



Archdiocese of Santa Fe
Comprehensive Model of
Youth Ministry

Helping Young People Become
Disciples of Jesus: The Parish
Response

Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries
Office of Religious Education




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Parish Response Explanation

Based on recent research on the faith of young people, The National Initiative on Adolescent Catechesis (“NIAC”) found that the efforts of an effective parish are most instrumental in helping young people become disciples of Jesus and demonstrate their love for God and their Catholic faith. This research supports the recommendations of the USSCB document *Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry* (“RTV”) (1997), which the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry have been working to implement in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe.

A diocesan committee of professionals who minister to young people has developed a planning guide, *Helping Young People Become Disciples of Jesus: The Parish Response*, to help parishes and schools implement a ***Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry*** that adheres to the vision of adolescent catechesis shared by both the NIAC and RTV.

Vision, Mission, Goals, Objectives and Strategies

Before you begin the Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry it is important to identify everyone who will be part of the team that will be guiding the youth through this journey. This may include the Pastor, Parish Catechetical Leader, Youth Minister(s), Catechists, heads of various ministries, etc.

Once you have this group established you can create your vision, mission, goals, objectives and strategies for your model. It is important to go back to these planning elements every year to assess how your model has progressed and where you still need to grow.

Vision

A vision statement should reflect what the parish team wants for their youth while they travel the journey of the *Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry*. The vision statement should be a formal statement that expresses the aspiration and goals of the organization.

Sample Vision Statement

The parish vision for Youth Ministry is to provide a place of opportunities where young people can become strong faith filled Catholics and active ministers as they serve the people of God.

Mission Statement

A mission statement reflects your vision statement. The mission statement is a statement for the purpose of your *Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry*. It should guide the actions of the model, spell out its overall goal, provide a path, and guide decision-making. It provides a framework or context within the strategies formulated. This includes the work of the *Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry* i.e. assignment, job, undertaking, task, etc.

Goals

Your goals should reflect what it is you want to achieve. Goals should develop and strengthen the youth in their faith and help them to stay actively involved in their Catholic community. Here are questions to consider when coming up with your goals:

- What is the aim of your ministry to youth?
- What do you want to accomplish?

Sample Goals

Goal 1. Develop a Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry for youth & youth minister(s) in our parish. (Renewing the Vision- a Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry- USCCB)

Goal 2. Promote youth ministry that invites young people to participate in the life of the parish community. (Renewing the Vision- a Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry-USCCB)

Objectives

Objectives should support the goals in order for them to be accomplished. They should be relevant to the people responsible for achieving them. Keep in mind your objectives should be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and have a realistic time-frame.

Sample Objective

The Parishes will have on-going, age-appropriate, Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry that include youth leadership development, evangelization, catechesis, justice and service, advocacy, prayer and worship, pastoral care and community building by (date).

Strategies

Strategies should be the pathway to accomplish the objectives in order to achieve the goals. They should be a carefully devised plan of action to achieve your goals.

Overview

What is the Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry?

The *Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry* is a stepping stone in the faith journey of a young person. During this journey they will grow spiritually, emotionally, and educationally all while strengthening their relationship with Jesus Christ and making a lifelong commitment to their Catholic Community. Following the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Document *Renewing the Vision A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry*, the Goals of the *Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry* are:

Goal One: To empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today.

Goal Two: To draw young people to responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the Catholic faith community.

Goal Three: To foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person.

It is important to understand the *Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry* is just that, a model, not a “program”. Therefore, parishes will move away from a “school calendar” (September-May), and instead, sessions for youth will be held year round.

Each youth ministry model will look differently from parish to parish to meet the unique needs of the community.

Three Phases

The Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry will journey the young person through three phases.

Phase One: *Learner*

Phase Two: *Disciple in Training*

Phase Three: *Disciple in Ministry*

These phases have no time limit; rather, a young person will move through these phases as they feel ready to make the commitment to their Catholic faith and Community.

