

Christus Vivit Presentation for ACTRE Conference

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THANK YOU!



"Perhaps those of us who have a reasonably comfortable life don't know how to weep. Some realities in life are only seen with eyes cleansed by tears."



CHRISTUS VIVIT 76

POPE FRANCIS



"The Lord is calling us to **enkindle stars** in the night of other young people."



CHRISTUS VIVIT 15

POPE FRANCIS



"The very first words that I would like to say to every young Christian are these: **Christ is alive and he wants you to be alive**"



CHRISTUS VIVIT 1

POPE FRANCIS



"If you want to go fast, walk by yourself. **If you want to go far, walk with others.**"

- AN AFRICAN PROVERB



CHRISTUS VIVIT 167

POPE FRANCIS



Listening, 2016 - 2018

Synod, October 2018

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"Particular gratitude is due for the generous commitment of countless lay persons, consecrated men and women, priests and bishops who daily devote themselves with integrity and dedication to the service of the young. **Their efforts are like a great forest that quietly grows.**"

CHRISTUS VIVIT 99



"The very first words
that I would like to say
to every young
Christian are these:
**Christ is alive and he
wants you to be alive"**



CHRISTUS VIVIT 1

POPE FRANCIS



Chapter 1

A fabulous teaching resource focused on the Old Testament – all the scripture references are right there, together with a little thumbnail about the character.

It's a wonderful chapter to focus some Bible discussions with young people.



Chapter 2

First section is a reflection on youth, with the compass point as Jesus' own youth.

An interesting and brilliant chapter to give to a group of older students, to see what they take from it.



Chapter 2; Second section

Focuses on Mary, who said "Yes" to God when she was very young, and on a whole range of young Saints.

These are wonderful models to discuss with young people, and this part of Chapter 2 is another great resource for your RE Team.



"Young people... are meant to dream great things, to seek vast horizons, to aim higher, to take on the world, and to offer the best of themselves to the building of something better"



CHRISTUS VIVIT 15

POPE FRANCIS



"Every young person who feels called to a mission in this world is invited to hear the Father speaking within his or her heart, **"You are my beloved child"**"



CHRISTUS VIVIT 25

POPE FRANCIS



"Jesus does not teach you,
young people, from afar or
without, but from within your
very youth, a youth he shares
with you.

**It is very important for you to
contemplate the young Jesus as
presented in the Gospels,
for he was truly
one of you."**



CHRISTUS VIVIT 35

POPE FRANCIS



"The Lord is calling us to **enkindle stars** in the night of other young people."



CHRISTUS VIVIT 33

POPE FRANCIS



"A Church always on the defensive, which loses her humility and stops listening to others, which leaves no room for questions, loses her youth and turns into a museum. How, then, will she be able to respond to the dreams of young people?"

CHRISTUS VIVIT 41



"Perhaps those of us who have a reasonably comfortable life don't know how to weep. Some realities in life are only seen with eyes cleansed by tears."



CHRISTUS VIVIT 76

POPE FRANCIS



"At times the hurt felt by
some young people is
heartrending, a pain too deep
for words.

They can only tell God how
much they are suffering, and
how hard it is for them to
keep going, since they no
longer believe
in anyone."



CHRISTUS VIVIT 77

POPE FRANCIS



"May all young people who are suffering feel the closeness of a Christian community that can reflect these words by its actions, its embrace and its concrete help."

CHRISTUS VIVIT 77



"Everyone is born as an original, but many people end up dying as photocopies. Don't let that happen to you."

