"But he said to them, 'Do not be terrified. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He is risen; He is not here; see the place where they laid him.'"

Mk. 16:6

Happenings

Vol. 6  April, 1986  No. 6
DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Recently, during a weekend retreat, Jack said that it is our Youth Apostles' retreat style to be very challenging! The first idea that grabbed me was that we have a style. I had never reflected on our style, but it is true, we do have a very special style which involves warmth, openness, intensity of reflection and challenge in an atmosphere of unconditional love and total forgiveness.

As we grow we must remain faithful to our style! I think the reason Jack stated that we are "very" challenging is that the world around us, by contrast, is not as challenging. If we are to grow in holiness we must first challenge ourselves and live our Christian values to their fullest. Only then can we challenge others. We can never help others reach the height we have not achieved ourselves.

Spring fever! Let it be a conviction that the beauty that surrounds us is a reflection of God's love!

Eduardo Azcarate

EDITOR'S CORNER

Happenings is the newsletter of the Youth Apostles Institute. This is your newsletter. It serves as both a source of information and a means of participation. Submissions from all members are welcomed and encouraged. Let your brothers know what you are doing!

A note of thanks to Bob Mueller, who is the outgoing Happenings Editor. His work with this publication has been a significant contribution and has been greatly appreciated.

The deadline for articles for the next edition of Happenings will be Sunday, April 20. Submissions may be left at the Youth Apostles house.

John Iekel
Editor, Happenings
REFLECTIONS

"Reflections" is a monthly feature in which a member is invited to share something about what he is doing or thinking. This month's contribution is from Hernando Herrera.

College

Well, college at last! After four years of high school, after all the SAT exams and applications, after all the waiting and excitement, I am finally in college. Now I'm supposed to be on my own - I can do whatever I want. No parents, no curfews, no lectures. College is the ultimate in fun. But is it really all that it's made up to be? There are many aspects of college life that one does not realize as a freshman. I feel that it can be even tougher for good guys in some ways.

A good guy often spends four years in a small community of faith, with a lot of support and with friendships based on truth and values. A good guy may have attended Catholic schools for a number of years. Then he steps onto a campus and is greeted by some heavy-duty stuff. All of a sudden he is a very tiny minority amongst those without values. Most people have a different value system, a different faith, or no faith. Then the whole world focuses on fraternities and "rush". With parties going on all the time, invitations are plentiful. It is difficult for one to refuse some of those invitations. Without any support, good guys may begin to question their own value system, their set of beliefs, and who they really are.

A good guy feels left out, lonely, or not "cool". But he can do a lot to change that. First of all, it is of tremendous value and importance to keep in touch with old friends who know you well. It is a ministry in itself for people to write, support, and challenge each other (a visit or two doesn't hurt, either!) For the guy who is away, there is a need for involvement. Redirect your attention to other people. Help others! There may exist Catholic support groups, SADD groups, recreation programs for kids, or Big Brothers programs. As you give to others, you get a lot in return. In your heart you know you've helped and not been selfish. Different ministries give more meaning to your life and help you find out who you really are. We are all called to be Christ-like, especially during College!
AROUND THE COMMUNITY

Hernando Herrera is now a Peer Alcohol Educator at U. Va. He writes:

"Peer Health Education is part of a new program at the University of Virginia. The PHE program concerns three areas - alcohol, sexuality, and stress management. Each of the three concentrations are overseen by two adults, but each is run by students. As a Peer Alcohol Educator, I went through an interview in order to be accepted. Now I am in the training process. This consists of lectures on communication, public speaking, group facilitation, and alcohol. Next year I will help give dorm talks on alcohol - its abuse, the consequences of its abuse, and alternatives to its use. Peer Alcohol Educators do not preach abstinence - they urge responsible drinking. They also provide counseling, develop interesting programs about alcohol, and participate in Alcohol Awareness Week. I feel that this is a great ministry at college where we can try to reach and touch our peers. Look for similar programs at your schools and get involved – it's fantastic! Please get in touch with me for more information."

Chip Hoffman assisted Eduardo in taking the 8th grade students from St. Anthony's to the March for Life in January. He recently spoke about the right to life to Eduardo's 8th grade Religion class.

John Iekel and the Assistant Pastor of St. Mary Star of the Sea Parish in Indian Head, Maryland, are setting up a youth ministry there. The group is still in the planning stages, but broad support from young people and parents is already being discovered.