Transition from one phase to the next will be determined with a parent, young person, and Catechist/ Youth Minister interview and celebrated at Mass.

Phase One: *Learner*

A young person will enter the *Learner* phase when they are of high school age. This phase will cover:

- Basic Catholic Teaching
- Sacraments
- Who is Jesus
- Scripture (Tradition and Catholic Identity)
- Building Healthy Relationships (Catholic Morality)
- The Importance of Serving
- Spiritual and Community Outreach Activities

The *Learner* phase is the foundational beginning of the young person's faith journey within the *Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry*. Catechesis throughout the *Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry* is to be based on the doctrinal content described in the 2008 USCCB curriculum framework. For a complete outline of the content see *Adaptation of the Doctrinal Elements of a Curriculum Framework for the Development of Catechetical Materials for Young People of High School Age for Use in Parish and Youth Ministry Programs*. This can be found at www.USCCB.org.

During the *Learner* phase, youth are invited and encouraged to participate in parish and archdiocesan activities, events, spiritual opportunities, etc.

Phase Two: *Disciple in Training*

A young person will enter the *Disciple in Training* phase when they have successfully completed the *Learner* phase and they feel prepared spiritually, emotionally, and educationally to make a commitment to their Catholic Faith and Community. This phase will cover:

- Catechesis on the Sacrament of Confirmation
- Catholic Teachings
- Ministry Internship
- The Importance of Serving
- Spiritual and Community Outreach Activities

In the *Disciple in Training* phase the young person will eventually receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and begin the discernment of where they feel Jesus has called them to serve and where their unique gifts can

best utilize their community. They are invited and encouraged to participate in parish and diocesan activities, events, spiritual opportunities, etc.

Phase Three: *Disciple in Ministry*

A young person enters the *Disciple in Ministry* phase when he/she has successfully completed the *Disciple in Training* phase and have received the Sacrament of Confirmation. This phase will cover:

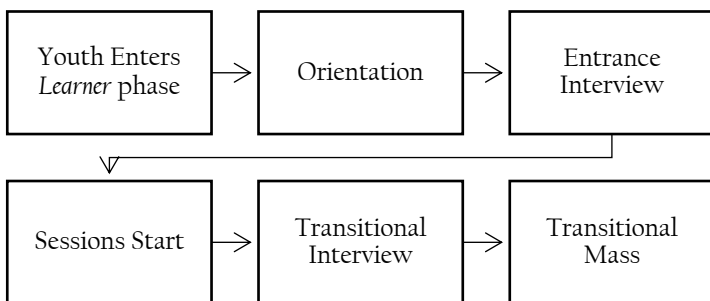
- Advocacy
- Catechesis
- Community Life
- Evangelization
- Justice and Service
- Leadership
- Pastoral Care
- Prayer and Worship
- Spiritual and Community Outreach Activities

In the *Disciple in Ministry* phase youth are now fully integrated and participating in the life of their parish community and their Catholic Faith. These young people are invited to plan activities for those in phase one and phase two as well as continue formation in their own faith.

The *Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry* is unique in the sense that not only are young people learning about their Catholic faith, but they will simultaneously apply what they have learned in order to spread the Good News to evangelize.

Phase One: *Learner*

Timeline



Orientation

The purpose of the *Learner* phase orientation is to:

1. Explain the *Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry*-the concept of this model may be new to parents and youth and they may be hesitant at first. A thorough explanation of what your particular model will look like and what the expectations will be should help everyone understand the benefits of this journey.
2. Meet parents and youth-this may be the first time most of the team is meeting youth and their families. Take this opportunity to start a relationship with these families and really get to know them.

Provided is a sample schedule of what an orientation might look like. Orientations may vary depending on the needs of your parish, size of those participating or any other tasks you are hoping to accomplish at this time.

