

Youth Minister

A Vision of this Ministry

The responsibility of the parish Youth Minister is to minister to pre-teens and teens. This minister reaches out to all youth in the community. He or she develops a personal relationship with youth, provides for formal catechesis, and invites and enables youth to serve others.

Responsibilities and Tasks

Year 2012-2013

A. Ministry of Administration

1. Develops a comprehensive plan of Youth Ministry which defines adult and youth leadership in each component of youth ministry (i.e. worship, education, service, social, and administrative.)
2. Meets with teens and adult leaders to assess needs. Plans, implements, develops, and evaluates programs.
3. Assesses available personnel resources and recruits, supervises, supports, and evaluates adult volunteer youth ministers while insuring all Diocesan requirements are met. (Example: VIRTUS Training, criminal background check, CANTS, Code of Conduct))
4. Oversees parish physical facilities for youth.
5. Directs publicity for youth ministry program.
6. Becomes involved in the Archdiocesan network of professional peers and youth offices.
7. Maintains communication with junior high schools and high school students thru attendance at school and religious education functions (i.e. plays, sporting events, concerts)

B. Ministry of Worship

1. Collaborates with appropriate members of the staff, e.g. Coordinator of Liturgy and/or Director of Music, DRE, Principal, etc., to assure quality prayer and liturgical celebration opportunities for youth.
2. Conducts youth retreats annually.

3. Serves as leader of prayer at youth gatherings.
4. Collaborates with DRE in parish leadership of Totus Tuus Program.

C. Ministry of Education

1. Invites, motivates, and trains volunteer youth ministers with the DRE/Principal in order to energize spiritual growth.
2. Develops youth leadership.
3. Collaborate with school and religious education to help youth fulfill service hour expectations.

D. Ministry of Human Concerns

1. Invites and models youth for programs that address issues of social justice, charity, and compassion.
2. Is present for youth at social and recreational events.
3. Provides counseling for youth and refers them to appropriate resources and programs.
4. Directs social service projects involving youth.

E. Other Responsibilities

1. Maintains parish website.

Qualities

The Youth Minister displays effective functioning in this ministry as well as a positive attitude, an outgoing nature, friendliness, enthusiasm, a love of fun, a sense of humor, tenaciousness, determination, a commitment to youth, and the ability to relate to teens and their families.

Competencies and Skills

The Youth Minister:

1. Understands the principles of psychology and sociology, most especially those pertaining to adolescents and family development.
2. Understands faith development and principles of group dynamics necessary for Youth Ministry.
3. Has significant knowledge of the foundations or principles underlying youth ministry, Catholic and faith and church teachings.
4. Is familiar with and follows directives and Archdiocesan policies.

Formation, Training, and Criteria for Readiness

The Youth Minister has:

1. Knowledge of the psychological and spiritual development of children and adolescents.
2. Knowledge of the principles of youth counseling and spiritual direction.
3. Interpersonal and group dynamic skills focused on youth retreats.
4. Practicing Catholic who does not dissent on significant of the Church.