

What can a Catholic community do to celebrate young people this year?

in solidarity with the *Global Celebration of Young People on Christ the King Sunday*

Pray for all young people. Using “[A Prayer for Youth and Young Adults](#)” by the USCCB individually or collectively as a community of faith, call to mind and heart the young people in our lives (in our families, workplaces, schools, parishes, and daily encounters), as well as the youth and young adults we do not yet know: those who are struggling, those who are celebrating joyous milestones, and those who have no one to pray for and accompany them.

Reach out and have an honest dialogue with a young person about life and faith. Take time and listen to what they have to say, being open to having one’s life transformed by the wisdom they can share with all generations.

Encourage young people to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ. Echoing Pope Francis, who tells young people to trust in the Lord, tell them, “[Christ] is in you, he is with you, and he never abandons you.” (*Christus Vivit* [CV] 2)

Read and prayerfully reflect on [Christus Vivit](#), Pope Francis’ landmark apostolic exhortation to and about youth and young adults, “since all of us are challenged and urged to reflect both on the young and for the young.” (CV 3)

Celebrate youth and young adults on Christ the King Sunday. Acknowledge their presence in the community, read the suggested petitions for the Prayer of the Faithful, and offer one of the special blessings over young people during the Masses, which can all be found in the USCCB [Christ the King Sunday Liturgical Guide](#).

Invite youth and young adults to take on prominent roles on Christ the King Sunday. They can serve as all or some of the liturgical or music ministers or can give a witness during announcements or immediately before or after Masses.

Promote the community’s work with young people. Share the Church’s efforts in the vestibule or narthex of the church, as well as on the community’s website and social media, in the bulletin, and in conversations with active parishioners.

Host special activities for youth and young adults on or following Christ the King Sunday, focused on engaging and accompanying youth and young adults in spirituality, social mission, formation, pastoral care, and community building.

Post positive messages for and about young people on social media leading up to and during Christ the King Sunday.

Support young people who are struggling in any way. Remind them that “at every moment, you are infinitely loved” (CV 112), that “you are not insignificant” (CV 115), and “with a tenderness that never disappoints but is always capable of restoring our joy, [Christ] makes it possible for us to lift up our heads and to start anew” (CV 119).

Make collective and individual commitments to better accompany youth and young adults. Be more responsive and listen more to young people; provide increased pastoral care to those who are in need; offer greater investment in the Church’s ministerial work with young people; and engage them in authentic dialogue on issues relevant to them.

Connect the local community to celebrations of young people throughout the universal Church. Post the Holy Father’s [annual address to young people](#) in church communications; share the homily of Pope Francis and other bishops for the *Global Celebration of Young People*; find ways to connect local youth and young adults with young people celebrating in other dioceses or countries around the world on Christ the King Sunday.

Ask community leaders to read and use the [National Pastoral Guidebook for the Global Celebration of Young People](#) from the USCCB, as they gather even more creative ideas and suggestions for making the most of this annual occasion.

<https://www.usccb.org/topics/world-youth-day/annual-celebration>

Supported by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth | USCCB © 2021