J. A. (Mr. Maturi to his students) and the other Physics teacher at Bishop O'Connell High School, Mr. Peebles, spent the last weekend of February on Bryce Mountain with ten of the Physics students they teach. They stayed at Mr. Peebles' cabin there for two days. They spent Saturday skiing, and that night they gazed and looked for Halley's Comet. During the weekend, they also watched videos on Halley's Comet and Einstein's discoveries, played Trivial Pursuit, watched "The Empire Strikes Back", listened to classical music, and ate all of Mr. Peebles' food. J. A. writes that "...All in all, it was a great weekend of love and fun while learning a little more about their world and about skiing. The kids are a great bunch of guys who are not only intelligent but also full of life and personality. They are a pleasure to work with."
Peter Nassetta recently led a 7th grade Day of Recollection at St. Ambrose. 40 kids took part. He was assisted by Steve Campot, John Paquette, Emilio Biosca, Eileen and Martha Maturi, and Laura Dawson.

Jack Peterson substitute taught Eduardo's 8th grade Religion class and had a talk/discussion on the subject of fears and growing up. Jack continues to teach 7th graders once a week on a wide range of religious topics. He is also an assistant to Eduardo with Eduardo's Monday night therapy group in an effort to develop "value therapy" skills with young men who are having difficulties with school, family life, and peer relations.

Steve Shea has recently been nominated to serve on the Parish Council for his parish in Newport News. He teaches 10th grade CCD and does work at the Juvenile Center. He is involved in the RCIA program there (the Catechumenal program) and is a member of a committee at his parish that is examining Youth Ministry there.

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

St. Anthony's CLC has completely reorganized its room, making office and study space available to its members. Mike Paquette organized and oversaw this effort.

St. Michael's CYO, run by Bob Mueller with the assistance of Don Smaltz, is planning a number of activities. On March 23, they will host "Teen Talk" - a study group for all high school students that will explore how to deal with pressures exerted by school, parents, jobs, and peers. On April 2 they will take a Moonlight Dance Cruise on the Potomac River. They will attend the CYO Diocesan Convention on the weekend of April 11-13 and will make a relief trip to Parsons, West Virginia on April 25-27 to assist those still recovering from last autumn's flooding.

OTHER NEWS

Kevin Webb recently moved into the Youth Apostles House.

On March 11, Youth Apostles held a Mass which was celebrated by Father Romanus Cesario, O.F., who is the Dean of the Dominican House of Studies (which Jack and Peter attend). Also attending were Brian Donahue, Miles Duquette, Hernando Herrera, and Steve Mares, who were home for their college spring breaks.

Brian Donahue is studying business at James Madison University, is involved with Catholic Campus Ministry, and drives for CARS (Catch a Ride for Safety), a program which gives rides to those too drunk to drive home safely.
Miles Duquette is studying Aerospace engineering at U. Va. He is a member of Sigma Gamma Tau, the National Honor Society for Aerospace Engineers. He is also a member of the folk group for the 5:15 Mass at St. Thomas Aquinas, the parish which serves U. Va.

On the weekend of March 15-16, Eduardo, Dave, J.A., Peter and Jack spent a terrific weekend at Camp Letts, Maryland, running a retreat for the Catholic Flebes from the Naval Academy. The team was very impressed with the quality of the young men and women on the weekend. As usual, Eduardo displayed his skills at reaching the young people, developing a sense of trust, challenging them to live a life of high moral standards and bringing them closer to Christ. Everyone went away feeling like the weekend was a tremendous success. Please keep the plebes in your prayers as they struggle to end the year and become upper classmen.

**COMING UP**

March 29 (Holy Sat.) - Full Member communal prayer and meeting 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

April 1 (Tues.) - Youth Ministry Seminar at 8:15 p.m. at Tony's Place.

April 8 (Tues.) - Candidate meeting at 7:45 p.m. at Y.A.'s; YAS meeting at 8:15 p.m.

April 15 (Tues.) - YAS meetings at 8:15 p.m.; Full Members and Candidates have meetings.

April 22 (Tues.) - Candidate meeting 7:45 p.m.; YAS Mass at 8:15 p.m.

April 29 (Tues.) - YAS meeting at 8:15 p.m.

**YOUTH APOSTLES PRAYER**

Dear Lord, we no longer want to live for ourselves but for You. Strengthen us through the Eucharist and fill our Community with your love that we may be faithful to the Truth and live in truth. Help us to be always aware of Mary's commitment of total giving. Let her example be the basis for our ministry, that we may become salt of the earth to bring flavor to your word, and light of the world to guide the youth with your light which shines through us. To give, Lord, until we have no more to offer and to be examples to all we touch. Amen.