November 1, 2019

Dearest Father,



Every generation faces challenges within living the Gospel and our youth today face unique challenges concerning divine love, Imago Dei, human love, sexuality, and chastity. As our Holy Father Pope Francis declared, "Young people need to realize that they are bombarded by messages that are not beneficial for their growth towards maturity. They should be helped to recognize and to seek out positive influences, while shunning the things that cripple their capacity for love. We also have to realize that "a new and more appropriate language" is needed "in introducing children and adolescents to the topic of sexuality" 281, Amoris Laetitia.

Echoes of Worth is a weekend retreat that focuses on Pope St. John Paul II's teaching on Theology of the Body (TOB) and responds to Pope Francis call to a new and more appropriate language for conversion and accompaniment with our young people. Echoes of Worth began in the SF Bay area in 2015. Each year at least 20 parishes, up to eight diocese, and nearly 750 teenagers have participated on the weekend. With a trained and formed team of volunteers, the retreat brings a conversion of heart through Sacramental experiences such Mass, Reconciliation, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, time for personal reflection, small groups, and community builders. The message for the weekend focuses that the teens are loved, made in God's image and likeness, and called to 'echo' God's design and purpose to those around us. (Genesis 1:3, TOB 2/20/1980).

We are very pleased to be partnering with the Diocese of Sacramento for their own Echoes of Worth Retreat taking place March 29-31, 2019 at Trinity Pines Catholic Center in Colfax. Teenagers may register for the retreat as a parish group, or as individuals. We invite you to share this with families who you think will benefit from this encounter!

We invite you to join us for any part or all of the Retreat weekend. If you're interested in coming please contact Andrew Brown at Thank you in advance for your prayers and support of this exciting opportunity we are bringing to the teens in our Diocese. With your help we will make a difference in the lives of the many youth that will be on retreat! [Echoes of Worth is a project of Creative Catholic Works, a 501c3 non-profit Tax ID # is 94-2734503].

Yours in Christ,

Andrew Brown

Executive Director

Andrew@echoesofworth.com





Klarissa Chichioco, Program Coordinator

Klarissa Chichioco is the co-author and voice for the "Theology of the Body Minutes" airing on Relevant Radio (West), St. Gabriel Radio, and Athens Catholic Radio. These reflections explain the truth and beauty of human sexuality in a way that youth and young adults can grasp and understand. For the past 8 years Klarissa has been working professionally in parish Youth and Young Adult Ministry in the Diocese of San Jose, and more recently she co-founded "Echoes of Worth", the largest Theology of the Body retreat for teens on the west coast. Klarissa's greatest joys are being a daughter of God, wife, and new mom!



Andrew Brown, Executive Director

Andrew is a Lay Ecclesial Minister and the Pastoral Associate at St. Lucy Parish in the Diocese of San Jose. He co-founded "Echoes of Worth" in 2015 and serves as its Executive Director. He's worked in youth ministry since 2003 and he travels internationally speaking to teenagers, young adults, and youth ministry leaders. He's a former Life Teen Area Contact and coordinated Steubenville NorCal Conference. He's completing his Master's in Theology. He is married to his preschool classmate, Mary Beth.



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