

# YOUTH MINISTRY ENCYCLOPEDIA

CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY  
*Diocese of Wilmington*



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## **AAP**

Athletic Association President. Every parish that participates in CYM Sports is required to have an Athletic Association President who serves as the primary contact for the parish or school athletic program. The AAP serves as the primary liaison between the parish and the CYM director of athletics.

## **Advocacy**

Advocacy includes interpreting the needs of youth and their families, especially the social problems facing them as well as acting with or on their behalf for a change in the systems which create or contribute to the social problems. Advocacy is about giving young people a voice and empowering them to address the social problems that they face.<sup>1</sup>

## **Affiliation**

The process by which young people are assigned to a parish athletic program for participation. The process begins automatically when a parent registers his/her child(ren) online through CYMSignUp. Parents may request a change in affiliation in cases of a relocation or change in parish registration, though some restrictions apply.

## **Annual Recognition Dinner**

This celebration (sometimes referred to as ARD) of young people and adult leaders occurs annually. Parishes and schools are invited to name a Volunteer of the Year and a young person as a recipient of the St. Timothy Award. Parishes and schools can also nominate adult leaders to receive diocesan or national awards. The following awards are distributed:

### *Volunteer of the Year*

A volunteer at a parish or school who is a cleared adult and who was not honored the previous year is eligible. Paid staff are not eligible for this award (but teachers in Catholic Schools who volunteer beyond normal teaching assignment are eligible only if they do not receive compensation for this extra work).

### *St. Timothy Award*

This is the highest recognition from the NFCYM for a diocese to confer to a junior or senior high school youth who lives as a disciple of Christ, sets a positive example for other youth, witnesses to his or her faith by exhibiting Catholic morals and integrity, demonstrates Gospel values through service to others, and exhibits Christian leadership in parish, school, and/or community settings.

### *St. John Bosco Award*

A diocesan award named for the patron saint of young people and awarded to adult leaders (21 years and older and cleared) who have been involved in youth ministry for five or more years and have been positive role models in one of several categories.

### *Companions on the Journey*

Parishes and schools can nominate adult volunteers, paid staff, or clergy for the Companions on the Journey Award, given by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry through local diocesan offices for service in one of seven categories to an individual who has provided three or more years of outstanding service to youth.

Catholic Youth Ministry also uses the Annual Recognition Dinner as an opportunity to present awards for which nominations are not an open process. These awards include the Pope John Paul II Courage in CYM Athletics Award, the Father John J. Sheehy Award for Outstanding Contribution in Youth Ministry, and the Coach Jim Blunt Memorial Award.

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<sup>1</sup> Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry, 1996, USCCB. Page 26

## AREA

The Association of Religious Education Administrators meets most months for continuing education and a short business meeting. Though its membership is comprised mostly of DREs and CREs, membership to AREA is open to anyone interested in catechesis.

## Athletic Advisory Committee

The AAC is a subcommittee of the CYM Board and responds to the needs and issues that arise in the CYM Sports program.

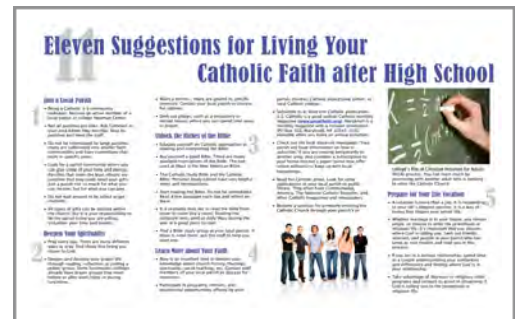
## Background Check

The process of looking up and compiling criminal and commercial records of an individual in preparation for his or her service with young people. All Diocesan personnel and parish personnel who have contact with youth will be required to have a criminal background check as a requirement for employment. Volunteers who interact on a regular or ongoing basis with children or youth will be required to have a criminal background check prior to being eligible for service.<sup>2</sup>

A background check needs to be completed (renewed) every five years.

