

Greetings Everyone!

My name is Jared Vandeway, and I'm happy to announce that I'm the new youth ministry coordinator for the Northside parishes of Spokane. It's an honor and a privilege to have an opportunity to serve the Catholic youth in the diocese of Spokane.

I moved to Spokane from western Washington, and my home parish is Saint Mary's in Anacortes. I'm a convert to the faith and received the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and first communion on Easter Vigil of 2022. After being fully immersed in the Holy Spirit on my personal Pentecost and having the graces of our Lord poured out upon, I discovered over the next few weeks that I've once again been given a purpose; that being to evangelize. I read in the Book of Acts 1: 8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (NASB) I pondered this passage for some time, and I took it to heart. After much prayer and guidance from the Holy Spirit, I felt inspired to move to Spokane. I was insistent on entering into the wilderness to preach the Gospel in one way or another, fulfilling Christ's final command before ascending. After several months and many discouraging tribulations, my testimony inspired the previous youth minister, JJ, to advocate for me and recommend me for the job.

How incredibly blessed I am to have this new found opportunity. The Catholic youth are arguably the most vital aspect of the Church in the modern secular age. Children are the future of our foundation as a religion and institution. One day, some of our Northside Catholic youth may become Brothers, Sisters, Fathers, and maybe even the Holy Father. It's crucial for me to encourage them to live out a healthy life of faith as they transfer into young adulthood.

I'm looking forward to ministering over the North Spokane youth; expect weekly youth groups for Middle School and High School during the school year with occasional seasonal events, including the annual Steubenville Conference and North Idaho Catholic Youth Camp for Middle Schoolers. Thank you and God bless!

- Jared Vandeway

“Dismas Michael”

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