



PILLAR I: THE VISION OF YOUTH MINISTRY

"Genuine spiritual accompaniment always begins and flourishes in the context of service to the mission of evangelization."
Pope Francis (Joy of the Gospel p. 87)

Introduction: Being a youth ministry volunteer is to answer God's call to accompany young people. A true sense of relationship with God and one another is at the heart of this walk toward becoming authentic Disciples of Christ. Knowing the Church's vision for ministry, understanding the spiritual, social and emotional development of today's young people, and considering one's own gifts, are vital areas to explore when preparing to journey with youth.

OPENING PRAYER

All participants can pray together the following prayer. At the end, spend a few minutes in silence.

Lord Jesus, [...] your Church turns her attention to all the young people of the world. We pray that they might boldly take charge of their lives, aim for the most beautiful and profound things of the life and always keep their hearts unencumbered. Accompanied by wise and generous guides, help them respond to the call you make to each of them, to realize a proper plan of life and achieve happiness.

Keep their hearts open to dreaming great dreams and make them concerned for the good of others. Like the Beloved Disciple, may they stand at the foot of the Cross, to receive your Mother as a gift from you. May they be witness to your Resurrection and be aware that they are at their side as they joyously proclaim you as Lord, Amen.¹

WATCH VIDEO

What is Youth Ministry? by Tom East, Director of the Center of Ministry Development

VIDEO REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What are the gifts youth bring to the Church?
- What is Youth Ministry and how have you experienced the three aspects of Youth Ministry?
- What are some faith abilities that we want to help young people develop?

¹ Pope Francis's prayer for young people in view of the 2018 Synod of Bishops on "Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment"



PILLAR I: THE VISION OF YOUTH MINISTRY

WATCH VIDEO

Generation Z by Ela Milewska, Director of Youth Ministry for the Archdioceses of New York

VIDEO REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What are the developmental characteristics of today's youth?
- What are the spiritual characteristics of today's youth?
- What are some ways in which you can facilitate encounters with God among youth?

WATCH VIDEO

Working with Teens by Christina Lamas, Executive Director for the NFCYM and Dr. Ansel Augustine, Director of Black Catholic Ministries for the Archdiocese of New Orleans

VIDEO REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What are some important characteristics of a youth ministry volunteer?
- What is not your role as a volunteer in youth ministry?
- Which tips for interacting with youth did you find most helpful? Why?

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord you left your Mother in our midst that she might accompany us. May she take care of us and protect us on our journey, in our hearts, in our faith. May she make us disciples like herself, missionaries like herself. May she teach us to go out into the streets. May she teach us to step outside ourselves. May she, by her meekness, by her peace, show us the way. Lord, you are a scandal, You are a scandal: the scandal of the Cross. A Cross which is humility, meekness; a Cross that speak to us of God's closeness. We entrust to you our work in Youth Ministry and we ask you to guard our youth, the future hope of our faith and the world. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen. ²

Hail Mary full of grace...

² Pope Francisco, Encounter with the Argentine young people in the Cathedral of San Sebastián (July 25, 2013)



PILLAR II: EVANGELIZATION AND YOUTH

"Missionary disciples accompany missionary disciples."
Pope Francis (Joy of the Gospel p. 87)

Introduction: In order to evangelize others, we must allow God to evangelize us and seek to deepen our own relationship with Him every day. Our communion with God gives us the grace to model discipleship to those we are accompanying. In turn, this grace also helps us to encourage young people to share their faith with their families, friends and communities, to become Christ's apostles spreading the Gospel wherever they go.

OPENING PRAYER

All participants can pray together the following prayer. At the end, spend a few minutes in silence.

Lord Jesus, [...] your Church turns her attention to all the young people of the world. We pray that they might boldly take charge of their lives, aim for the most beautiful and profound things of the life and always keep their hearts unencumbered. Accompanied by wise and generous guides, help them respond to the call you make to each of them, to realize a proper plan of life and achieve happiness.

