

***Encountering Christ* to bolster network for young adult groups**



Our diocese is blessed to have grassroots groups of young adults who gather together in fellowship, outside of the parish setting, to grow in their faith.

The post-college years are often a critical period in a person's faith, but a lack of resources has limited the Young Adult Ministry office from contributing in a meaningful way to these independent groups. Parishes and organizations currently focusing on ministering to this demographic often duplicate their efforts and outreach, according to Alison Tate, director of Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministry.

Alison said \$2 million from *Encountering Christ* will be directed toward a reference network of young adult ministry programs and parish ministers. "The network is a place for parishes to receive experience and resources to apply in their own settings," she said.

The diocese has a large number of Catholics in their 20s and 30s, and expanding efforts to reach them and providing resources directly to parishes will fill a critical gap in ministry for young adults between youth ministry and family life.