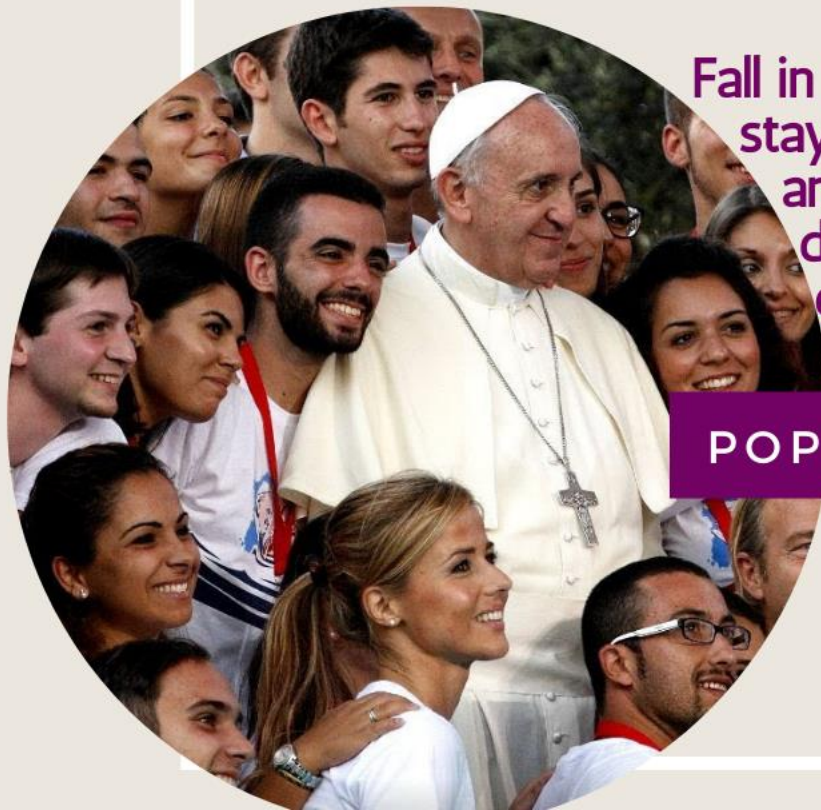


CHRISTUS VIVIT 106

BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS



"Nothing is more practical than finding God, than falling in love in a quite absolute, final way. What you are in love with, what seizes your imagination, will affect everything. **It will decide what will get you out of bed in the morning**, what you do with your evenings, **how you spend your weekends**, what you read, whom you know, **what breaks your heart**, and **what amazes you with joy and gratitude.**



**Fall in love,
stay in love,
and it will
decide
everything"**

CHRISTUS VIVIT 136

POPE FRANCIS



"Keep following your hopes
and dreams ... avoid the
paralysis of the living dead
who have no life because
they are afraid to take risks,
to make mistakes, or to
persevere in their
commitments."



CHRISTUS VIVIT 142

POPE FRANCIS



"Dear young people, make the most of these years of your youth ... don't confuse happiness with an armchair or live your life from behind a screen ... please, don't take early retirement"



CHRISTUS VIVIT 143

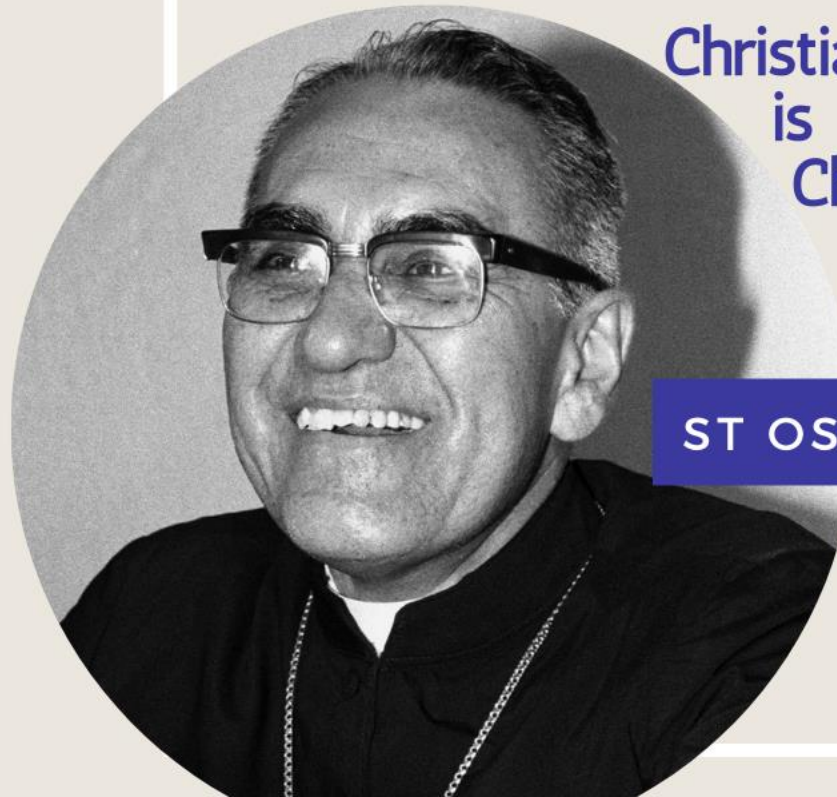
POPE FRANCIS



"Christianity is not a collection of truths to be believed, rules to be followed, or prohibitions. Seen that way it puts us off.

Christianity is a person who loved me immensely, who demands and asks for my love.

**Christianity
is
Christ."**



CHRISTUS VIVIT 156

ST OSCAR ROMERO



"If you want to go
fast, walk by yourself.
**If you want to go far,
walk with others."**

- AN AFRICAN PROVERB



CHRISTUS VIVIT 167

POPE FRANCIS



"Young friends, don't wait
until tomorrow to
contribute your energy,
your audacity and your
creativity to changing
our world...
You are the now of God."



CHRISTUS VIVIT 178

POPE FRANCIS



"What can we elderly persons give to the young? We can remind today's young people, who have their own blend of heroic ambitions, that a life without love is an arid life. What can we tell them? We can tell fearful young people that anxiety about the future can be overcome. What can we teach them? We can teach those young people, sometimes so focused on themselves, that there is more joy in giving than receiving, and that love is not only shown in words, but in actions."

CHRISTUS VIVIT 197



Chapter 7

"Young people themselves are the agents of youth ministry."

CHRISTUS VIVIT 203



"Catholic schools remain essential places for the evangelisation of the young."