Keep their hearts open to dreaming great dreams and make them concerned for the good of others Like the Beloved Disciple, may they stand at the foot of the Cross, to receive your Mother as a gift from you. May they be witness to your Resurrection and be aware that they are at their side as they joyously proclaim you as Lord, Amen.¹

WATCH VIDEO

What is Evangelization? by Doug Took, Director of Youth Ministry Diocese for the Diocese of Helena

VIDEO REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What are you doing to grow spiritually, personally each day?
- What two words describe your prayer life?
- What does giving an authentic testimony mean to you?
- How is your ministry flowing from your own daily encounter with God?

¹ Pope Francis's prayer for young people in view of the 2018 Synod of Bishops on "Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment"



PILLAR II: EVANGELIZATION AND YOUTH

WATCH VIDEO

Evangelization in Community by Doug Took, Director of Youth Ministry for the Diocese of Helena

VIDEO REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- How can youth ministry make a positive impact on the families of young people?
- How can you include family in youth ministry?
- How can you encourage teens and parents to talk about faith?

WATCH VIDEO

The Fruits of Good Evangelization by Maria Rodriguez, Director of Youth Ministry for St. Bernadette Church, Cedartown, Georgia

VIDEO REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- How was your own experience as a youth in the Church?
- What are your hopes about being involved in youth ministry?
- What are your concerns about being involved in youth ministry?

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord you left your Mother in our midst that she might accompany us. May she take care of us and protect us on our journey, in our hearts, in our faith. May she make us disciples like herself, missionaries like herself. May she teach us to go out into the streets. May she teach us to step outside ourselves. May she, by her meekness, by her peace, show us the way. Lord, you are a scandal, You are a scandal: the scandal of the Cross. A Cross which is humility, meekness; a Cross that speak to us of God's closeness. We entrust to you our work in Youth Ministry and we ask you to guard our youth, the future hope of our faith and the world. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen. ²

Hail Mary full of grace...

² Pope Francisco, Encounter with the Argentine young people in the Cathedral of San Sebastián (July 25, 2013)



PILLAR III: ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT AND PASTORAL CARE

"Young people call us to renewed and expansive hope, for they represent new directions for humanity and open us up to the future..."

Pope Francis (Joy of the Gospel p. 87)

Introduction: Relational ministry is at the heart of accompaniment. As we accompany young people we must keep in mind the various stages of physical and spiritual development they experience. It is important to know the differences in ministering to younger and older adolescents. There are also variations between normal and abnormal adolescent behaviors. Young people face many challenges. Understanding the complexities of teen development will help one to be aware of how to identify at risk behaviors and how to get help for young people in crisis.

OPENING PRAYER

All participants can pray together the following prayer. At the end, spend a few minutes in silence.

Lord Jesus, [...] your Church turns her attention to all the young people of the world. We pray that they might boldly take charge of their lives, aim for the most beautiful and profound things of the life and always keep their hearts unencumbered. Accompanied by wise and generous guides, help them respond to the call you make to each of them, to realize a proper plan of life and achieve happiness.

Keep their hearts open to dreaming great dreams and make them concerned for the good of others Like the Beloved Disciple, may they stand at the foot of the Cross, to receive your Mother as a gift from you. May they be witness to your Resurrection and be aware that they are at their side as they joyously proclaim you as Lord, Amen.¹

WATCH VIDEO

What is Relational Ministry? by Ela Milewska, Director of Youth Ministry for the Archdiocese of New York

VIDEO REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What is relational ministry?
- How does one discern between normal and abnormal adolescent behaviors?
- What are some specific ways to build a ministerial relationship with youth?

¹ Pope Francis's prayer for young people in view of the 2018 Synod of Bishops on "Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment"



PILLAR III: ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT AND PASTORAL CARE

WATCH VIDEO

Pastoral Care for Teens by Tom East, Director of the Center of Ministry Development and Doug Took, Director of Youth Ministry for the Diocese of Helena

VIDEO REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What is pastoral care?
- What are the issues youth are facing today?
- What does it mean to provide pastoral care for youth?

