



Archdiocese of San Antonio

Youth Ministers Staying Connected

Youth is the HEART of who we are

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Office of Youth Ministry

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Do I need to Connect?

Ministry with young people can be lonely. Some people in the parish do not understand the unique problems that exist in working with youth. Staying connected with each other in a community of those serving the young church will help to keep your spirits up and help us to work "smarter" not "harder." We can share resources, tips, ideas, tricks of the trade and pray together for youth ministry! Please be a part of these gatherings and set the time aside for your own growth and enrichment.



Even youth ministry training is hands-on!

What it is!

The Mission of the Office of Youth Ministry: To help develop and empower youth and their leaders, as they seek to encounter and live as disciples of Jesus Christ in the life of their parish, and in our world today.

As a resource to the parishes, the Office of Youth Ministry seeks to connect with youth ministry leaders to provide training and spiritual growth opportunities. Leaders can use these Connect gatherings to be exposed to the “best practices” in youth ministry and collaborate with fellow ministers to share resources enabling youth ministry to be stewardship minded. These upcoming trainings are planned: the resources of the OYM, goals and calendar planning; an advent formation and appreciation for youth workers and their pastors; a retreat for youth ministry leaders and their teams; a listening/ brainstorming session of upcoming parish needs and tools to help parish leaders evaluate their programming. Each gathering will include educational training on *Renewing the Vision* from the USCCB. Likewise leaders will learn from one another in a type of mentor (leaders who have 5+ years experience)-mentee (leaders with fewer than 5 years ministry experience) relationship.



Kick off Connect

As the year begins, the Office of Youth Ministry will gather youth ministry leaders to distribute the OYM calendar and to describe the services available from our office. We will meet in various deaneries and both day and evening times to connect with as many full time, part time and volunteer leaders as possible. Please encourage your youth ministry leaders to attend one of the following:

Sat, Aug 13 at 9AM at St. Mary's in Fredericksburg

Sat, August 13 at 3PM at Sacred Heart in Uvalde

Wed, August 17 at 10AM at the Pastoral Center

Wed, August 17 at 6:30PM at the Pastoral Center

Sat, August 20 at 9AM at St. James in Seguin

Sat, August 20 at 1PM at St. Andrew in Pleasanton

Advent Reconnect

This is an evening for parish youth ministry teams to be formed and appreciated for the work they do for the youth of the Archdiocese. The Office of Youth Ministry will again offer resource sharing. A special guest speaker will provide reflection and motivation for ministers in attendance. The date to mark on your calendar is:

Fri. Dec. 2 6:30 PM at the Pastoral Center

Youth Ministers Retreat

In looking to support the person of the minister, the Office of Youth Ministry invites anyone who ministers to youth to a daylong retreat. This opportunity allows the youth ministry worker to focus on the balance required and oftentimes neglected in daily life. The reflection promises to be one of contemplation and rejuvenation. Join us on:

Wed. January 25, 2012 from 9AM to 4PM at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Helotes. The retreat leader will be Fr. Raul Salas, OMI.

Listening Connect

These gatherings will provide a forum for assessment. What programs went well and which need improvement? The Office of Youth Ministry will provide tools for evaluation and analysis of parish youth ministry as well as an outlet for brainstorming how our office can be a better resource to parishes. Youth Ministry leaders are asked to attend one of the following:

Wed. May 2nd 10AM or 6:30PM at the Pastoral Center

It's always better to learn together!

