Eucharist. Father Leopold also spoke about how the narrative of the Last Supper spoken at the consecration can be thought of as our "reminder" to Jesus of his promise to make himself truly present under our signs of bread and wine. By recalling his promises, we express our belief that he can and will honor his word and make himself present in the Eucharist.

Bishop Oscar Cantu did a lovely job explaining the different ways in which Jesus is present in our celebration of the Mass: He is present in the assembly, in the person of the priest, in the Scriptures, and in the Eucharist, which is the most intense form of His Presence. Bishop Cantu also talked about

"When we go to Adoration, we are pulling up a chair at the table of the Trinity."

how, when we go to Adoration, we are essentially pulling up a chair at the table of the Trinity and spending time in the physical presence of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In between the two talks, we celebrated a very beautiful and moving Mass with Father Leopold. All of us were very pleased with how the retreat went, and hope that everyone took away something that God wanted to communicate to him or her.

Upcoming Events

Fall Family Weekend Oct. 5th-6th

Please come join us for a special family Mass on Sunday, October 5th at 10:00 am in the Trinity University Parker Chapel

Young Adult Conference "Love and Fire"

On Saturday, October 25th, the Archdiocese of San Antonio is holding its first conference tailored specifically to young adults. The theme is inspired by the two disciples' encounter with Jesus on the road to Emmaus - "Were not our hearts burning

within us..." (Luke 24:13-35). The schedule includes a keynote presentation, two workshops, dinner and a concert. Mass will be celebrated by San Antonio's Bishop Oscar Cantu. Cost: \$40. Deadline: 10/20/2008

Upcoming Speaker Topics:

Vocations — October 15th
 Living Our Faith in the Workplace — November 12th
 The True Christmas Story: The Importance of the Incarnation — December 3rd

Archdiocese Fall Retreat for College Students
 November 14-16th at the Tecaboca Retreat Center

Please Donate!

We hope that you have enjoyed reading about all of the awesome things that we do in CSG. In order that we may continue putting on retreats and providing Catholic students at Trinity University with the resources they need to continue to grow in their faith, we ask that you please consider making a donation to our group. We survive solely on the donations of our wonderful parents! If you are interested in donating, please send cash or check (payable to Catholic Student Group at Trinity University) to:

Catholic Student Group at Trinity University
 One Trinity Place, Box 2288
 San Antonio, TX 78212

Thank you so much, and God bless!