CHRISTUS VIVIT 222



But [for many young people there is] "an insurmountable disconnect between what they were taught and the way in which they live."

[Young people told the Synod] "The way they were instructed in religious and moral values did not prepare them to uphold those values in a world that holds them up to ridicule, nor did they learn ways of praying and practicing the faith that can be easily sustained amidst the fast pace of today's society."

CHRISTUS VIVIT 221



Chapter 7

"Young people themselves are the agents of youth ministry."

CHRISTUS VIVIT 203



Pope Francis and the synod urge us:
"Leave young people free to develop new approaches with
creativity and a certain audacity."

"Help young people to use their insight, ingenuity and
knowledge to address the issues and concerns of other
young people **in their own language.**"

CHRISTUS VIVIT 203



Pope Francis and the Synod say:

"Education makes us raise questions, keeps us from being anaesthetised by banality, and impels us to pursue meaning in life."

CHRISTUS VIVIT 223



"Rather than being concerned with trying to communicate a great deal of doctrine, let us first try to awaken and consolidate the great experiences that sustain the Christian life. In the words of Roman Guardini, 'when we experience a great love, everything else becomes part of it.'"

CHRISTUS VIVIT 212



"In some places it happens that young people are helped to have a powerful experience of God, an encounter with Jesus that touched their hearts, and the only follow up to this is a series of "formation" meetings featuring talks about doctrinal and moral issues ... as a result many young people get bored, they lose the fire of their encounter with Christ and the joy of following him."

CHRISTUS VIVIT 212



"Youth ministry should always include occasions for renewing and deepening our personal experience of the love of God and the living Christ."

CHRISTUS VIVIT 214



Imagine that the first half term of year 7 contained no formal RE classes at all, but instead young people were helped to discover the person of Jesus Christ.

They were offered different styles of prayer. They were helped to discover some of the Bible passages that most resonated for them, and to engage in acts of service that helped them to see what a living faith actually looks and feels like.

How different would that be to what you do now, at the start of Year 7?



Recognising young people who
are orphans of the modern world,
and who need a home.



"The qualities of such a mentor include:
Being a faithful Christian who engages with the Church and with the world.
Someone who constantly seeks holiness.
Someone who is a confidant without judgement.
Someone who actively listens to the needs of young people and responds in kind.
Someone deeply loving and self-aware.
Someone who recognises his or her limits and knows the joys and sorrows of the spiritual journey.

CHRISTUS VIVIT 246



An especially important quality in mentors is the acknowledgement of their own humanity – the fact they are human beings who make mistakes, not perfect people but forgiven sinners. ... Mentors should not lead young people so they are simply passive followers, but walk alongside them, allowing them to be active participants in the journey. ...

They should believe wholeheartedly in the young person's ability to participate in the life of the Church ... and therefore nurture the seeds of faith in young people without expecting to see immediately the fruits of the work of the Holy Spirit."

CHRISTUS VIVIT 246



"The life that Jesus gives us is a love story ... Life is not a salvation up "in the cloud" waiting to be downloaded, a new "app" to be discovered, or a technique of mental self improvement. Still less is life a "tutorial" for finding out the latest news.

The salvation that God offers us is an invitation to be part of a love story."



CHRISTUS VIVIT 252

POPE FRANCIS



To discover our vocation, says Pope Francis, is about "finding our true selves in the light of God and letting our lives flourish and bear fruit.

...Your vocation inspires you to bring out the best in yourself for the glory of God and the good of others."

CHRISTUS VIVIT 257



"I am asking you to rebel against this culture that sees everything as temporary and that ultimately believes you are incapable of responsibility, incapable of true love.

I have great confidence in you and for this reason I urge you to opt for marriage."

CHRISTUS VIVIT 264



"Jesus is walking in our midst, as he did in Galilee. He walks through our streets and he quietly stops and looks into our eyes ... **seek out that calm and quiet that enable you to reflect, pray, look more clearly at the world around you** and then, with Jesus, come to recognise the vocation that is yours in this world."

CHRISTUS VIVIT 277

POPE FRANCIS



Regarding discernment, the Pope says we are:

"immersed in a culture of zapping ... we navigate simultaneously on two or more screens ... without discernment we can easily become prey to every passing trend."

CHRISTUS VIVIT 279



"Let me remind you of **the most important question of all.**
So often in life we waste time
asking ourselves,
'Who am I?'
You can keep asking 'Who am
I?' for the rest of your lives.
But the real question is,
'For whom am I?'"



CHRISTUS VIVIT 286

POPE FRANCIS



**"Dear young people, my joyful hope is to see you
keep running the race before you,
outstripping all those who are slow or fearful.**

Keep running, attracted by the face of Christ whom
we love so much, whom we adore in the Holy
Eucharist and acknowledge in the flesh of our
suffering brothers and sisters.
May the Holy Spirit urge you on as you run this
race.

The Church needs your momentum, your intuitions,
your faith. We need them!

**And when you arrive
where we have not
yet reached, have
the patience to
wait for us."**



CHRISTUS VIVIT 299

POPE FRANCIS