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord you left your Mother in our midst that she might accompany us. May she take care of us and protect us on our journey, in our hearts, in our faith. May she make us disciples like herself, missionaries like herself. May she teach us to go out into the streets. May she teach us to step outside ourselves. May she, by her meekness, by her peace, show us the way. Lord, you are a scandal, You are a scandal: the scandal of the Cross. A Cross which is humility, meekness; a Cross that speak to us of God's closeness. We entrust to you our work in Youth Ministry and we ask you to guard our youth, the future hope of our faith and the world. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen. ²

Hail Mary full of grace...

² Pope Francisco, Encounter with the Argentine young people in the Cathedral of San Sebastián (July 25, 2013)



PILLAR IV: MINISTRY WITH DIVERSE POPULATION

"Whenever people listen to one another humbly and openly, their shared values and aspirations become all the more apparent. Diversity is seen no more as a threat, but as a source of enrichment."
Pope Francis (Joy of the Gospel p. 87)

Introduction: Beauty and strength is present in the diversity of the church. Volunteer youth ministers can utilize successful approaches to ministering within the richness of multicultural settings.

OPENING PRAYER

All participants can pray together the following prayer. At the end, spend a few minutes in silence.

Lord Jesus, [...] your Church turns her attention to all the young people of the world. We pray that they might boldly take charge of their lives, aim for the most beautiful and profound things of the life and always keep their hearts unencumbered. Accompanied by wise and generous guides, help them respond to the call you make to each of them, to realize a proper plan of life and achieve happiness.

Keep their hearts open to dreaming great dreams and make them concerned for the good of others Like the Beloved Disciple, may they stand at the foot of the Cross, to receive your Mother as a gift from you. May they be witness to your Resurrection and be aware that they are at their side as they joyously proclaim you as Lord, Amen.¹

WATCH VIDEO

The New Reality by Dr. Ansel Augustine, Director of Black Catholic Ministries from the Archdiocese of New Orleans

VIDEO REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What does diversity mean to you? Multi-cultural?
- What does inclusivity mean to you?
- How are these related to the Church and your parish youth?

¹ Pope Francis's prayer for young people in view of the 2018 Synod of Bishops on "Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment"



PILLAR IV: MINISTRY WITH DIVERSE POPULATION

WATCH VIDEO

Living our Catholic Faith with Diverse Communities by Fr. Joseph Espallate from the Archdiocese of New York and Katherine Angulo, Associate Director of Youth Ministry for the Archdiocese of Atlanta

VIDEO REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Can you think of any Gospel stories where Jesus set an example of a spirit inclusivity (among diversity)?
- Identify some practical ways you as a leader may promote inclusivity in your parish.
- Identify some practical ways may you facilitate inclusivity in your ministry among youth.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord you left your Mother in our midst that she might accompany us. May she take care of us and protect us on our journey, in our hearts, in our faith. May she make us disciples like herself, missionaries like herself. May she teach us to go out into the streets. May she teach us to step outside ourselves. May she, by her meekness, by her peace, show us the way. Lord, you are a scandal, You are a scandal: the scandal of the Cross. A Cross which is humility, meekness; a Cross that speak to us of God's closeness. We entrust to you our work in Youth Ministry and we ask you to guard our youth, the future hope of our faith and the world. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen. ²

Hail Mary full of grace...

² Pope Francisco, Encounter with the Argentine young people in the Cathedral of San Sebastián (July 25, 2013)

Resources: *Welcoming the Stranger Among Us* and *Renewing the Vision*



PILLAR V: LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

"Genuine spiritual accompaniment always begins and flourishes in the context of service to the mission of evangelization."
Pope Francis, *The Joy of the Gospel*, 173

INTRODUCTION TO PILLAR V

"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings by the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit" (1 Corinthians 12:4-7).

STEP 1: OPENING PRAYER

Lead all participants in the following prayer. At the end, spend a few moments in silent prayer.

Heavenly Father, be with us as we enter this holy space. May we speak your peace, your grace, your mercy, and your perfect order in this place. We acknowledge your power over all that will be spoken, thought, decided, and done within these walls.

Lord, we thank you for the gifts with which you have blessed us. We commit to using them responsibly in your honor. Give us fresh strength to do this ministry. Anoint our projects, ideas, and energy so that even our smallest accomplishment may bring you glory. Lord, when we are confused, guide us. When we are burned out, infuse us with the light of the Holy Spirit. May the work that we do and the way that we do it bring faith, joy, and a smile to all with whom we come in contact today. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray.

