

ST. PETER'S

YOUTH

PROGRAM

CALLING

ALL

TEENS

(9th - 12th Grades)

The Dead Theologian's Society



Meet on the 2nd and
4th Tuesday of the Month
at 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Gather in Church Gym

What is DTS?

An exciting new way for young people to get in touch with Christ and the Church by learning how Saints lived their lives. We are all called to be a Saint and be on FIRE with our faith. Learning about how God wants you to live your life in the Church and live out the Gospel message of life is exactly what the Saints did. If St. Francis de Sales and the Little Flower did it, SO CAN YOU!!

TEENS, READ THIS! PARENTS, GIVE THIS ANNOUNCEMENT TO YOUR TEENS!

Do you think church is boring? Be honest! Wouldn't you rather be at the mall at a good movie every week?

Have you ever seen any of the "STAR WARS" movies? Did you think it was cool that Jedi Knights could almost float in mid air?

Did you know that the Catholic Church has made a man named Joseph of Cupertino a canonized saint? Did you know that the very same Catholic Church that you attend claims Joseph of Cupertino could FLY?! No kidding, really, FLY! He would think about Holy things and he would literally float into the air. Sometimes kind of low and other times very high in the air.

Did you know that Hollywood is fake, that is, the great flying, floating, treetop moves you might have seen in "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" are all done with computers and basic trick photography? Yes of course you knew that, but you still thought it was neat, didn't you? If you are a computer buff you could probably explain exactly how Hollywood does it with green screens and matt photography.

Now ask yourself, seriously, how did Joseph of Cupertino do it? How did he fly? Are you skeptical? Did you know he flew many times it in front of many different witnesses, even in front of a bishop? How did he do it? Think about it. No cameras, no computer green screens, no safety lines and rigging. He just thought about Holy things and flew! It is true! According to the authority of the same "Boring" Catholic Church you are attending.

Did you know that some Saint's bodies never decayed when they died? Even after hundreds of years? Some of them roll from side to side as if they were just sleeping, or open their eyes and look at people who are in the room.

Did you know that the Catholic Church teaches that the Eucharist is the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ? Not just a symbol. That little host is actually God! Did you know that there is a Eucharistic Miracle where a host visually turned to flesh and blood during the consecration? Again this is bonified by the same "Boring" Catholic Church that you attend. This miracle happened over 400 years ago. There are even scientific tests which have been done on it to prove it is authentic. Recent scientific tests, done by non-believers and believers alike. Tests that show the 400 year old consecrated host is living human heart muscle, still alive, no rigor mortise or decay. Who says this is true? The same ruling authority of the "Boring" Catholic Church you attend week in and week out! That is who!

Did you know that the Catholic Church believes that we "become present" at the Jesus' death on the cross at every single mass we attend? Remember the old "Back to the Future Movies" where they time travel? Doesn't this belief sound a little like that? Yes, the "Boring" Catholic Church teaches that you are "Present" at Jesus' death on the cross at each and every mass, no matter how "Boring" it may seem!

Why is it we enjoy watching what we know is fake, trick photography, and computer animation, but we find it "Boring" to be present at an actual miracle? In light of these things who is really boring and who is really pretty cool?

If these type of questions intrigue you, and you're interested in hearing more mind blowing Truths, then check out the Dead Theologian's Society on **Wednesday March 31st**. We are a group for teens that are tired of Hollywood's cheap imitations. We will tell you about the lives of the Saints and how the miracles worked by God through them will blow away any cheap trick photography you have ever seen. And we will show you exactly why the Roman Catholic Church is anything but "Boring". You have our word on it, but more importantly, you have God's word on it! Be there!

HISTORY OF DTS

The Dead Theologian's Society was started in November of 1997, in Newark, Ohio by Eddie Cotter Jr. and Michael Barone. It began as an addition to other teen oriented programming they were doing at St. Francis de Sales parish in Newark. DTS has been rapidly growing ever since. Now they are international, with groups meetings throughout the US, and several outside of the US.

It was inspired by the lives of the Saints and the hit movie, "The Dead Poet's Society," The Dead Theologian's Society is an organization whose mission is to pray for the release of the Holy Souls in Purgatory and to educate young adults in the Catholic faith using the lives and writings of the Saints.

Contemporary Issues

It was been widely acknowledged that during much of the past several decades, the catechetical formation of young people has been terribly lacking. This has not changed, even for today's young Catholics. The Catholic Church loses many of its members to fundamentalist and pentecostal denominations and sects because the individuals lost were not properly educated in their Catholic faith. Young Catholic adults are especially vulnerable in the present condition in society. Sexual promiscuity, drugs, materialism, immorality, rebelliousness, together with the moral relativity so prevalent in our society leads many to question the value of their Catholic faith. A means to catechize these individuals while they are young adults has not been available for the most part, or if any existed, has it been very effective. This program can help in preventing the loss of our young people.

Additionally, there are a number of retreat programs that do help some, yet they lack the catechetical formation and follow-up to be effective in the long run. The Dead Theologian's Society serves to take up the slack in the life of today's young people and provides good formation in the faith.

Today's young people are surrounded by a complex world. There are so many sources of noise in their lives that they cannot hear the gentle whisper of God calling them to Himself. The world is constantly breaking down their defenses and luring them deeper and deeper into evil and sin. Most Catholic young people are not any different than their non-Catholic peers. They are often trapped in the cycle of the world, and cannot even realize that they lack a true and meaningful relationship with God. Most cannot see any value to attending Mass, learning their faith, or evangelizing the people around them. They need a reality check. They need to hear that they are not alone in their journey through life - that there are other young people, like themselves, that are trying to fight their way through the jungles of life. They need to know that Sainthood is not for those who are sinless, but for those who pick themselves up when they fall and return to the open arms of their Savior and start all over again.

Drawing from the writings and lives of the Saints makes the young people see Saints as really human, complete with all the human weaknesses and imperfections, just like they see in themselves. It gives them a chance to realize that they too can walk the path to holiness if they choose. It stops the noise of the world for a time to allow them to "hear" the voice of God calling them home.

THE DEAD THEOLOGIAN'S SOCIETY IS HEADQUATERED IN BLACK EARTH, WISCONSIN

**The most Rev. Raymond L. Burke, former Bishop of
La Crosse, Wisconsin had invited the Dead
Theologian's Society to make its new National
Headquarters in Wisconsin.**

Rev. Burke stated...'I am pleased to approve the program of the Dead Theologian's Society for use in youth ministry in the Diocese of La Crosse. Having reviewed carefully the program of the Dead Theologian's Society, and your proposal for its use in the Diocese of La Crosse, I find it to be a most effective form of youth ministry. Together with the other forms of youth ministry carried out in the Diocese, I am certain that it will help our young people to grow in knowledge and in practice of their Catholic faith.

I believe that a particularly strong aspect of the program of the Dead Theologian's Society is the unity which it promotes of the young people with the Saints who are our models and help us to see how to live in Christ in the particular circumstances of our time. The lack of the knowledge of the lives of the Saints and the devotion to them in the past decades has been a great impoverishment of our Catholic live. I am happy to see the Dead Theologian's Society addressing this poverty so effectively.'

check It Out
At

www.deadtheologiansociety.com