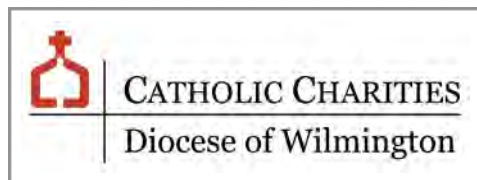
## Beyond High School

A resource that connects high school seniors with their college campus ministry program. Seniors are given a brochure, "Eleven Suggestions for Living Your Catholic Faith After High School," which is provided to schools and parishes by CYM. Seniors are also invited to visit the website [catholicsoncampus.com](http://catholicsoncampus.com) each spring to give CYM details on where they will attend college. CYM then provides that information to the college campus ministry program the seniors plan to attend.



## Campus Ministers

Those individuals charged with the oversight of retreats, spiritual programs, and, in some cases, service opportunities in our diocesan and private Catholic schools. CYM facilitates a quarterly meeting of these individuals to discuss how resources can be shared and joint programs created and supported.



## Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities is the social service arm of the Diocese of Wilmington. It is a faith-based, social services organization, delivering critical direct care human services annually to over 80,000 individuals and families residing in Delaware and the nine counties of the Eastern Shore of Maryland, regardless of their religion, race, or income.

Specifically, the programs and services of Catholic Charities include children's services, pregnancy, parenting and adoption programs, behavioral health services, counseling services, thrift stores, parish social ministry, and more.

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.cdow.org/FSGC/2010INTRODUCTION.pdf>

## Catholic Youth Ministry

The office of the Diocese of Wilmington (referred to simply as CYM) that oversees training for those called to serve young people in parishes and schools. CYM was founded in 1932 as Catholic Youth Organization. It was incorporated as its own 501c-3 non profit in 1936. Catholic Youth Organization began operating as Catholic Youth Ministry in October 2000.

Catholic Youth Ministry oversees non-high school athletic programs, leadership development for young people and adult leaders in ministry, scouting (boys and girls), and pastoral care for young people.

See also [CYM](#)

See also [Youth Ministry](#)



## Catechesis

The ministry of catechesis helps adolescents develop a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and the Christian community, and increase knowledge of the core content of the Catholic faith. Effective catechesis helps young people enrich and expand their understanding of the Scriptures and the sacred tradition and their application to life today, and live more faithfully as disciples of Jesus Christ in their daily lives, especially through a life of prayer, justice, and loving service. Genuine faith is a total response of the whole person—mind, heart, and will.

The ministry of catechesis fosters growth in Catholic faith in all three dimensions—trusting (heart), knowing and believing (mind), and doing (will). Adolescent catechesis is at the heart of comprehensive youth ministry. The goal should be to have all Catholic youth involved in some program of catechesis.<sup>3</sup>

## CDOW

The initials for Catholic Diocese of Wilmington. It also refers to the official website of the diocese.

## CHAOS

This Jr. High rally for seventh and eighth graders (and sixth graders for those parishes that include them in Jr. High ministry) is held annually each fall. It includes games, catechetical sessions, and entertainment.



## Cleared Adult

Refers to an adult who has obtained a clearance certificate for service with young people in the Diocese of Wilmington. This requires three steps: the reception of a suitable background check through the diocesan FSGC coordinator, a signed Volunteer Covenant (annually), and attendance at the required training in the parish, school, or diocesan ministry.

## CMD

The Center for Ministry Development (CMD), based in Gig Harbor, WA is the premier organization for Catholic youth ministry training. Catholic Youth Ministry partners with CMD in providing training for our adult leaders and volunteers.



<sup>3</sup> Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry, 1996, USCCB. Page 28

### **Coaches Training**

Required for all CYM coaches once every three years. For new coaches, training must take place within the first six months of coaching. For those who have coached more than three years, an online option exists as an alternative to face to face training, which is offered twice a year. For those who have coached more than six years, a shorter face to face training is required.

