**Starting a Young Adult Ministry**

**How Young Adult Ministries Begin:**

1. Young Adult approaches priest
2. Priest approaches young adult, parish minister, or Diocese
3. Associate Director of Young Adult Ministry approaches a parish

\***No matter what, the pastor should always be the first point of contact in starting a young adult ministry in a parish\***

Priest and Potential Coordinator

Gathering a group

* 1. Priest may be able to make recommendations of young adults who would serve well on a committee
     + 1. If priest cannot make recommendations for young adults, Youth Ministers and Directors of Religious Education can be a good resource
  2. Discuss what the priest is looking for in a young adult ministry and make potential coordinator aware of any history of prior young adult ministries that are dormant

**Establishing a core team:**

It may not be possible or necessary to establish a core group the first couple of months in.

Coordinator and Core Members (preferably 4-6) identified

-young adults may have stepped forward

-identified from leaders in congregation

Contact potential core members

-should be young adults with a broad range of gifts and backgrounds

Qualities to look for in coordinator and core members:

* **Faithful** to the teachings of the Church with continued growth in faith life
* **Competent**, **reliable, organized,** and **willing to** offer **time** and **talent**
* **Hospitable, intentional,** and **communicative** to young adults, parishioners, and priests

**Getting Started check list:**

* Meet with pastor
* Location, time, date of launch
* Location, time, and day of regular meeting schedule
* Scout for leaders/ interest prior🡪 already have someone to lead a study
* Study Plan for First Month
* Contact parish about announcements
* Advertise launch and study
* Personally invite young adults in
* Group gathering-offer food and information (get contact information from those who show up)
* Set first meeting for ministry within one week of launch

**Young Adult Ministry Roles**

**Pastor/ Priest**

The pastor and parochial vicar are the spiritual heads of the parish and, therefore, the spiritual heads of all ministries within it. Any major decision for the ministry such as launching one, starting a new initiative, or making the final call on difficult situations, should be handled in conjunction with or by the pastor.

**Young Adult Coordinator**

The Young Adult Coordinator is in charge of organizing the core team, facilitating studies, and keeping the pastor, parish, Regional Coordinator (if there is a regional coordinator), and Associate Director of Young Adult Ministry updates. Parish Young Adult Coordinators invest into the lives of the young adults in the ministry they lead and into the lives of those in their parish.

Core Team

-Hospitality/Social Chair

-Service Chair

-Social Media/ Advertising

**Regional Coordinator**

The Regional Coordinator is the connection between the Diocese and parishes keeping them updated on upcoming region wide and Diocesan events. Additionally, providing support and resources to parish coordinators, by investing into the lives of coordinators.

**Associate Director of Young Adult Ministry**

The Associate Director of Young Adult Ministry offers resources and assistance to parishes for young adult ministries. Problems that arise in the young adult ministry should first be addressed at the parish level. The Associate Director of Young Adult Ministry invests into coordinators around the state spending time meeting and checking in on progress, assisting with troubleshooting, and providing guidance for the parish and regional levels where necessary.