

**ST. RAPHAEL'S WELCOMES
NEW YOUTH MINISTER**

JONATHAN CAMPBELL



"The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival (Zephaniah 3:17-18)."

Joyful greetings and blessings this Pentecost season! I am deeply grateful, humbled, and enthused to serve this Christian community as the new coordinator of youth ministry. Thank you for this awesome opportunity!

Please feel free to call me any time to meet, get to know each other, and hang out. You can reach me by phone at 727-821-0155 or by e-mail at JCampbell@st-raphaels.com. To read more about me, check out the other side of this insert. Thanks and God bless!

Stay tuned for announcements at Mass, online (www.st-raphaels.com/youth-ministry.html), and in the bulletin to hear about summer activities for the youth. In addition to the Steubenville Youth Conference in July, we'll meet up for fun times at the beach, Rays games, and Bible study! LIFETEEN and EDGE nights will kick off in August.

{More on back...}

"With God all things are possible (Matthew 19:26)."

JONATHAN CAMPBELL

Growing up in rural North Dakota, near the Minnesota border, just 20 minutes south of Canada, I would describe myself as a country boy at heart, entrepreneur, and passionate fan of sports and music. Family means everything to me; my parents have shown me more love than words can describe. My two younger brothers, David and Paul, are my best friends in the world; we grew up doing everything together: hanging out, playing sports, working, and of course, getting into trouble! Hockey was our life in the winter months; working on the farm was our thing in the summer. Though we were born and raised in a solid Catholic home, I didn't really fall in love with my faith until later.

Seeking a new adventure --- and desperately desiring a change in climate, after high school I packed up my car and drove south, all the way to Flagler College in St. Augustine, FL. Here I studied business administration and mapped out my future with eager plans of revolutionizing the restaurant industry. After three short years, I had obtained my degree and moved back to the ND/MN line to start a restaurant – with the aim of restaurant franchise greatness. However, the Lord had other plans.

The restaurant didn't work out. I was crushed. My dreams went up in smoke. *What now?* I began to ask questions such as: *Who am I? Where did I come from? Where am I going? What is the purpose of life? Where is true happiness found?*

And by God's grace and through the prayers of my family and friends, I was blessed with a renewed faith! The Lord poured His gifts into my heart in a new way and called me to live in the Truth; to live life to the full.

God strengthened me through His Holy Spirit and called me to participate in this adventure, this battle, this plan of salvation. I began to pursue a close relationship with Christ through prayer, Scripture study, daily Mass, and service to the poor, sick, and suffering.

After passing up a great opportunity to work in the successful family business, I applied – and got accepted – to Franciscan University of Steubenville's graduate theology program in Ohio. I enrolled at Franciscan in Spring 2008 and graduated in Spring 2010. The Lord blessed me with some amazing opportunities in Steubenville:

- Studied for my Master's Degree in Theology/Christian Ministry.
- Served as leader for Works of Mercy – Homeless Ministry Pittsburgh.
- Served as prayer team minister for Weekly Praise & Worship and Summer Conferences.
- Entered the brotherhood of AMDG Household.
- Awakened to the call to witness to Christ's Love and Truth to teens through youth ministry!

And in the Summer of 2010, I find my ship sailing south again, back to Florida! Thank you all for your love, prayers, and friendship. I am deeply grateful, humbled, and enthused to serve this Christian community as the new coordinator of youth ministry. Thank you for this awesome opportunity! God bless...

"And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness (Acts 4:31)."