Sample Orientation Schedule

Welcome/Introductions (light refreshment)

10 minutes

- *Learner Phase* team

Opening Prayer 10 minutes

Icebreaker 10 minutes

- Create or find an icebreaker for youth and adults to get to know each other

Comprehensive Model Explanation

- A sample brochure can be found at www.asfym.org under “*Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry*” 10 minutes

Expectations 10 minutes

- Schedule of session
- Requirements (as set by the parish)
- Retreats, Spiritual and Outreach Activities

Interview explanation 10 minutes

- Purpose of interview
- Sample questions

Q&A 10 minutes

Interview sign up 10 minutes

Closing prayer 10 minutes

Learner Entrance Interview

The purpose of the *Learner* Entrance Interview is to find out where the young person is in their faith journey and see if they are ready to begin the *Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry* journey. This Interview should take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete.

The interview should be given by the Youth Leader(s) /Catechists of the *Learner* phase with the young person. Others that could also be included might be the Pastor, parents, or Parish Catechetical Leader.

This interview is **not** a test. It is to be nonjudgmental and confidential. It is to find out where the young person is, so you will know the best way to guide the youth in their journey of faith through the *Learner* phase.

Sample Questions

You may use these questions for your *Learner* Phase Entrance Interview and/or add your own to meet the needs of how you have designed this phase.

1. Why do you want to be a part of this journey of the *Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry*?
2. What would you like to learn about your Catholic faith?
3. Do you feel ready to take responsibility for your own faith? Why or why not?
4. Are you ready to enter into the *Learner* phase on your own free will?
5. What is your relationship like with Jesus Christ?
6. How can we better support your family faith life?

Transitional Interview into *Disciple in Training*

The purpose of the Transitional Interview into *Disciple in Training* phase is to find out where the young person is in their faith journey and see if they are ready to enter into the *Disciple in Training* phase of the *Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry* journey. This Interview should take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete.

The interview should be given by the leader(s) of the *Learner* phase with the young person. Others that could also be included might be Pastor, parents, or Parish Catechetical Leader.

This interview is **not a test**. It is to be nonjudgmental and confidential. It is to find out where the young person is in their faith journey so you and that young person can determine if they are ready to move to the *Disciple in Training* phase.

Sample Questions

You may use these questions for your interview and/or add your own to meet the needs of how you have designed this phase.

1. What have you learned about yourself during the *Learner* phase?
2. What have you learned about your Catholic faith during this phase?
3. In what aspects of your Catholic faith would you like to grow?
4. How can we continue to support your family faith life?
5. What makes you feel you are ready to move into the *Disciples in Training* phase?

At the end of the interview the young person and the interviewer will need to come to an honest consensus on whether or not the young person is prepared to move on to the next phase. If it is not agreed upon by both, then an action plan can be designed to help that young person move to the next phase. This plan may include suggestions such as having the young person participate in more Spiritual and Community Outreach Activities, have the young person make up any missed sessions, let the young person know the importance of attending Mass regularly, etc.

These action plans will vary youth to youth depending on where they are in their faith journey. When the needs of the plan have been met they may redo the interview process to see if they are ready to move to the next phase.

Sessions

Resources

The resources listed below are recommended for the *Learner* phase

- *Faith Fusion* by Our Sunday Visitor (English and Spanish)
- *Called to be Catholic* by Loyola Press (English and Spanish)

The following topics have been compiled from the *Adaptation of the Doctrinal Elements of a Curriculum Framework for the Development of Catechetical Materials for Young People of High School Age for Use in Parish and Youth Ministry Programs* which can be found at www.USCCB.org.