Amen.

STEP 2: WATCH THE VIDEO ENTITLED "CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP"

Encourage the participants to take simple notes during the video.

STEP 3: REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Lead the participants in a group discussion:

- What do you think is the distinctive mark of Christian leadership?
- What models/styles of youth ministry leadership appeal most to you?
- What are the gifts that you bring to youth ministry leadership?
- What are some areas of youth ministry leadership in which you want to grow?

STEP 4: WATCH THE VIDEO ENTITLED "LEAD BY EXAMPLE"

Encourage the participants to take simple notes during the video.



PILLAR V: LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

STEP 5: REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Lead the participants in a group discussion:

- Why is it important to place youth in leadership roles within the Church?
- How can a variety of leadership styles create a rich environment that speaks to youth?
- What types of leadership opportunities are available to your youth within your ministry?

STEP 6: CLOSING PRAYER

Lead all participants in the following prayer:

Prayer to Saint John XXIII

Consult not your fears but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do.

Pray for us, Saint John XXIII.

Amen.



PILLAR VI: YOUTH MINISTRY PLANNING

"Genuine spiritual accompaniment always begins and flourishes in the context of service to the mission of evangelization."
Pope Francis, *The Joy of the Gospel*, 173

INTRODUCTION TO PILLAR VI

"The Church assumes those methods for teaching that can rightly be placed at the service of the Gospel. There are a variety of methods, therefore, not just one... We must always remember that the communication of faith is an event of grace. Simply put, God is acting in people's lives. With this in mind, catechesis seeks the most effective way to make this understood, to make it plain" (Paraphrase from GDC, numbers 148-150).

STEP 1: OPENING PRAYER

Lead all participants in the following prayer. At the end, spend a few moments in silent prayer.

Heavenly Father, be with us as we enter this holy space. May we speak your peace, your grace, your mercy, and your perfect order in this place. We acknowledge your power over all that will be spoken, thought, decided, and done within these walls.

Lord, we thank you for the gifts with which you have blessed us. We commit to using them responsibly in your honor. Give us fresh strength to do this ministry. Anoint our projects, ideas, and energy so that even our smallest accomplishment may bring you glory. Lord, when we are confused, guide us. When we are burned out, infuse us with the light of the Holy Spirit. May the work that we do and the way that we do it bring faith, joy, and a smile to all with whom we come in contact today. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray.

Amen.

STEP 2: WATCH THE VIDEO ENTITLED "PLANNING FOR EVENTS"

Encourage the participants to take simple notes during the video.

STEP 3: REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Lead the participants in a group discussion:

- What are the goals of youth ministry planning?
- How can youth ministry leaders develop *head, hand, and heart* experiences for young people?
- How can planning and flexibility in youth ministry be balanced?

STEP 4: WATCH THE VIDEO ENTITLED "THE GRID"

Encourage the participants to take simple notes during the video.



PILLAR VI: YOUTH MINISTRY PLANNING

STEP 5: REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Lead the participants in a group discussion:

- Why is it important for youth leaders to be prepared?
- What are some ways to prepare youth leaders for ministry?
- How can you build community with teens?

STEP 6: REVIEW THE GRID FORM

STEP 7: CLOSING PRAYER

Lead all participants in the following prayer:

Prayer to Saint John XXIII

Consult not your fears but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do.

Pray for us, Saint John XXIII.

Amen.



PILLAR VII: LITURGY, WORSHIP, AND MUSIC

"Genuine spiritual accompaniment always begins and flourishes in the context of service to the mission of evangelization."
Pope Francis, *The Joy of the Gospel*, 173

INTRODUCTION TO PILLAR VII

"The ministry of prayer and worship *celebrates* and *deepens* young people's relationships with Jesus Christ through the bestowal of grace, communal prayer and liturgical experiences; it *awakens* their awareness of the Spirit at work in their lives; it *incorporates* young people more fully into the sacramental life of the Church, especially the Eucharist; it *nurtures* the personal prayer life of young people; and it *fosters* family rituals and prayer" (Renewing the Vision, pp. 37-38).

