

SAINT MEINRAD YOUNG ADULT INITIATIVE

koi • no • ni • a

*a Christ-like approach to
community and hospitality*

2024 SPRING GATHERING

what is koinonia?

COMMUNION OR FELLOWSHIP

SOLIDARITY

INTIMACY

“BEING IN SYNC”

“TO SHARE”

“TO HAVE IN COMMON”



*“They devoted themselves to the teaching
of the apostles and to the communal life
[koinonia], to the breaking of the bread
and to the prayers.”*

*“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of
God, and the communion [koinonia] of the
Holy Spirit be with all of you.”*

2 CORINTHIANS 13:13

*“...what we have seen and heard we proclaim now
to you, so that you too may have fellowship
[koinonia] with us; for our fellowship
[koinonia] is with the Father and with his Son,
Jesus Christ.”*



koinonia is both
vertical
and
horizontal

koinonia is a *relationship*.

WE ARE CREATED TO BE
IN RELATIONSHIP WITH
GOD AND OTHERS

BEING IN RELATIONSHIP
REQUIRES SOMETHING
FROM US

we are created for koinonia

COMMUNION [KOINONIA] IS
IN OUR NATURE.

*“Then God said: Let us make human
beings in our image, after our likeness.”
Genesis 1:26*



we are created for koinonia

WE ARE NOT MEANT TO GO
THROUGH LIFE ALONE.

*“The LORD God said: It is not good for
the man to be alone. I will make a helper
suited to him.”*

Genesis 2:18



we are created for koinonia

GOD CALLS US TO BE ONE.

“...that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us...And I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may be brought to perfection as one...” from John 17:20-22



we are created for koinonia

WE ARE ON MISSION /
PILGRIMAGE TOGETHER.

“After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others whom he sent ahead of him in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit.” Luke 10:1

*“You have made us for yourself O Lord and our heart is restless until it rests in you.”
Saint Augustine*



we are created for koinonia

WE ARE SAVED TOGETHER.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.” John 3:16



koinonia in our parishes



koinonia in our parishes

OUR PARISHES, WHERE WE PARTICIPATE IN THE EUCHARISTIC LITURGY, IS A FORETASTE OF HEAVEN.

IT IS THE KIND OF COMMUNITY WE ARE CREATED FOR.



koinonia in our parishes

What matters above all is that, when the faithful assemble in the same place, they are the "living stones," gathered to be "built into a spiritual house." For the Body of the risen Christ is the spiritual temple from which the source of living water springs forth: incorporated into Christ by the Holy Spirit, "we are the temple of the living God." CCC 1179



koinonia in our parishes

PARTICIPATION IN THE
SACRAMENTS AND PARISH
COMMUNITY...

- BRINGS UNITY
- ORDERS RELATIONSHIPS
- SANCTIFIES US
- TRANSFORMS US
- PREPARES US FOR HEAVEN



share at your table...

When have you experienced community?

What made that experience meaningful?

What is resonating with you from this presentation?

Where is koinonia already present in your parish?

Where do you notice a lack of koinonia —
an opportunity for growth?

what is our *response*?



what is our response?

RECOGNIZE THE DIGNITY OF
OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS
AND OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO
LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

“I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another.” John 13:34



what is our response?

RECOGNIZE THAT THE CALL IS
FOR US, NOW.

*Each one of us has a role to play in the
culture of our communities.*

Shared mission, shared work



what is our response?

CONSIDER THE BIG PICTURE,
THE WHOLE COMMUNITY.

*“If there is any encouragement in Christ,
any solace in love, any participation in the
Spirit, any compassion and mercy, complete
my joy by being of the same mind, with the
same love, united in heart, thinking one
thing.” Philippians 2:1-2*



what is our response?

EXPAND OUR IDEA OF YOUNG
ADULT COMMUNITY OR MINISTRY
WITH YOUNG ADULTS

Are we inviting young adults into parish life?

What is happening outside the parish walls?

Do we encourage intergenerational community?

*Do we invite participation from the whole
community?*



what is our response?

PRESENCE

As members of our community, we must be present to one another and open to encounter.

Stop. Put down roots.



what is our response?

PARTICIPATION

Gifts are given to us by God for the building up of community.

To live our call to communion — koinonia — we must move from consumer to disciple.



share at your table...

How can community [koinonia] be incorporated into your parish on Sunday and during events, programs, etc.?

Share what is working in your own parish.

How can we encourage young adults to move from consumership to discipleship?

How can we encourage our parishioners to see their responsibility as ministers to one another?



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YOUNG ADULT INITIATIVE