USCCB.org. These topics are to be covered during the *Learner Phase*:

Basic Catholic Teachings

- Understanding the Definition of Prayer
- Different Forms of Praying Scripture
- Catholic Prayer Traditions
- The Mass
- Church History
- Parish History
- New Mexico Church History
- Liturgical Calendar
- History of Saints
- Who is Mary

Who is
Jesus

- The Parables of Jesus
- The Beatitudes
- The Trinity
- The Paschal Mystery

Sacraments

- Definition-CCC, Nos. 1131,774
- Scriptural references to the Sacraments
 - 2Corinthians 1:21-22
 - Ephesians 4:30
 - Revelations 4:3
- Sacraments of Initiation
- Sacraments of Healing
- Sacraments of Service
- Importance of the Sacraments in our everyday life
- Encouraging others to partake in the Sacraments

Scripture

- Who is God?
- The Gospels
- How to use the Bible
- Introduction to the Old Testament
- Introduction to the New Testament
- Prepare for Mass reflecting on upcoming readings
- How Scripture should be used in our everyday lives

The Importance of Serving

- Why and How we need to Serve
- Providing Opportunities for Youth to Serve Your Community
- Importance of Serving Others-Matthew 25:31-46
- Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the

Christian Morality

- Principles of Decision Making Based on Christian Morality
- Healthy Sexuality
- Healthy Family Relationships
- Healthy Peer Relationships
- Moral Values
- Respecting Life Issues
- 10 Commandments/Sin

Session Breakdown

We have broken down the topics by seasons to give you a starting point on planning your sessions. Do not forget to include Liturgical Celebrations such as Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Immaculate Conception, All Saints Day, etc. Also, be sure to partake in Archdiocesan events, some of which can be found at the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries website www.asfym.org.

Prior to Sessions Beginning

- Orientation
- Entrance Interviews into *Learner* phase
- Mandatory Abuse Awareness Workshop/Safe Environment, Promise to Protect

Fall/Winter Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basic Catholic Teachings• Scripture• The Importance of Serving
Winter/Spring Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jesus• Sacraments
Summer Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Morality

Prior to Sessions Ending

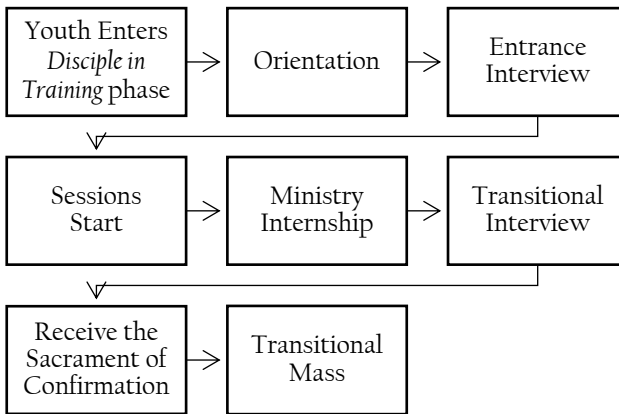
- Transitional Interview into *Disciples in Training* phase

Moving Forward

Once the young person has completed *the Learners* phase it is important to transition them to the *Disciples in Ministry* phase with a celebration of Mass. The purpose of this Mass is to celebrate their commitment to their Catholic Faith and for the parish community to keep them in prayer as they continue their faith journey within the *Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry* as a *Disciple in Training*.

Phase Two: *Disciple in Training*

Timeline



Orientation

The purpose of the *Disciple in Training* phase is to:

1. Explain the *Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry*-Even though parents should already have a good idea of the model, it is good to refresh them on the basic concept.
2. Meet parents and youth-this may be the first time most of the team is meeting youth and their families. Take this opportunity to start a relationship with these families and really get to know them.
3. Explain Archdiocesan policies on the Sacrament of Confirmation-these can be found at the Archdiocese of Santa Fe website www.archdiosf.org

Provided is a sample schedule of what an orientation might look like. Orientations may vary depending on the needs of your parish, size of those participating or any other tasks you are hoping to accomplish at this time.

