



## June E-Letter

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For more information about the Office for Youth and Young Adult Ministry, visit us online at

[www.seattleoyyam.org/](http://www.seattleoyyam.org/)

### Dear CYO Athletics Community,

Later this month, Scott Bailey (Administrative Coordinator of CYO Athletics) and I will be attending the Play Like A Champion (PLC) Sports Leadership Conference at the University of Notre Dame to further develop our efforts at implementing the concept of "sports as ministry" and "coaches as ministers" into the CYO Athletics program here in the Archdiocese of Seattle. [Here is a link to the conference schedule.](#)

In the PLC coaches training, one of the ways that our faith is connected to athletics is through discussion of the cardinal virtues. In particular, I want to hold up the virtue of "fortitude". Defined as that which "allows us to overcome fear and to remain steady in our will in the face of obstacles", fortitude gives us the strength to do the right thing, once we have used the virtues of justice and prudence to determine what the right thing is. It is important for our youth to know that we do not do the right thing because we will be extrinsically rewarded but because it is the right thing to do. In fact, sometimes when we do the right thing, there is a cost and burden we must bear. And yet, we know that, as Christ modeled for us, we are sometimes called to bear this burden.

There are many times when coaches, parents or even officials can instruct and directly communicate to our youth participants as to the right thing to do. Unfortunately, there are other times, when our youth must stand on their own and must determine what is right and what is wrong and act upon it. These times take place both inside and outside of competition. It is helpful to discuss teachable moments with our youth after they have happened but it can be even better to discuss hypothetical situations proactively before they happen and talk through their thoughts and reflections as to how best to deal with the circumstances.

Such an opportunity for discussion is presented through the movie, "Field of Vision" that is being featured in the Family Movie Night on NBC this Saturday June 11th at 8/7C. The thematic elements of bullying and the courage to do the right thing are addressed in the context of athletics. While we have not viewed the entire film, it appears to be worthwhile to sit down and watch the movie with the family or set the DVR for later viewing and discussion.

We have heard instances of bullying by opponents in CYO Athletics by taunting, the use of physical intimidation and harsh language. This is something that should not happen in any sports league but especially CYO. Most of the time, the adults do not experience it and cannot address it. Therefore, this is a point of proactive conversation about expectations that parents and coaches should have with players about bullying within and between teams.

Let us pray for the fortitude to do the right thing when faced with a difficult circumstance even though it may not be popular or there may be a difficult cost to bear. Even more so, let us pray that our Christian example might be the model of witness that our youth put to practice in their own lives when we are not there to counsel them on the right thing to do.

Blessings for a great summer,

~Tauno Latvala  
Director of CYO Athletics

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## FIELD OF VISION on Family Movie Night, Saturday, June 11th at 8:00pm on NBC

Family Movie Night is on NBC this Saturday June 11th at 8/7C and we encourage all Catholic families to tune in for a family moment not to be missed!!! FIELD OF VISION, starring Faith Ford, sends a powerful message to leaders and young people about having the courage to do the right thing. This is the 6th Family Movie Night series which tackles the pervasive issue of bullying. In FIELD OF VISION, the plot centers on a popular high school quarterback who is faced with a decision that could cost the team a championship title if he chooses to do the right thing. Kit Johansen of the Catholic Diocese of Palm Beach Office of Protecting Children screened the movie and said, *"Field of Vision has great messages on several topics - bullying, as well as courage - to speak up when it may be difficult... I loved the experience of the premiere and all the kids and their response to the movie."*

Let Family Movie Night provide a great family moment to talk about important issues like bullying which are so prevalent in today's culture and how, with courage, it's possible to do the right thing! Show your family values at play when you watch FIELD OF VISION this Saturday.

[Click here to view the trailer](#)

[Click here to watch what the stars have to say about bullying v. courage](#)

[Click here to read the latest review from The Practicing Catholic](#)

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## Summer Sport Camp Opportunities

[AMHS Boys Basketball Camp](#) - June 27th - June 29th

[Seattle Prep Girls Basketball Camp](#) - June 27th - July 1st

[Seattle University Soccer Camp](#) - June 27th - July 1st

[BBHS Volleyball Camp](#) - June 27th - 29th, and July 7th - July 9th

[AMHS Volleyball Camp](#) - July 21st - 23rd ([registration form](#))

[Seattle University Girls Basketball Camp](#) - August 1st - 4th

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Thank you for your commitment to CYO Athletics. If you have not received past E-Letters, they can be found on our website by [clicking here](#). Please also continue to send us stories at [cyo@seattlearch.org](mailto:cyo@seattlearch.org), the moments of grace that make our program special, and remind everyone why we do the work we do.

Sincerely,  
CYO Athletics  
Office for Youth & Young Adult Ministry, Archdiocese of Seattle