

English Translation for Spanish Youth Ministry Brochure

Front Panel: The Catholic Diocese of Arlington, The Office of Youth Ministry

“As Jesus with the disciples of Emmaus, so the Church must become today the traveling companion of young people...”
Pope John Paul II

Inside Left Panel: What is Youth Ministry?

- Youth Ministry is a program comprised of a variety of educational, social, and spiritual activities recognized by the Bishops as the best way for teens to learn about their Catholic faith.
- Youth Ministry serves youth between the ages of 12 to 18 and is divided into junior high and high school ministry.
- The specific goals of youth ministry are; to provide a safe, Catholic environment where youth can form a personal relationship with Jesus, to create healthy, Christian friendships, to grow in understanding of our Catholic faith, and learn how to be leaders in our Church.
- Youth Ministry is most common at the parish level where youth can participate in a routine program under the direction of a Coordinator for Youth Ministry. The Diocese also provides some large-scale events that bring teens together from many parishes and cultural backgrounds.

Top Right Panel: What activities are offered?

Parish Level- weekly activities, spiritual retreats, bible studies, social nights, opportunities for service, pilgrimages to Catholic sites

Diocesan Level- WorkCamp (a week of service during the summer), Annual One Act Play Festival, Annual Soccer Festival, Jr. High BASH (a gathering for junior high youth), High School RALLY (a gathering for high school youth), and World Youth Day pilgrimages with the Pope

Inside Middle Panel: Why is it important? Youth Ministry is important because,

- The primary goal is to teach the Catholic faith and brings the Good News of Jesus Christ to teens
- Teens need to belong to a community and as adults; we want them to have a good community and safe environment. In this environment they can meet other Catholic teens and create healthy friendships while exploring topics about their faith and daily lives.
- Adolescence is a fun and beautiful time in ones life, but sometimes it can also be difficult. Adolescents therefore need to express themselves and learn about themselves in an environment that is safe and trusting.
- It gives teens the opportunity to grow in their personal spiritual lives through religious formation and good role models.
- It encourages teens to develop their talents in a safe, Catholic environment.
- It teaches leadership skills and promotes responsible leadership in the Church, in the family, and in society.

Inside Right Panel: What can parents do?

- Ask in your parish about the youth ministry program. Talk to the coordinator of youth ministry or the director of religious education.
- Help out with youth ministry in your parish by being a friend or model for others and donating your time and talents to the youth programs, or help organize events.
- Support your son or daughter and encourage them to attend the youth ministry programs in your parish
- Look for information regularly on our website and calendar of events at www.arlingtondiocese.org

Back Panel: Safe Environment

The Catholic Diocese of Arlington takes all precautions to assure the safety of young people. All adults that work with youth in our diocese (paid or volunteers) have to pass a security check before they can work with young people in the parish. The majority of adults that work with young people are trained and certified in working with youth.

Office of Youth Ministry prayer

Space for a parish informational sticker

Contact information for the Office of Youth Ministry