Sample Orientation Schedule

Welcome/Introductions (light refreshment) 10 minutes

- *Disciple in Training* team

Opening Prayer 10 minutes

Icebreaker 10 minutes

- Create or find icebreaker for youth and adults to get to continue to bond

Comprehensive Model Explanation 10 minutes

- A sample brochure can be found at www.asfym.org under “*Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry*” 10 minutes

Expectations 20 minutes

- Archdiocesan Policies on the Sacrament of Confirmation
- Requirements (as set by the parish)
- Retreats, Spiritual and Outreach Activities
- Schedule of Sessions

Q&A 10 minutes

Closing prayer 10 minutes

Disciple in Training Entrance Interview

The purpose of the *Disciple in Training* phase Entrance Interview is to find out where the young person is in their faith journey and see how you can better aide them in the process towards receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. This Interview should take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete.

This interview should be given by the leader(s) of the *Disciple in Training* phase with the young person. Others that could also be included might be the Pastor, Parents, or Parish Catechetical Leader.

This interview is **not** a test. It is to be nonjudgmental and confidential. It is to find out where the young person is so you will know the best way to guide the youth in their journey of faith through the *Disciple in Training* phase.

Sample Questions

You may use these questions for your *Disciple in Training* phase Entrance Interview and/or add your own to meet the needs of how you have designed this phase.

1. What part of the *Learner* phase had the most impact on you?
2. How do you personally plan to discern receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation?
3. What ministry/ministries would you want to become a part of?

*Transitional Interview into Disciple in Ministry
and
the Sacrament of Confirmation*

The purpose of the Transitional Interview into the *Disciple in Ministry* phase and the Sacrament of Confirmation is to find out where the young person is in their faith journey and see if they are prepared and willing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Once they receive the Sacrament of Confirmation they will transition to the *Disciple in Ministry* phase. This Interview should take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete.

This interview is **not** a test. It is to be nonjudgmental and confidential. It is to find out where the young person is in their journey of faith so you and that young person can determine if they are ready to move to the *Disciple in Ministry* phase and receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Sample Questions

You may use these questions for you interview and/or add your own to meet the needs of how you have designed this phase.

1. Do you feel ready to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation? If so, why? If no, why not?
2. Why do you think it is important to stay involved in your Catholic Faith after being confirmed?
3. What have you learned about your faith during this phase?
4. Which ministry/ministries do you want to make a commitment to?

At the end of the interview the young person and the interviewer will need to come to an honest consensus on whether or not the young person can move on to the next phase. If it is not agreed upon by both, then an action plan can be set up in order to help that young person move to the next phase. This plan may include suggestions such as having the young person participate in more Spiritual and Community Outreach Activities, have the young person make up any missed sessions, let the young person know the importance of attending Mass regularly, etc.

These action plans will vary youth to youth depending on where they are in their faith journey. When the needs of the plan have been met they may redo the interview process to see if they are ready to move to the next phase.

Sessions

Resources

The resources listed below are recommended for the *Disciple in Training* phase.

- *Confirmed in the Spirit* by Loyola Press
- *Call to Celebrate: Confirmation* by OSV/Harcourt
- *Confirmation* by RCL Benzier
- *Receiving the Gift of the Spirit* by Pflaum
- *Confirmed in a Faithful Community* by St. Mary's Press
- *The Spirit Sets Us Free: Confirmation* by William H. Sadlier
- *Send Out Your Spirit* by Ave Maria Press

The following topics have been compiled from the *Adaptation of the Doctrinal Elements of a Curriculum Framework for the Development of Catechetical Materials for Young People of High School Age for Use in Parish and Youth Ministry Programs* which can be found at www.USCCB.org. These topics are to be covering during the *Disciple in Training* phase:

Catechesis on
the
Sacrament of
Confirmation



- Confirmation as defined in the CCC
- Completion of the Grace of Baptism
- Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Ministry
Internship



- Ministry Fair
- Presentations by Ministry Leaders

Catholic Teachings

- The Creed (God, Jesus, Holy Spirit and the Church)
- The Fruits of the Holy Spirit
- Spiritual Works of Mercy
- Corporal Works of Mercy