### **Community Life**

Creating an environment which nurtures meaningful relationships among youth and between youth and adults characterized by Gospel values (e.g. acceptance of all people, trust, respect, cooperation, honesty, taking responsibility, willingness to serve); helping young people feel like a valued part of the church community; providing opportunities for social interaction and meaningful participation in the life of the church and civic community.<sup>4</sup>

### **Coordinator of Youth Ministry**

The person hired or identified by the parish pastor to serve as the coordinator of the parish's response to the needs of young people. While primarily responsible for youth ministry, this person serves as part of a team, since youth ministry is the responsibility of all adults in a parish community.

### **CRE**

A Coordinator of Religious Education is an individual hired by a parish to coordinate elements of a comprehensive catechetical program. Requirements include a BA, a job description and a contract.

### **CYM**

Refers to the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry, which has a rich history of service to young people and adult leaders called to serve them within the Diocese of Wilmington. Founded in 1932 and incorporated in 1936 (see CYO), CYM provides training to adult leaders, guidance to parish staff, and a variety of gatherings of young people throughout the year.

### **CYM Board**

Formerly known as the Advisory Board, the Diocesan Board for CYM is a group of laypeople and clergy who provide guidance to the staff of CYM when it comes to programming and strategic planning. Terms are two years, renewable three times.

### **CYMSignUp**

The online registration system for CYM Sports. All parents of all participants in CYM Sports must complete the three steps of the online registration process prior to playing or practicing with an athletic team. Failure to provide accurate information or to complete the registration process on time may result in forfeiture of games and removal of players from teams. Since CYMSignUP is a legal document, it must be completed by an adult. Each year, CYM makes adjustments to the system, making it easier to use.

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<sup>4</sup> Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry, 1996, USCCB. Page 34

## CYO

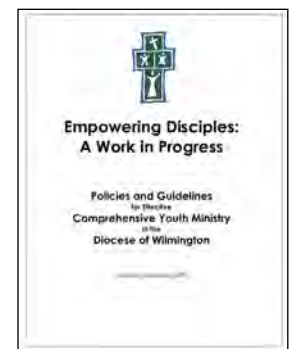
Catholic Youth Organization was a national organization in the United States until the late 1970s. Its successor is the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry. In the Diocese of Wilmington, CYO was incorporated in 1936 as an organized way to keep young people out of trouble by involving them in a variety of athletic competitions, academic activities and social gatherings. After the publication of "A Vision of Youth Ministry" by the U.S. Bishops, the CYO office was renamed Youth Ministry/CYO to reflect the diocese's intent to implement the bishop's vision of meeting the needs of young people more comprehensively. In 2000, the office was renamed Catholic Youth Ministry (CYM) to reflect more accurately the approach of ministry to young people that is effective and in keeping with the goals set by the 1997 U.S. Bishops' document, "Renewing the Vision," an update of their earlier work.

## DRE

A Director of Religious Education is an individual hired by a parish to direct a comprehensive catechetical program. Requirements include a Master's degree (or equivalent) in religious education, theology or a related field, a contract and a job description.

## Empowering Disciples

This document, first published in 2005 and updated each year, now exists completely online. It provides all guidelines and policies required for the implementation of effective and comprehensive ministry to, with, and for young people.



## Evangelization

Proclaiming through word and witness the Good News of the Gospel to youth who have not yet heard or seen it and inviting them into a relationship with Jesus Christ and the community of believers; ongoing witness of the faith community as it attempts to live out the Gospel with such authenticity that the faith of all the members is sustained and nourished. Evangelization is the energizing core of all the components of youth ministry (The Challenge of Catholic Youth Evangelization).<sup>5</sup>

## Five Minutes on Monday

An email newsletter sent every Monday to all primary youth ministry contacts. Subscription to this newsletter is limited to these contacts.

