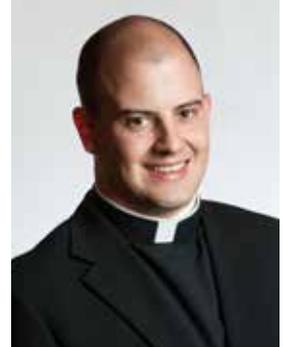


2015 SPEAKING OPPORTUNITIES

The Vocations Office is offering a variety of talks and seminars that your Youth Group or Young Adults may be interested in including in your programs for 2015.

Ordained a Priest in 2010 at the age of 26, Fr Pearce is one of the youngest priests in Victoria. With a background in youth ministry and having been involved with leadership and training of young people in a variety of Catholic settings for the past 14 years, he brings to his work a great deal of experience and passion. Along with his work for the Vocations office Fr Pearce is an assistant priest in a large Melbourne Parish, Chaplain to the St Vincent De Paul State Youth Team, a veteran of four World Youth Days and has recently returned from leading a group of Young Australians on the Camino de Santiago, an 800km pilgrimage on foot to the tomb of St James the Apostle in Spain.



Fr Nicholas Pearce
Assistant Vocations Director



Courageous Discipleship - Facing Big Decisions Head On **1.5 Hrs**

Utilising his recent experience of leading a group of young Catholics on the Camino and a brand new documentary which includes interviews with pilgrims and footage from his trip, this presentation helps young people to face the tough questions surrounding discipleship and decision-making head on. Ideal for 16-25 year-olds as they look towards life after school or university this session helps them to consider some of the big questions about faith, discipleship, vocation and making life choices based on their own values, in often challenging and difficult circumstances.

The students found it very informative and inspirational – especially the Camino Walk and the 10 lessons from your experience – REC.

We also enjoyed his recount of his Camino trip and the things he learned and realised during his pilgrimage. It definitely gave us plenty of food for thought – Youth Group Leader.

Tackling Tough Issues

50mins - 1.5hrs

Realising that it is often tough to tackle some of the 'hot button' issues with young people who come from a variety of backgrounds and levels of faith, Fr Pearce uses his own experience growing up in a similar environment to help young people look at some of the Church's teachings in a new light. He aims to shed light on these often confusing and complex issues and bring them into the greater context of Christian discipleship and decision making which can then be unpacked further by leaders in subsequent sessions.

Some hot button issues include:

- > Homosexuality and same-sex marriage
- > Love, marriage and sexuality
- > Why the Catholic Church?
- > Other issues as requested



Fantastic presentation dealing with a real hot button issue. Fr Nicholas is a fantastic presenter who knows his stuff and engages the audience very well – Conference Participant.

Hot Seat

50mins - 1.5hrs

Either as part of the Tackling Tough Issues workshop or as a stand-alone session, the Hot Seat workshop allows young people the opportunity to ask questions from the floor (or pre-submit via email), on any issue, giving them the chance to engage with 'The Church' in a way not always possible. Acknowledging that Parish Priests are often busy and there are various restraints on their time, this format allows young people to engage with the Church in a new and engaging manner.



"Stimulating, Refreshing and really making a difference" – Participant.

Vocations Forum

1.5 Hrs

The Vocations forum brings together men and women from different vocations in an interactive workshop that helps introduce young people to the idea of how all Christians are called to follow Jesus in both their baptismal vocation and then in a particular way. Designed particularly for younger audiences, this forum exposes them to the different vocations and how they are lived out in today's world.

It definitely makes hearing about 'vocations' easier coming from a young priest. We look forward to having the Vocations Office back to visit! – Youth Group Leader.

For more information or to make a booking for 2015 please contact:

Joan Clements

Catholic Vocations

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