

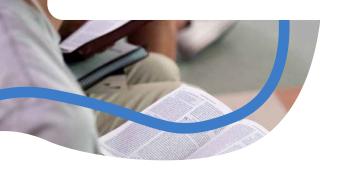
# PREPARING FOR MISSION

Some of our missionaries share how God has worked in them during Training... The Return of Retreat Ministry. MEETING

Fall 2022

### A GLIMPSE INTO **NET Training**

Ever wondered how we prepare our missionaries for an intense year on the road doing ministry? NET's annual training is five weeks of fellowship and intentional formation. Here's what a few of this year's missionaries had to say about their experiences so far!



#### What's your experience of training been so far?

Fall training has been a really profound experience. It's been great to spend so much time with young Catholics the same age as me, and we're all on the same mission to proclaim the good news to young people. Everyone has been so friendly, so joyful, it's been a really positive experience. And also, it's been great to come back to personal prayer and come to know Jesus more through that. - Aoife Kiely

It's been exhausting in some sense, but through that

exhaustion a lot of growth. I keep reminding myself that we're only two weeks in, and I'm already excited for how much growth has happened and how much is yet to come. - Jacob Kilpatrick

Fall training has been so fruitful. The opportunity to get to know other Christ-like youth and leaders, and the opportunity to learn how to be more of a leader and bring others to Christ has been phenomenal. And it's been a really good personal experience too, especially having adoration and daily mass. I have the blessing of being able to lead music for mass every once in a while which is really really nice. The people here are just amazing, the best people ever. - Lucas Ducharme

#### How have you experienced transformation?

I think prayer. Being able to come back to prayer has been a big transformation for me, because this past year I'd grown somewhat distant from God and I didn't prav much personally. But, being able to make more time for prayer in my day to day life and being able to develop a personal relationship with Jesus has been transformative. I would say praise and worship has been able to help this as well, being able to use music to praise God and come closer to Him. I never experienced praise and worship like this before. It's very different, but it's so amazing and just so full of the Holy Spirit as well. It's been great. - Aoife Kiely

I've experienced how to go deeper in my prayer life with God, and how to really

be rooted in my faith and believing that God is there, even if I don't always feel it all the time. Because faith isn't about emotions. God so loves that I show up to prayer every day, and loves that I show up to mass. What's changed for me is the accountability of doing it each day. Having that set time in my schedule. Sometimes I would go a couple days without praying before NET. in the summers and things, so having the set time to pray each day has been super helpful to have that accountability. - Anna Gras

I think God's just trying to turn me into more of a leader, because in a group of people I'm usually not the leader, but I feel like He's trying to transform me in a way where I can be a leader and can lead youth and others closer to Him. There's nothing wrong with being someone on the back-burner, but I think He's



trying to move me to try new things - to step out of my comfort zone and do it for Him. It's been really beneficial to step out of my comfort zone in many ways - even in the ways that I praise during praise and worship. - Lucas Ducharme

#### What's been a highlight of training so far?

The highlight of training for me has been praise and worship. It's been great to use our musical gifts and talents to praise Him and give our talents back to God. And also being able to lead our other missionaries and people in prayer and using our music to praise God and bring people to prayer, that's been really powerful. - Aoife Kiely

A real highlight for me has been one night we did adoration, and we walked the path around the camp. The priest was walking with the monstrance and we were all walking behind him, and we were all singing and praising and it was the most beautiful thing ever. I didn't even understand the words that I was singing, I just knew the syllables, I was learning as we went and by the end I think I almost had it all memorized. It was really cool, hearing everyone else sing too, it was beautiful. It was one of the most beautiful sounds I've ever heard in my life. - Lucas Ducharme

Small group! Just sharing with the other girls in my small group and just realizing that all of us are on this journey together. I think coming into NET I had a lot of imposter syndrome, where you feel like everyone else is holier than you are, and I think I can't be a missionary or I can't do prayer because I'm not perfect and everyone else is so much farther along in their faith than I am. And small group has been so good to see that we all have struggles in our life, and we're all just trying to pursue God and bring Christ into the world and do the best we can with our time here on earth, and even though we fall short at times we keep trying - because that's what a saint is, a sinner who keeps trying. - Anna Gras

#### What's been your experience of community?

I've felt so welcomed and appreciated and loved by everyone here, I can just be myself and it doesn't matter. You bring what you've got to the table and that's what everyone else here does. So many varying personalities, and every single one of these personalities is accepted by every single person here. - Lucas Ducharme

Everybody's been so wonderful. We're all working towards the God goal - we all want to be closer to God and in doing so we're getting closer to each other. The brotherhood's been awesome too. It's really inspiring to see other people journeying alongside me trying to be better, trying to do better. It's been awesome. - Jacob Kilpatrick

I've been surprised by the openness and vulnerability that my small group and I were able to have with one another. And everyone here has been so kind and loving. Coming into it, I didn't really think that I was going to open up so much, but everyone has been so supportive and so great, just really focusing on our identities of being sons or daughters of Christ. It's been really great to help us so that when we're on the road and things get tough we remember that we're loved by Him and that He's our number one priority and that's why we're doing NET because we want to share that with others. - Anna Gras

### 2022-23 NET Canada Teams

We have fewer teams this year than we've grown accustomed to. We are so grateful, however, for each one of the amazing missionaries that we do have. We're so blessed by the courageous yes they've each given to serve. God is leading the ministry in exciting directions, and we're looking forward to seeing what His plans are for this year and beyond!





Discipleship Team

**Back (L-R): Thomas Corrigan** (Fort Saskatchewan, AB), **Lucas Ducharme** (Zurich, ON)

Front (L-R): Marie Levesque (Saskatoon, SK), Anna Gras (Stratford, ON), Hailey Kotyk (Drayton Valley, AB) **Q LETHBRIDGE, ALBERTA** Discipleship Team

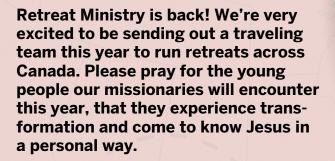
Back (L-R): Jacob Kilpatrick (Kingston, ON), Victoria Vandermeer (Woodstock, ON), Cameron Scheiman (Ottawa, ON)

**Front (L-R): Grace Foy** (CO. Donegal, Ireland, **Stefania Matuszewska** (Ottawa, ON)



## RETREAT MINISTRY across CANADA

**Q** TRAVELLING RETREAT TEAM



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Back (L-R): Adam Godin (Westlock, AB), Sabin James (Windsor, ON), Chris Pettapiece (Ottawa, ON), Jean-François Dacquay (Ottawa, ON)

Front (L-R): Estelle Grison (Vaulx-Milieu, France), Amy Gras (St. Mary's, ON), Aoife Kiely (CO. Cork, Ireland)

## YOUTH MINISTRY

LISTEN NOW!

### SEASON 2 IS HERE!

We're back! We invite you to join us as we continue to discuss topics to help you journey with youth in your life! You can listen on our website, youtube, or any podcast service of your choice!

NET Canada relies on your generosity. In addition to giving a year of their lives, team members are asked to raise a portion of the cost for their mission year. So far, the missionaries have only reached 65% of this year's goal. Will you join them in the critical work of bringing youth to Christ across the country?



\$87,500

Total Raised: \$113,000

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