

Mission, Vision & Goals of Youth Ministry

Mission: Evangelization

“Evangelization is the process whereby a person hears the gospel, embraces it fully, makes Jesus Lord of his life and gets involved in a lively, intimate and ongoing relationship with Him.”

-Fr. Bob Berdard, CC

Vision: Relational Ministry

We believe that we must be deeply connected in the lives of young people by being present and available to them. By establishing relationships based on faith, hope and love young people will share their joys, hopes, pains and sorrows with people who deeply care for them and will guide them through the messiness of life. This model is the model Jesus utilized with his disciples, which is commonly referred to as *Relational Ministry*.

How do we make this happen?

The USCCB have asked for Youth Ministry in the U.S. to focus on the following goals:

1. To empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today.
2. To draw young people to responsible participation in the life, mission and work of the Catholic faith community.
3. To foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person.

At St. Mary's we support these goals as well as incorporate them into our program.

Greetings from the Director of Youth Ministry

I hope as you read this pamphlet that it has been useful in considering becoming a part of our ministry. Youth Ministry is about having as much fun as humanly possible, building strong relationships with young people, learning about our Catholic faith and glorifying our Lord through all of it!

In the Gospel of John (1:35-39) Jesus walks by two men who will later become His apostles. The two men follow Him and Jesus asks them, “What do you want?” The two men ask Jesus where He is going and Jesus responds, “come and see.” If you are a teen I simply ask you to “come and see.” Take that step to come and see what Youth Ministry is all about.

If you are a parent I would ask you to encourage you teenager to come and see what we are all about. If you, as a parent, are interested in getting involved please contact me. I'm sure your gifts and talents can find a home in our ministry.

Blessings,
Leo Chavarria

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ST. MARY YOUTH MINISTRY

Come and See

CALENDAR OF WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY

- **CYM Dinner: High School youth**
6pm, following 5pm Mass.
- **High School Youth Group**
7pm-8:30pm.
- **Middle School Youth Group**
3:30pm-4:30pm once a month: see below.

WEDNESDAY

- **YOUCAT nights (High School)**
6:30pm-8pm meets at JP II House.

QUICK LOOK AT THE YEAR

SEPT.

- 11~Parish Ice Cream social @ Holy Cross
- 18~First High School Youth Group
- 28~First YOUCAT night

OCT.

- 2~First Middle School Youth Group
- 8-9~High School Lock-in
- 16~ High School Rally @ Bishop O'Connell
- 31~ Trick or treat so others can eat

NOV.

- 5~ Confirmation Retreat I
- 6~Middle School Youth Group
- 12~ Confirmation Retreat II

JAN.

- 8~Middle School Youth Group
- 23~ March for Life: Mass & rally in D.C

FEB.

- 5~Middle School Youth Group
- 18-19~High School Lock-in @ Holy Cross

MARCH

- 4~Middle School Youth Group
- 16-18~ Spring High School Retreat

APRIL

- 1~Middle School Youth Group
- 29 ~ Diocesan Middle School Bash

MAY

- 6 ~Middle School Youth Group

JUNE

- 3~Middle School Youth Group

JULY

- TBD~National: WorkCamp
- TBD~ Local: WorkCamp:

Programs

Youth Groups

We engage both Middle School and High School aged youth in discussing topics about their faith, the Church, and current issues occurring in their lives. It is also a time to get to know one another through games, icebreakers and good ole fashioned fellowship.

Retreat

Every spring we take an entire weekend to go deeper into our faith, as individuals and with friends. We go away to recharge our batteries from the business of life. Retreats give us the opportunity to pray and see how deeply we need personal time with God.

YOUCAT nights

For High School teens interested in going deeper in their Catholic faith. We will discuss theology and Church teaching in a teen friendly small group format that is engaging and dynamic. We are calling it YOUCAT after the new Youth Catechism that was released at the 2011 World Youth day by Pope Benedict XVI. This catechism will be the main resource utilized during meetings.

WorkCamp

High School teens give an entire week out of summer to go and serve the poor and needy. It is a very real way of living out their Catholic faith. WorkCamp requires many months of preparation & fundraising, so keep an eye out as information becomes available.