Free Resources



A Report on American Catholic Religious Parenting

By Barkus and Smith (2017)

Examine the crucial role of parents in shaping the religious commitment of their children. In this free report: Learn about the drift of American Catholic youth away from the Church. Explore the different ways that parents are passing on their religious heritage. Find out what works and what doesn't when it comes to educating Catholic youth. It is a must-read for pastors, parish staff and parents who are concerned about the passing of Catholicism to the next generation.

Highlights: A quick read with lots of practical applications.

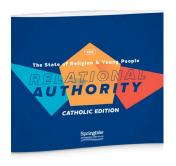


Ordination Class of 2020 CARA Report

By CARA

Each year the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) releases a report about the class of men ordained to the priesthood that year.

Highlights: Insights into what goes into a vocation—culture, education and youth ministry experience.

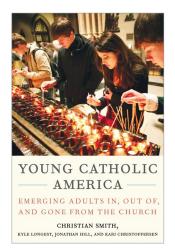


The State of Religion and Young People: Relational Authority Catholic Edition

By Springtide Institute (2021)

This special Catholic Edition of The State of Religio n & Young People unpacks the research on Catholic young people's religious lives –while also tending to the greater theological, experiential and pastoral implications that the research shows.

Books

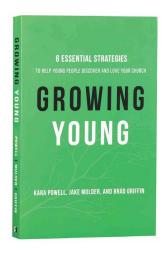


Young Catholic America: Emerging Adults In, Out of, and Gone from the Church

By Christian Smith, et al (2014)

Young Catholic America, the latest book based on the groundbreaking National Study of Youth and Religion, explores a crucial stage in the life of Catholics. Drawing on in-depth surveys and interviews of Catholics and ex-Catholics ages 18 to 23—a demographic commonly known as early "emerging adulthood"—leading sociologist Christian Smith and his colleagues offer a wealth of insight into the wide variety of religious practices and beliefs among young Catholics today, the early influences and life-altering events that lead them to embrace the Church or abandon it, and how being Catholic affects them as they become full-fledged adults.

Highlights: Chapter 1: Recent History of Catholicism in America. Chapter 5: Religious Trajectories from Teenage Years into Emerging Adulthood. Chapter 7: Catholic High School and Religiousness in Emerging Adulthood.

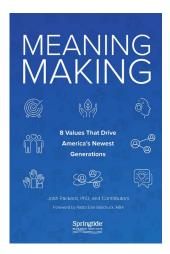


Growing Young: Six Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love your Church

By Powell, Mulder and Griffin (2016)

Across the United States, churches are losing both members and vitality as increasing numbers of young people disengage. Based on groundbreaking research with over 250 of the nation's leading congregations, Growing Young provides a strategy any church can use to involve and retain teenagers and young adults. It profiles innovative churches that are engaging 15 to 29 year-olds and as a result are growing—spiritually, emotionally, missionally and numerically.

Highlights: Shows how focusing on the young people in a parish, in an intentional way, can revive the entire parish.



Meaning Making: 8 Values that Drive America's Newest Generations

By Springtide Institute (2020)

Our investigation into the values and characteristics that young people, ages 13 to 25, practice and uphold. Each chapter focuses on a different value: Accountable, Inclusive, Authentic, Welcoming, Impactful, Relational, Growthful and Meaningful. We'll help you understand young people's core values and why they should matter to your organization.

Highlights: The values that Gen Z holds sacred. Does your ministry reflect them?



Gen Z: The Culture, Beliefs and Motivations Shaping the Next Generation

By Barna Group (2018)

Barna's most comprehensive research on the perceptions, experiences, and motivations of 13 to 18 year-olds. Based on interviews and analysis, this report is our best thinking thus far on the worldview of teens in the next, next generation.

Also included: Contributions from ministry leaders and educators, offering readers multiple facets of this research. Gen Z is a must-read for pastors, teachers, and parents as they help tomorrow's Christian leaders grow.