



2014 Holy Family CYO Role Model

John Urbielewicz

St. Francis of Assisi said, "Preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary use words."

As an alumni of St. Francis Prep and St. Francis College, John embraced this teaching of St. Francis. He represents this credo and all the good CYO has to offer. He has generously shared his time and talent for nearly twenty years as a basketball coach and volunteer in the Parish Community. John exemplifies the true meaning of a CYO Role Model through all his hard work and devotion to the youth of our community.

John has coached at every level in our boys and girls basketball programs, instructional, boy's intramurals, and boys and girls travel programs. His enthusiasm and energy are infectious. John's love of the game and all the good it represents was always passed along to all the children he coached. John always started each game with his team huddled together in prayer. We can boast that John is the only coach who served as an altar boy for Pope John Paul II when he was Archbishop Karol Wojtyla. John's teams were taught the importance of having fun, giving your best effort, playing as a team, and learning something every time out. Right at the top of the lessons John taught was sportsmanship. His teams were the Sportsmanship Award winners four times.

John lives in Hicksville with his wife Barbara and two beautiful children, Bobby and Caroline. John's son Bobby, a graduate of our CYO program has followed in his father's footsteps and has coached instructional and travel basketball. John's daughter, Caroline, was the first recipient of the prestigious Tommy O Scholarship awarded to a child in our program for community volunteering.

True role models like John possess qualities we would all like to have. These are people who make us want to be better people. John has never forgotten where he came from, how he got to where he is now and is always looking back to see if he can help those coming along in their journey.

Thank you John for showing us that few burdens are heavy when everyone lifts. God Bless you and all you do.