

Thank You for Your Support!

November 2021
Newsletter



"On our recent mission in Kensington, we met a man who shared that he had written a song. When I asked to see it, he pulled out a large slab of cardboard, on which was scribbled several lines of lyrics that had been written using various types of ink. The language was rough and raw, but also very authentic and real. The song was filled with hope for the future and spoke of the strength in unity, making reference to "God's blessed creation."

This man, whose home is a filthy back alley, filled with trash and rubble, found beauty and consolation in the hope of camaraderie and in his identity as God's creation. In a place so dismal and desolate, he has this light of faith and hope. Even at this low point in his life, this man was able to have hope and see past his misery to create something beautiful.

This light in the darkness is what draws me to the mission and gives me hope. The faith of these people who live so humbly is what strengthens mine."

- Pia Buentello

BE NOT AFRAID!
James 1:6

ECYD & Blaze

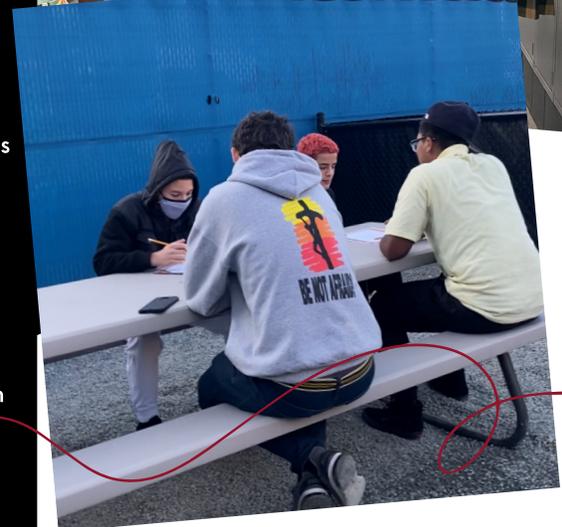
"Led by Fr Aaron, ECYD (encounters, convictions, your decisions) is an opportunity for adolescence to become friends with Christ. My brother Nathan began living the ECYD lifestyle as he engaged in a weekly activity and Gospel reflection with some boys in his class. Joe Coffey is now helping out with this group and other ECYD groups in the area.

After seeing my brother Nathan's joy and watching his faith blossom I thought back to my 7th grade self. In middle school, when I was Nathan's age, I found myself trying to fit in with the "cool crowd." The innocence and carefree joy I had as a child started to fade as I began to care more about what other people thought of me. Reflecting back on this, I was convinced I wasn't the only one that struggled in middle school. In today's culture, instagram, snapchat and tictok only add to this problem.

After speaking to Fr Aaron, he encouraged me to pray about the desire I had on my heart to serve in this way. The need became even more apparent as I talked to a friend of mine who currently teaches Religion to the 7th grade class at Saint Peter and Paul. We connected and with prayer, some help from Ft Aaron and enthusiasm from the parents and staff at Saints Peter and Paul school we launched a program called BLAZE (a Walking with Purpose Bible Study for middle school girls) for the 7th grade girls at Saints Peter and Paul School.

13 girls participate in BLAZE this fall! For the past seven weeks, on Wednesday afternoons, Pia and I were welcomed by Mrs. Krieman into her classroom where we had a snack, fun activity and dove into the Bible Study together with the girls. It was a privilege to sit down with them and discuss their identity as daughters of Christ. We plan to continue with Blaze in January."

-Emily Bracken



The Magdala House Young Women's Retreat

MISSION YOUTH
PHILLY

"This month at the Magdala House, we had an Enthronement ceremony where we entrusted our home to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary! The entire house was blessed as we processed through every room and closet with Our Lady of Fatima. Not only are we now sharing our home with Jesus and Mary, but also, we shared it with many young women with our first retreat at the Magdala House! It was exceptionally fruitful as we meditated on the life of Mary Magdalene and adored Jesus together."

- Malorie Leach
(Human Formation Director)



After a great deal of work, the old rectory at Notre Dame De Lourdes parish has been transformed into the Frassati house. Five young men moved into the house on November 1st!

"We started a weekly Encounter on Wednesdays nights where we dive into the upcoming Sunday Gospel together. We also have regular sign ups for dinner with the Frassati house members! Go to phillyfrassati.org to see what's happening and get involved in our events."

- Joe Coffey

The Frassati house

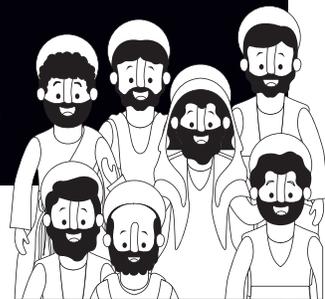


thank
you

Thank you for your continued prayers and support. It is a gift to be a vessel of your support to those on the streets of Kensington. Those we have encountered on the streets have asked us for specific items. They are in need of: mens belts, mens and women's sweatpants, winter coats and sweatshirts. Smaller sizes go fast.

Please let us know of any specific prayer intentions you may have. You and your families are in our prayers daily.

God Bless,
The Mission Youth Apostles
(Joe, Sarah, Pia & Emily)



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