The Importance of Serving

- Why and How we need to Serve
- Providing Opportunities for Youth to Serve Your Community
- Importance of Serving Others-Matthew 25:31-46
- Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church

Session Breakdown

We have broken down the above topics by seasons to give you a starting point on planning your sessions. Do not forget to include Liturgical Celebrations such as Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, feast of the Immaculate Conception, All Saints Day, etc. Also, be sure to schedule Archdiocesan events on your calendar. Some of these events can be found at the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries website www.asfym.org

Prior to Sessions Beginning

- Orientation
- Entrance Interview
- Mandatory Abuse Awareness Workshop

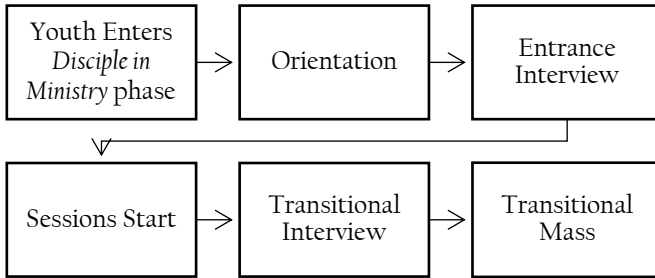
Fall/Winter Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Catechesis on the Sacrament of Confirmation• The Importance of Serving• Ministry Internship
Winter/Spring Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Catholic Teachings• Ministry Internship• Transitional Interview to <i>Disciple of Ministry</i> and receive Sacrament of Confirmation• Sacrament of Confirmation
Summer Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ministry Internship• Catholic Teachings

Moving Forward

Once the young person has completed the *Disciple in Training* phase and received the Sacrament of Confirmation it is important to transition them to *Disciple in Ministry* phase with the celebration of Mass. The purpose of this Mass is to celebrate their commitment to their Catholic Faith and for their parish community to keep them in prayer as they continue their faith journey within the *Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry* as a *Disciple in Ministry*.

Phase Three: *Disciple in Ministry*

Timeline



Orientation

The purpose of the *Disciple in Ministry* phase orientation is to:

1. Explain the *Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry*- Even though parents should already have a good idea of the model it is good to refresh them on the basic concept.
2. **Meet parents and youth**-this may be the first time most of the team is meeting youth and their families. Take this opportunity to start a relationship with these families and really get to know them.

Provided is a sample schedule of what an orientation might look like. Orientations may vary depending on the needs of your parish, size of those participating or any other tasks you are hoping to accomplish at this time.

Sample Orientation Schedule

Welcome/Introductions (light refreshment) 10 minutes

- *Disciple in Ministry* team

Opening Prayer 10 minutes

Icebreaker 10 minutes

- Create or find icebreaker for youth and adults to get to continue to bond

Comprehensive Model Explanation 10 minutes

- A sample brochure can be found at www.asfym.org under “*Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry*” 10 minutes

Expectations 20 minutes

- Requirements (as set by the parish)
- Retreats, Spiritual and Outreach Activities
- Schedule of Sessions

Q&A 10 minutes

Closing prayer 10 minutes

Disciple in Ministry Entrance Interview

The purpose of the *Disciple in Ministry* phase Entrance Interview is to find out where the young person is in their faith journey and see how you can better aide them in this phase in so that you can keep them active now that they have received the Sacrament of Confirmation. This interview should take approximately 15-20 minutes to be complete.

This interview should be giving by the leader(s) of the *Disciple in Ministry* phase with the young person. Others that could also be included might be the Pastor, parents, or DRE.

This interview is **not a test**. It is nonjudgmental and confidential. It is to find out where the young person is so you will know the best way to guide the youth in their journey of faith through the *Disciple in Ministry* phase.

Sample Questions

You may use these questions for your *Disciple in Ministry* phase Entrance Interview and/or add your own to meet the need of how you have designed this phase.

