

## Renewing Our Relationship with Christ (A.D. 1861-present)

### Homily Hints

## We Live Our Faith

### The Big Question:

“Does my voice count?”

### Chapter Goals:

1. to understand some of the circumstances that influenced the growth of the Church in the United States from 1861 to the present
2. to appreciate the work of the Church in continuing to voice messages of justice, peace, and equality during times of political and social change
3. to share our faith with others as we meet the challenges of the present and the future.

### Homily Hints:

Begin your conversation with the young people by asking and answering this Big Question: “Do their voices as Catholic youth count?” The answer of course is yes! Their voices are heard and count when they address, and begin to meet by word and action, the challenges of today.

After affirming that the young people’s voices do in fact count, encourage them to use their voices to spread messages of justice, peace, and equality. Remind them that their voices are powerful tools and that they are called to use them for good and positive purposes. Their voices will not be lost as long as they are the voices of committed Christians continuing to voice the Church’s message.

The message of their voice strengthens when they enter into ministries of service that the Church offers to society. In a very important sense they must be present to speak their voice.

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