



# Youth and Young Adult Ministries

CONNECTING, EDUCATING, AND EMPOWERING  
THE NEXT GENERATION IN JESUS' NAME



Sisters and brothers,

I am overjoyed to announce that The Rev. Mitchell Bojarski will be joining Redeemer as our new Associate for Youth & Young Adults. His first Sunday with us will be January 21!

Fr. Mitch is a graduate of The Virginia Theological Seminary. He was ordained deacon in May 2008 and ordained priest in January 2009. He has served parishes and missions in the dioceses of Kentucky and San Diego, and was most recently Priest-in-Charge at Christ the King Episcopal Church in Alpine, CA. Fr. Mitch is married to Beth who serves as the Executive Director of Camp Stevens in Julian, CA, the diocesan camp and conference center for the dioceses of San Diego and Los Angeles. Fr. Mitch and Beth have two children; Eliot (9) who loves playing soccer and learning about nature and wild animals, and James (2) who loves riding his bike and singing songs.

I met Mitch in seminary, where he was my Greek T.A., and I have been learning from him ever since. He is

an excellent preacher and teacher, has a great sense of humor, he loves Jesus and the Church, and he is passionate in his care for people on the margins. One thing we all acknowledged when we were creating this position was how easy it is for young people to be marginalized in the Church. Redeemer has done magnificent work the past few years building a strong and dynamic ministry for the youngest members of our community, but our focused engagement with high schoolers and young adults has practically disappeared. It is our intention to correct that, and with Mitch on board, I believe we will. His presence, passion, and skill will connect, educate, and empower the next generation of Redeemer, and I'm beyond excited to welcome him to the team, and welcome his family to Cincinnati.

I want to thank our Youth & Young Adult Search Committee: Perry Drosos, Kyle Roberts, Mike Staffiera, and Elisa Timmerman. Under the guidance of Mike Krug, the Committee created goals and priorities, sorted through applications, undertook interviews, and worked tirelessly with me in this process of discernment. Their tough questions and generous hearts shaped the work we did, and their enthusiasm for Fr. Mitch helped guide this decision. I also want to thank all of you who have increased your giving, or made special gifts to enable us to create this position. We are still raising funds to make sure this program is funded for the next few years. If you have not given towards this endeavor, I encourage you to do so as you're able.

I also want to remind you that hiring a priest for Youth & Young Adults is not a magic solution: Fr. Mitch's arrival signals the end of our search, but the beginning of the real work of integrating people of all ages into the life of Redeemer. If there's one thing I know about this community, it's that you are up for this challenge. I can't wait to see who emerges to welcome and support Fr. Mitch in this essential work he's undertaking. If you have any questions about how you can help make this transition successful, please do not hesitate to contact me. I hope you will join me in welcoming the Bojarski family, in thanking God for bringing them our way, and in praying for them during this time of transition.

Your friend and brother in Christ Jesus,



Philip Hart DeVaul

