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Welcome to Alive in You Outreach

If this is your first Alive in You resource, Welcome! As youth ministers, we understand how busy your lives are, and we are excited to share this resource with you so you can spend less time planning and more time on relational ministry. Planning a service day can be intimidating: if you are struggling with finding organizations for your teens to volunteer with or have questions throughout the process, reach out to Jasmyn Joubert (jasmyn@aiyoutreach.org). Our prayers are with you and your teens!

HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE:

This resource is designed to be adapted to fit your needs. There are two sessions with witness talk guides. We encourage you to meet with the person who will give each witness talk (this could be adult volunteers, teens, etc) to go over the guide for their talk and assist them in their preparation. Participant Journals can be given to teens in the morning so they can journal throughout all of the activities that day. We have created a Spotify playlist with worship songs that align with the theme. If you have a worship leader for the event, they can use this as a reference for which songs to play. If you do not have a worship leader, we encourage playing these songs throughout the day. You can search Spotify for the playlist "Alive in You Magnify" (username: Alive in You Camps).

MAGNIFY:

This service day focuses on the Blessed Mother. Teens will look at how Mary not only praised the Lord, but also magnified Him with all of her actions. Through the example of Mary, teens will see how they too can magnify the Lord by sharing in His work of love and charity.



SAMPLE SERVICE DAY SCHEDULE:

*Feel free to adjust the schedule to meet the needs of your group.

*Our sample service day schedule is set up as a one day service event. If you would like this to be a weekend retreat, reach out to us and we can help you adjust it and give additional content.

*If you are hosting a Saturday service day, consider adjusting the schedule to include anticipated Mass.

8:00 am	Check-In
8:15 am	Opening Prayer, Brief Welcome and Reminders for Mass
8:30 am	Mass
9:15 am	Snack, Ice Breaker Game
9:40 am	Session 1 Witness Talk
10:00 am	Work Project Instructions, Prayer, Depart for Worksites
10:15 am	Arrive at Work Project Location
	*Onsite lunch around 11:30am or 12:00pm.
2:15 pm	Wrap Up Work Projects and Return
	*If you have multiple service projects and a group arrives early, have a
	transition project: writing letters for assisted living residents,
	organizing the youth room, writing affirmation notes, etc.
2:30 pm	Small Group Reflection Time
	*Give them time with the journal to reflect on their day; then go through
	the questions and give them time to share their experiences of the day.
	*Optional: if you have more than one small group, have a member of
	each small group share with the large group at the end of this time.
3:00 pm	Session 2 Witness Talk
3:15 pm	Adoration
3:45 pm	Closing Prayer and Wrap Up
4:00 pm	Teens Depart

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SUPPLY LIST:

- Medical/permission forms for each teen
- AV (if using slides/videos throughout)
 - Projector
 - Screen
 - Sound System
 - HDMI cables
 - Computer
- Participant Journals and Pens
- First Aid Kit
- Mass and Adoration Supplies:
 - Altar
 - Altar Cloth
 - Candles
 - Lighter
 - Monstrance
 - Lectionary
 - Missal
 - Altar crucifix
 - Paten and Chalice
 - Water and Wine Cruets
 - Bowl (to wash hands)
 - Purificators
 - Corporal
- Other Supplies:



WITNESS TALK GUIDE:

Session 1 Witness:

The goal of this witness talk is to introduce how Mary magnifies the Lord with her life and how we are called to do the same. This talk will introduce everyone to a young girl around their age who with her "yes" became Theotokos ("Mother of God").

Talking Points:

- 1. Today we will dive into the life of Mary, Theotokos ("Mother of God"). We reflect on her yes to God. How does this relate to the way that the teens said yes to serving their community today?
- 2. Mary "magnified" the Lord with her life. What does this mean? Share how you have magnified the Lord in your life. Are there times that you were magnifying something else? What are other ways young people can magnify the Lord?
- 3. How can the service they do today magnify the Lord?
- 4. Share a goal that you have for the teens today.

References to Guide You:

- "In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!" Luke 1:26-28
- "Being obedient (Mary) became the cause of salvation for herself and for the whole human race" St. Irenaeus
- The Magnificat, Luke 1:46-55

Prayer:

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; Because He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaid; for behold, henceforth all generations shall call me blessed; Because He who is mighty has done great things for me, and Holy is His Name; And His mercy is from generation to generation on those who fear Him." -The Magnificat



WITNESS TALK GUIDE:

Session 2 Witness:

Mary is the perfect model of what it means to be a Christian in her following of Christ and belief in Him. The goal of this talk is to help the teens see how Mary can be an intercessor in our own commitment to following her Son.

Talking Points:

- 1. At the wedding at Cana, Mary encourages those present to do as Jesus says, and thus His public ministry begins with His first miracle. Mary's final words in Scripture, "do whatever he tells you" still ring true today as a guide for our lives.
- 2. What is the most challenging thing about following God as a young person today?
- 3. It often seems simpler/more rewarding to do your own will rather than the Lord's will. Mary models for us and instructs us to follow the Lord's desire for our lives. How can we follow Mary's example in our daily lives and in big decisions?
- 4. Share a time when you followed the Lord's will. Share the fruits of that experience.
- 5. How can the teens continue their service and self-sacrifice as Mary models after this service day? Offer empowerment and guidance.

References to Guide You:

- See John 2:1-12, Wedding at Cana, particular Mary's guidance to the servants and to us to "do whatever he tells you".
- "[Mary's] example of faithful perseverance in doing the will of God and her heavenly reward are a source of courage and hope for all of us." Pope Benedict XVI
- "Mary was the first person to take the 'way' to enter the Kingdom of God that Christ opened, a way which is accessible to the humble, to all who trust in the word of God and endeavor to put it into practice." Pope Benedict XVI
- "...From the Church, Christians learn the example of holiness and recognize its model and source in the all-holy Virgin Mary.." CCC 230

Prayer:

God, please protect all of us as we leave this service day. I pray that what I have learned today about Mary will strengthen my belief and encourage me to magnify You in all I do. Allow my light to inspire others to seek You. I pray that my experience today is just the beginning and that I will continue to be active in my Church community and lead others to You by my service and love. Amen.



MAGNIFY SERVICE DAY

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; Because He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaid; for behold, henceforth all generations shall call me blessed; Because He who is mighty has done great things for me, and Holy is His Name; And His mercy is from generation to generation on those who fear Him. "The Magnificat

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

Mary "Magnified" the Lord with her life. How have you magnified the Lord with your life?

How did you magnify the Lord during your service today? What was that experience like?

Is there an area of your life where you need to say yes to God? What is holding you back?

Mary's life included great joy and great sorrow, yet she clung to Jesus through it all. What are the greatest joys and sorrows you have experienced? In what ways do you see God's presence in these moments?

What gifts and talents do you have that can serve your Church community?

DAILY THEME SONG: "IN YOUR LIGHT" BY JOHN FINCH

"Mary was the first person to take the 'way' to enter the Kingdom of God that Christ opened, a way which is accessible to the humble, to all who trust in the word of God and endeavor to put it into practice." Pope Benedict XVI

"The Virgin Mary is the supreme model of this faith, for she believed that "nothing will be impossible with God", and was able to magnify the Lord: 'For he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.'" CCC 237

"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." Ephesians 5:1