## FSGC

For Sake of God's Children is the Diocese of Wilmington's official response to the USCCB's Charter for the Protection of Children. It outlines the process for background checks, ethical standards for church personnel, youth to adult ratios, and checklists for the safe implementation of many youth ministry activities.



## Golf Outing

Held each July, this event raises money for CYM programs and services. There are opportunities for sponsorship, auction donations, and volunteers. The Golf Outing is the only annual fundraiser for Catholic Youth Ministry.

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<sup>5</sup> Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry, 1996, USCCB. Page 36

### Gym Coordinator

A gym coordinator is the primary contact between a parish/school and the CYM office. The gym coordinator provides gym availability to CYM for games/matches.

### Gym Monitor

In the sports of volleyball and basketball, each team is responsible for having a "Gym Monitor" at games/matches. The primary responsibility of the "Gym Monitor" for each team to make certain siblings of players are not in unauthorized areas (under bleachers on a stage) or loitering in hallways and bathrooms. Gym Monitors work together but primarily work with parents to ensure siblings are in the stands.

### Justice, Peace, and Service

Guiding young people in the development of a social consciousness and a commitment to a life of justice and service grounded in their faith in Jesus Christ, in the scriptures and in Catholic social teaching; empowering young people (and their families) to work for justice by concrete efforts to address the causes of human suffering, to serve those in need, to pursue peace, and to defend the life, dignity, and rights of all people; infusing the concepts of justice and peace into all youth ministry efforts.<sup>6</sup>

### Injury Clinic

A workshop held at the beginning of each CYM sports season to help coaches understand the various risks involved with athletic competitions and what they can do to reduce those risks.

### Just 5 Days

Just 5 Days is a five-day experience of service, hands-on learning activities, prayer and liturgy, and community building designed for groups of middle school youth and their adult leaders from Catholic parishes and schools. The program is sponsored by the Center for Ministry Development and hosted by CYM in the Diocese of Wilmington. The program debuted in seven cities in 2010 and will be hosted locally beginning in 2011.



### Ladders Online

This subscription-based virtual newsletter is published every other week by CYM and emailed to more than 1,900 subscribers. Begun in 2001 as a means to get resources in the hands of youth ministry leaders following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, this newsletter has continued to grow in both its reach and content. Seven countries are represented on the subscription list and content now includes news about CYM resources and events as well as national survey data and service opportunities for youth, young adults, and adult leaders.

In December 2010, *Ladders Online* was renamed to *On the Same Page* and its content was automated based on news, resources, and events published on the CYM website, making it the first fully automated newsletter in use in ministry in the diocese.

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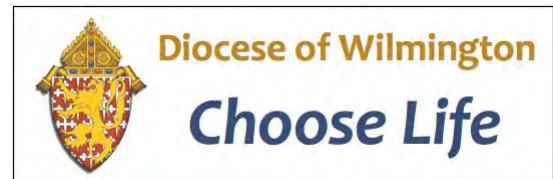
<sup>6</sup> Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry, 1996, USCCB. Page 37

## Leadership Development

Recruiting, training, and supporting youth and adult leaders in youth ministry; empowering youth for leadership and ministry with their peers, in their schools, and in the church and civic community; developing a leadership team of youth and adults to organize and coordinate a ministry with youth; partnering with parents and families in promoting positive youth development and faith growth.<sup>7</sup>

## March for Life

The March for Life is an annual pro-life rally protesting abortion, held in Washington D.C. on the anniversary of the decision in the United States Supreme Court case Roe v. Wade. Many marchers also protest the use of euthanasia. The rally is organized by the March for Life Education and Defense Fund. The overall goal of the march is to overturn the Roe v. Wade decision. Organizers estimated 250,000 attendees at the 2010 march. EWTN, the global Catholic television network, broadcasts from the march live every year.