STEP 1: OPENING PRAYER

Lead all participants in the following prayer. At the end, spend a few moments in silent prayer.

Heavenly Father, be with us as we enter this holy space. May we speak your peace, your grace, your mercy, and your perfect order in this place. We acknowledge your power over all that will be spoken, thought, decided, and done within these walls.

Lord, we thank you for the gifts with which you have blessed us. We commit to using them responsibly in your honor. Give us fresh strength to do this ministry. Anoint our projects, ideas, and energy so that even our smallest accomplishment may bring you glory. Lord, when we are confused, guide us. When we are burned out, infuse us with the light of the Holy Spirit. May the work that we do and the way that we do it bring faith, joy, and a smile to all with whom we come in contact today. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray.

Amen.

STEP 2: WATCH THE VIDEO ENTITLED "LITURGY & WORSHIP"

Encourage the participants to take simple notes during the video.

STEP 3: REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Lead the participants in a group discussion:

- Why is liturgy a vital part of youth ministry?
- How can youth participate in liturgy in a 'full, active, and conscious' way?
- What are some ways to help youth learn to pray?

STEP 4: WATCH THE VIDEO ENTITLED "MUSIC"

Encourage the participants to take simple notes during the video.



PILLAR VII: LITURGY, WORSHIP, AND MUSIC

STEP 5: REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Lead the participants in a group discussion:

- How can music empower youth to pray?
- What does music mean to youth today?
- How can diversity be celebrated through music?

STEP 6: CLOSING PRAYER

Lead all participants in the following prayer:

Prayer to Saint John XXIII

Consult not your fears but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do.

Pray for us, Saint John XXIII.

Amen.



PILLAR VIII: MOVING FROM SERVICE TO JUSTICE

"Genuine spiritual accompaniment always begins and flourishes in the context of service to the mission of evangelization."
Pope Francis, *The Joy of the Gospel*, 173

INTRODUCTION TO PILLAR VIII

"Our Faith calls us to work for justice; to serve those in need; to pursue peace; and to defend the life, dignity, and rights of all our sisters and brothers. This is the call of Jesus, the urging of His Spirit, the challenge of the prophets, and the living tradition of our Church... and must be accompanied by concrete efforts to address the causes of human suffering and injustice" (Renewing the Vision, pp. 37-38).

STEP 1: OPENING PRAYER

Lead all participants in the following prayer. At the end, spend a few moments in silent prayer.

Heavenly Father, be with us as we enter this holy space. May we speak your peace, your grace, your mercy, and your perfect order in this place. We acknowledge your power over all that will be spoken, thought, decided, and done within these walls.

Lord, we thank you for the gifts with which you have blessed us. We commit to using them responsibly in your honor. Give us fresh strength to do this ministry. Anoint our projects, ideas, and energy so that even our smallest accomplishment may bring you glory. Lord, when we are confused, guide us. When we are burned out, infuse us with the light of the Holy Spirit. May the work that we do and the way that we do it bring faith, joy, and a smile to all with whom we come in contact today. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray.

Amen.

STEP 2: WATCH THE VIDEO ENTITLED "CALLED TO SERVE"

Encourage the participants to take simple notes during the video.

STEP 3: REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Lead the participants in a group discussion:

- Why is it important to lead by example when encouraging youth to participate in service and justice?
- What are the steps to leading youth in service and justice?
- How can you lead youth to reflect on their service and justice experiences and explore how they were affected?

STEP 4: WATCH THE VIDEO ENTITLED "CHANGING LIVES THROUGH SERVICE"

Encourage the participants to take simple notes during the video.



PILLAR VIII: MOVING FROM SERVICE TO JUSTICE

STEP 5: REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Lead the participants in a group discussion:

- What are ways that youth can do service in their home communities?
- What advice or insights did the youth in the video offer about service and justice?
- What does youth ministry teach young people about themselves and their relationship with God?

STEP 6: CLOSING PRAYER

Lead all participants in the following prayer:

Prayer to Saint John XXIII

Consult not your fears but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do.

Pray for us, Saint John XXIII.

Amen.