

A scenic view of a forest path leading to mountains. The path is made of dirt and rocks, and is surrounded by tall evergreen trees. In the distance, there are mountains with some snow. The sky is blue with some clouds.

Spring 2026
NET
CANADA

“By our third small group, she told me something I’ll never forget...” (Page 5)

**“I stand at the
door and knock”**

It's not enough to hear about Jesus.
Youth need to respond to His invitation. (Page 2)

Respond to...



Did you know that NET Canada has a vision statement? It may sound ambitious, but we send missionaries out so that “every young Catholic in Canada would have an opportunity to hear about, respond to, and live for Jesus Christ.” It’s why we exist, and what it would look like if our mission were to be perfectly accomplished.

We call it our vision statement because whenever a NET missionary encounters a youth on retreat or in ministry, the vision is always for that youth to have an opportunity to hear about Jesus and, ultimately, respond to His invitation. That’s what we’re always working towards.

The love of Christ is always an open invitation.

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any one hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him.”
Revelation 3:20

Jesus is always knocking. He is always initiating deeper intimacy with us, but He also won’t ever force us into a relationship with Him. It’s an invitation, a knock on the door, and the choice is always ours to open that door or not.

It’s not enough for youth to just hear about Jesus. So many of us have heard so much about Jesus. We went to church and maybe even had religion classes at school. Hearing about Jesus is important, but it can only go so far. It’s the first step, but it can’t be the only step. After hearing about Jesus, the next step needs to be some sort of response. We need to hear Jesus knocking, open the door, and say “Yes, Jesus, I will let you in.”

Every NET retreat or ministry event, after kerygmatic proclamation and personal testimony by the missionaries, contains a time of prayer. During this time, we invite youth to sit and be still, even if it’s just for a few minutes, and listen for that knocking. Then, we impress upon them the importance of responding to that knock.



Our missionaries then take some time, and, when numbers allow, go one by one to the youth that they have gotten to know individually through times of small group and intentional investment, and offer to walk them through a prayer of commitment to Jesus. Either out loud, or in the silence of their hearts, many youth accept that offer and take that necessary first step to committing themselves to a life with the Lord.

This moment is never the end of the story of a person's faith journey, but it's a real beginning. Please join us in praying for the thousands of Canadian youth who have already taken this hugely important step during the 2025-2026 mission year.

We invite you to pray the prayer of commitment to Christ alongside the youth who are doing so. Even if you have done so countless times, re-committing ourselves to **Jesus is always fruitful.**

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***This article is part 3 of a series. Check out our winter newsletter to read about how missionaries give youth an opportunity to hear about Christ, or tune in in the summer to hear about the next step - encouraging youth to live for Him!**

Prayer of Commitment

Continued from
"Respond to"
Series

Dear God

I believe that you **know** me and **love me**.
I have not always loved You back,
and have **turned away** from You
through my sins and mistakes.

Thank you for coming to save me
through Jesus' death on the cross.
Today I **open my heart** to you and
I accept the gift of your love.

I want to know You more.
I want to live my life for You -
with **you at the center**.

Please lead me every day and help
me **choose you** above all else and
love my neighbour as myself.

Amen.

Thousands of young people are graduating high school
having never been told that their Father in Heaven loves
them and wants a relationship with them.

You can tell them!

Are you 18-30? Interested in sharing your
faith with youth and young people?
Become a missionary with NET Canada!



Want more
info?

Text us! 613-292-9991

Mission Moments

“In October 2025, a NET team came to my city for ten days of retreats in schools and parishes. In addition, my family and I hosted three members in our home, and their mere presence was a true source of inspiration and joy. We were fortunate to experience a personal and authentic side of the team. The first time I saw one of their retreats... I was deeply moved by their testimonies and their clear way of explaining God’s love. One of the most striking testimonies for me was that of a young missionary who explained how she had tried to change who she was in order to be accepted, before discovering that the light she was seeking was actually that of Jesus. Her words resonated with me and showed me that faith can truly transform a life. Their visit left a lasting impact. Their joy, their testimonies, and their vibrant faith awakened courage within me. It wasn’t just a visit, but an encounter that continues to bear fruit in my life.” - Taken from a blog post written by a young girl about her experience with a NET team this year

“I had a small group of seventh, ninth, and tenth grade girls at the retreat. During our first small group, I shared the metaphor of the bridge, how God is on one side and we’re on the other, separated by sin. The bridge signifies our relationship with Jesus. I told them my role wasn’t to carry them across, but simply to stand beside them and help them see the way to Him. All the girls were respectful and open, but one seventh grader really stood out. From the beginning, she listened so intently. You could tell she wasn’t just there because she had to be, she was truly searching. As the retreat went on, she leaned in more during discussions and seemed deeply focused on what it meant to “cross the bridge.” During our time of prayer, she became emotional. I gently asked if she wanted to talk, but she said she just wanted to talk to God. She prayed quietly but, by the looks of it, sincerely.

By our third small group, she told me something I’ll never forget: she told me she felt like she had crossed the bridge, like she had met Jesus in that time of prayer. At that moment, I realized God met her exactly where she was. I just had the privilege of witnessing it, and that’s something I’ll always hold onto.”

- Mara Naomi O’Brien, Retreat Team 2

“I had this guy in my small group who, when I came up to him to pray with him, said, “I have a heart of stone.” So I told him, “Okay, well, let’s ask the Lord to break it.” So we started praying for the Lord to give him an experience with Him, and to give him a heart like Jesus’. After this I asked him if he’s ever committed his life to Christ and he said no. So I led him through a prayer of surrender and he gave his life to Christ, and he was very grateful. While we were leaving the church he had a beaming smile and was very happy.”

- Zachariah Sullivan, Ottawa Team

One of NET Canada's most consistent and significant expenses is vehicles!

Canada is huge! And every year our teams drive back and forth across this big, beautiful country, putting tens of thousands of kilometers onto the vehicles they use.

As we continue to regrow the number of teams we have on the road following the pandemic, we also face the financial challenge of regrowing our vehicle fleet. If you're able to, please consider giving towards NET Canada's vehicle fund. Don't let vehicle costs keep us from reaching youth with Jesus, wherever in the country they are!

Scan the QR code below to contribute towards NET's vehicle fund, or write the word vehicles on the donation form below and mail it to us.



I WANT TO SEE YOUTH TRANSFORMED & RE-ENGAGED IN THE CATHOLIC FAITH!

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