



## Michael Masci: Alumuni to Faith



I'm Michael Masci, a graduate Brebeuf College from 1998. After high school, I went on to study sociology, social work, and child and youth work at the University of Western Ontario where I made a conscious effort to pursue my other passions. Most notably I was (and continue to be) able to help out Sunshine Sound as a DJ, MC, and sound and lighting technician where I meet thousands of people through everyday duties in doing something I love.

During high school and university I co-founded *Positive Gear*, a motivational speaking and leadership development company. *Positive Gear* allows me to share my experiences through empowering speeches, facilitation retreats, and various other activities with youth of all ages across the province.

**Q. If you had to create a Catholic Resume which highlighted ways you are a WITNESS to the Catholic faith, what would be on it?**

Whether it was being an altar server, or my presidency with the OCSCF (Ontario Catholic Student Council Federation); my Filipino/Italian background has always had me gravitate towards activities and cultures rooted in faith.

I am presently an acting Youth Minister at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Thornhill, where I have practiced my faith for nearly the last decade. This position has had me participate in several World Youth Days, and put me in a position to be awarded various Catholic Leadership awards.

*Positive Gear* has opened doors to help share my experiences with other Catholic leaders at

school presentations, workshops, retreats across Ontario, and see the spirit of Catholicism in the eyes and actions of everyone I meet. Even the most discerning of believers teach me about my faith and I continue to open my eyes to new things every day as a lifelong learner.

**What kind of difference do you hope to make in living a life based on Jesus' teachings?**

All I can do is be me, whoever that is. Throughout everything I do, I make sure the difference I make is through the example that I lead. We all have a call to faith. In answering that call I hope to help others with being more tolerant and accepting of one another.

Instead of the "crabs in a bucket" mentality we're everyone is trying to be better than everyone else, I try to show others the value of being more helpful towards one another. This can be tough when others may not see that value in the help we give, but as we learn to live and lead by example, we hope that others will learn to do the same.

**What advice do you have for a young Catholic finding ways to express their faith?**

We aren't perfect. Even the strongest practitioners of our faith aren't, and it's only through practice that we can improve. The times we stumble and fall are only opportunities that bring us closer to God.

We have to remember that we're here to set an example for one another. Instead of being critical of others, we should model what we believe our faith should look and act like. Faith, whether one considers themselves to be religious or spiritual, is about *believing*. If you believe, *be* it, and *live* it.