

Vision

The vision of Youth Ministry here in St Jude parish follows the framework articulated in *Renewing the Vision, a Catholic Framework for Youth Ministry*, the document approved by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in 1997. *Renewing the Vision* provides the framework for developing a holistic approach to ministering to adolescents by defining specific goals and themes of Youth Ministry.

Goals

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

These goals are accomplished through the implementation of the 8 components of youth ministry throughout our Junior High Ministry, High School Ministry, Scouting Ministry and Athletics Ministry:

Components

Advocacy - the ministry of advocacy engages the church to examine its priorities and practices to determine how well young people are integrated into the life, mission, and work of the Catholic community.

Catechesis - the ministry of catechesis helps adolescents develop a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and the Christian community, and increase their knowledge of the core content of the Catholic faith.

Community Life - the ministry of community life builds an environment of love, support, appreciation for diversity, and judicious acceptance that models Catholic principles, develops meaningful relationships; and nurtures Catholic faith.

Evangelization - the ministry of evangelization shares the goodness of the reign of God and invites young people to hear about the Word Made Flesh- it enables young people to uncover and name the experience of God already active and present in their lives.

Justice and Service - the ministry of justice and service nurtures in young people a social consciousness and a commitment to a life of justice and service rooted in their faith in Jesus Christ, in the Scriptures, and in Catholic social teaching.

Leadership Development - the ministry of leadership development calls forth, affirms, and empowers the diverse gifts, talents, and abilities of adults and young people in our faith community for comprehensive ministry with adolescents.

Pastoral Care - the ministry of pastoral care is a compassionate presence in imitation of Jesus' care of people, especially those who are hurting or in need.

Prayer and Worship - the ministry of prayer and worship celebrates and deepens young people's relationship 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 nurtures the personal prayer life of young people; and it incorporates young people more fully into the sacramental life of the church.