



THE CATHOLIC CHURCH A picture of the St Andrew's Catholic Church in Roanoke, Virginia. Photo from Creative Commons.

Young Christians

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The Christian religion is one of the most practiced religions in the world. This, of course, includes Stamford, CT. People of all ages devote their lives to Christianity. It makes up who they are and choose to be. If one chooses to practice a religion, it can also affect the things they do in their everyday life. It may also affect the way one acts toward others, and even oneself.

Following Christianity was not a choice for some, but rather, some were born into the religion. In this case, they were brought up with Christian values, and practicing Christianity automatically became a norm for them until, if ever, they decided to stop practicing it.

A large portion of Stamford identifies as Christian. Westhill itself consists of many students who believe in the religion. For example, a young Catholic school teacher at the Cardinal Kung Academy, explains her perspectives and views on Christianity and faith itself, saying,

"I would say faith for me is belief even when I don't understand. I would say it is the most important part of who I am, because Jesus Christ died on the cross, not just for me, but for everyone... and for that reason, that kind of gift of love requires me to give all that I am to him."

She believes in the idea of optimism and believes that she will have a greater future as a result of her actions being influenced by Christianity. The teachings of God are seen to be the reason why many people persevere, even when times are hard, and this is why she chooses to educate others.

The background of Christianity affects all who believe, even if they don't realize it. So many people have faith and hope for their future, due to their hope in God Himself. They accept the good and the bad in life because they know that someone sacrificed his life for their own. For some people, being a young Christian can affect the way that people act toward themselves and others, and how they think about certain things due to their knowledge of Christianity.

Some of the most important leaders in the Catholic Church are priests. Recently, there has been a struggle for the church to get priests, and the clergy is encouraging young people to get involved in any way they can. Volunteering for your local church can be very beneficial, and it is important to get more young people involved. A young priest in training said,

"I would say don't overthink the faith, pray every day, and know how much God loves you."

Many people, especially young people, can get overwhelmed and overthink religion, and it can cause them to drift away from it. It is important to let them know that they don't have to be intimidated or scared by Christianity - that it is meant to be something to help them in their lives. Young people are so important in the Church, as the future of it is in their hands. A sophomore at the King School talked about how important her faith is to her.

"I think it is because it helps me find friends who are like-minded. That's where some of my daily practices go. Going to church, praying," Anna Melton (King '27) said.

Religion is a part of daily life for many people, and much of their daily routine may surround it. Many people grow up with practices like going to Church every Sunday, praying before meals, and going to community events like youth groups.

Young people are some of the most important people in the Church for the future of Christianity, and it is important that other members encourage them to learn more about their faith.