Youth Survey Questionnaire – Diocese of Goroka

Youth Coordinator Fr. Bogdan Cofalik msf

Tel: 72592364, bcofalik@gmail.com

We have 9 parishes with 15  youth groups (350 active members).We have more ,but not active yet.

**Evaluating The Situation**

**1.Church as a community of believers**

The parish priest, church council leaders … have their hands open to support the young in their spiritual and physical growth within its parish community and sometimes usually recognized in the diocese level.

2.Most of the young people are involved in illegal activities such as drugs, alcohol, spend more time in internet, youths in town attend to night clubs, gambling and many drops outs from school with not enough jobs finding them.

-Some young find it hard in their own family with parents with financial problems.

-divorce in parents has a lot of challenges too in the spiritual growth of young people.

-no proper structure or policy is set both in the government and church.

3.The on-going highlands regional and diocese youth rallies usually has a lot of impact on our young catholic and that usually involves them to show their talents and gifts in different in physical or in spiritual activities and helps a lot for them to come out of their shyness to participate in their own groups and they can speak openly with the help of others. Such gatherings in the church should be supported by its parish or diocese at all times.

4.Church rallies of other Pentecostal Churches or denomination in open field why because, many young people fall into their Preaching and Worship of Power Band (Life Instruments) and singsing etc.

Other denominations provide materially like, school fees, clothes, transport or money.

Other denominations provide counselling to young people.

Night club, especially pop music has attracted young people because of its music standard has been changed to high level and that has a big impact on this generation of people compare with our Sunday Service or Prayer Meeting Music-many says there’s no sweet in the Church and payers any more.

5.Proper music instruments and music school, leadership training or course, computer school, support or sponsor those youths who have given their time in the parish for some years to further studies or help find jobs for them.

Startup projects to generate money to support those that unable financially.

Religious people especially parish priest to work closely with youths and creative in both in physical and spiritual activities to bring life to the youths

6.a) Village-weekend camp or retreats, outstanding visit, sports, prayer night, diocese rally, Bible study.

b) Town-Workshop, retreat, visitation to hospital and prison, combine fellowship with other denomination, prayer night, parish to parish prayer nights and find raising activities.

7.Make awareness or give open invitation to all young people in the community to attend organized activities such as differed sports with prizes music competition of differed stiles, talent show, cultural display etc.

8.Some family usually discuss openly with children in regards God’s calling in their own time of prayer.

Special petition prayers is said for vocation during Sunday Service.

Parish leaders or parishioners usually encourage young people to go forward and lead the church.

9.On some occasions there usually religious people, priest, sisters, brothers share their spiritual experience of their journey of religious life and that encourages young people so much.

10.Church of parishes and all Christians must make awareness of the bad and good sides of the modern technology especially internet or others social networks.

The knowledge of this changes has to be given to people in the village or uneducated ones and can also preached in the church during Sunday

Service and we must not hide the bad things that are happening in and around our community that affects the spiritual growth of all.

11.Such event must be recognized by bishop conference and must be also support by each diocese and plans must be also put forward for such on-going events.

12.As mentioned above most of the vocational talks are usually given to young during diocese youth rally, retreat or workshop.

A full time Spiritual Director for youth is now in place and are working around in parishes.

Other religious orders like the Sisters of Mercy (Mercy Works- Goroka) is spending time with youths for other project in their own parishes.

**PASTORAL CARE WORKERS WITH YOUNG PEOPLE**

13.Not often in diocese level but as in the parish level the parish priest usually emphasize - God’s Call as priest, brother or sister.

14.There must be a yearly weekend camp during Vocation Sunday purposely to invite religious order of priest, brother and sister to share their experiences with the youths and other spiritual stories regarding the single life in Serving Christ.

15.Pray for them, support them. Offered to them our Communion and our intention during the Mass.

ASIA AND OCEANIA

a) Because other non-Catholic organizations are well organized in such manners of their national or international rallies, etc.

They used money and financed such gathering in manners of technical staff, instruments, tools etc., and are well planned and organized and not a last minute things. They usually have prior arrangements before things happened.

b) Using the traditional songs /dances during Eucharistic Celebrations.

The traditional language can be written for liturgical celebration or other charismatic prayers.

Cultural groups for different villages, province or town can come together for Eucharist Celebration.

c) Many young people these days don’t have or show the basic discipline values in themselves, or in families and in church community.

Many young people these days are into all kinds of music and also spending more time in media and sports and little time for pastoral care.

Young people do not seem to sees future in their own life, they lost in mind and many do not know their own attitudes and behaviour.

God bless you+ Fr. Bogdan Cofalik msf (Youth Coordinator from Goroka Diocese)