1. What do you feel are your most important gifts that you can offer to the Church?
2. Why do you feel it is important to share your faith with others?
3. What parts of your faith life would you like to work on?

Sessions

Resources

Resources from the publishers listed below are recommended for the Disciple in Ministry phase

- Ave Maria Press
- Harcourt
- Saint Mary's Press
- Our Sunday Visitor

The following topics have been compiled from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Document *Renewing the Vision A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry* which can be found at www.USCCB.org. These topics are to be covered in the *Disciple in Ministry* phase:

8 Components of Youth Ministry

- Advocacy
- Catechesis
- Community Life
- Evangelization
- Justice and Service
- Leadership
- Pastoral Care

The Importance of Serving

- Why and How we need to Serve
- Providing Opportunities for Youth to Serve Your Community
- Importance of Serving Others-Matthew 25:31-46
- Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church

Session Breakdown

We have broken down the above topics by seasons to give you a starting point on planning your sessions. Do not forget to include Liturgical Celebrations such as Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Immaculate Conception, All Saints Day, etc. Also, be sure to partake in Archdiocesan events, some of which can be found at the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries website www.asfym.org.

Prior to Session Beginning

- Orientation
- Entrance Interviews into *Disciple in Ministry* phase
- Mandatory Abuse Awareness Training

Fall/Winter Sessions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leadership• Community Life
Winter/Spring Sessions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Catechesis• Evangelization• Prayer and Worship
Summer Sessions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advocacy• Justice and Service• Pastoral Care

Moving Forward

Once the young person has completed the *Disciple in Ministry* phase it is important to celebrate the end of this step in their faith journey with Mass. At this time young people are moving into Young Adult Ministry. The parish/ministers should have a plan in place for them to continue formation, parish involvement and feel welcomed within the parish. If the young adult is leaving the parish develop, a way to keep in contact with them so when they return home they can experience a welcoming community.

Spiritual and Community Outreach Activities

As stated in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe Sacramental Polices for Confirmation, it is required for each young person to participate in Spiritual and Community Outreach Activities prior to receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Within the *Comprehensive Model of Youth Ministry* young people will be encouraged to partake in these Spiritual and Community Outreach Activities throughout the three phases. By encouraging and inviting youth, parishes no longer need to have “mandatory service hours” this allows the leaders of the phases to focus on the reason for serving and why it is important for Catholics to serve. Each parish will decide on whether or not a young person has done a fulfilling amount of Spiritual and Community Outreach Activities. One way to determine this could be during the interview process.

Sample Interview Questions

1. In what ways have you participated in enough Spiritual and Community Outreach Activities?
2. How has participating in these Spiritual and Community Outreach Activities impacted your faith?
3. Will you continue to do Spiritual and Community Outreach Activities in the next phase? If so, why? If no, why not?

Each Spiritual and Community Outreach Activity should follow a process that will engage the young person. It is important to have an organized process so youth understand what it is they will be doing, why they are doing it and the importance of their faith in action. Here are some examples of steps you can take:

- Step 1: Prayer focused around the upcoming activity
- Step 2: Detailed explanation of activity
- Step 3: Serve in activity
- Step 4: Debriefing/Journal (see Sample Journal Questions)
- Step 5: Closing prayer focused around activity

Journal Reflection

One option for debriefing is to have youth write in a journal about their experience.

This journal is for their own reflection throughout this journey. It is not to be “graded” but can be checked for participation. It is encouraged to have a group discussion following their journal reflection.

Sample Journal Questions

1. Why did you choose this activity?
2. Where did you see Jesus through this activity?
3. How did you spiritually prepare to serve?
4. Would you do this again?
5. How did you feel during this activity?
6. What did you learn about yourself?
7. What would you do differently to make the next activity more successful?

Model Development
Archdiocese of Santa Fe Offices
of
Youth & Young Adult Ministry
Religious Education
And
Collaboration Members

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