For the last several years, the events of the day have also included a Rally for Life at a large venue (or two) in Washington, DC. This rally includes thousands of young people, Catholic entertainers, music, Reconciliation, Eucharistic Adoration, and more. It is a ticketed event and ticket requests are made through CYM in early November.

## Monday Messenger

A subscription-based virtual newsletter published by CYM from 2004-2010 for young adults. It included information about upcoming events and resources for young adults. In December 2010, the list of subscribers was merged with Ladders Online and information for young adults began being included in that publication.

## NCCYM

The National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry is held during even numbered years and is sponsored by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry. Through a series of workshops, keynote presentations, and liturgical events, NCCYM provides an exciting, faith-filled celebration of faith along with powerful continuing education for youth ministry leaders. CYM provides assistance to parish leaders by coordinating registration and hotel accommodations. If the conference is held in a location reachable via driving, CYM also coordinates transportation. Otherwise, travel is the responsibility of participants.

## NCYC

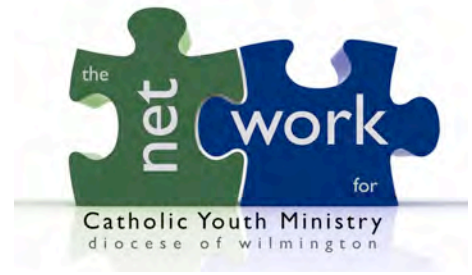
The National Catholic Youth Conference is an exciting, biennial three-day experience of prayer, community, and empowerment for Catholic teenagers and their adult chaperones. The schedule includes keynote addresses, prayer, workshops, liturgy, opportunities to participate in Reconciliation and Eucharist Adoration, recreational activities, concerts, exhibits, and an interactive thematic park. CYM provides assistance to parish leaders by coordinating registration and accommodations. If the conference is held in a relatively close location, CYM also coordinates transportation. Otherwise, travel is the responsibility of participants.

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<sup>7</sup> Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry, 1996, USCCB. Page 40

### Network

The monthly gathering of youth ministry leaders in the Diocese of Wilmington. Meetings are held in various locations during the day and, on occasion, in the evening. All meetings include a “two minute roundup” that allows adult leaders to hear the highs and lows of ministry in surrounding parishes and is followed by a question and answer session that often provides great resources and ideas for those who attend. Meetings can also include an in-service and reports from CYM staff and other diocesan leaders.



### NFCYM

The National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, Inc. Is a nonprofit organization incorporated in the District of Columbia. The primary purpose of the NFCYM is to advocate for and to support Catholic youth ministry on the national, diocesan, and local level. The NFCYM sponsors NCYC and NCCYM and provides resources and training to parish and diocesan leaders. It is unique in that the Catholic Church in the U.S. Is the only denomination with a national organization dedicated to the support of youth ministry leaders.



### Officials

Term used to describe a person enforcing playing rules in the capacity of a linesman, referee or umpire. CYM has officials in JV basketball games, JV soccer games and volleyball matches. Each of these sports has a Coordinator of Officials who is responsible for recruitment, training, assignment and reviewing/approving vouchers. In most cases, these individuals are volunteers who receive only a small stipend to make sure competitions are fair and young people are treated with respect. For other sports, CYM contracts with organizations specializing in officiating recreational athletic competitions.

### On The Same Page

This subscription-based virtual newsletter is published weekly by CYM and includes resources, news items from youth ministry programs around the diocese, and links to registration information for upcoming events. Its predecessor, *Ladders Online*, began in 2001 and was renamed in December 2010 to highlight the importance of the shared responsibility we have for comprehensive youth ministry.

### One Spirit One Church

The high school conference (often referred to in writing as OSOC) is for young people in grades 9-12 and is sponsored by CYM most years. The day includes a keynote speaker, entertainment, workshops, and liturgy.



### Parent Town Meeting

Hosted by CYM staff on alternating years, this meeting invites parents of athletes involved in CYM sports to come together to discuss ways to improve sportsmanship among coaches and players. Several great resources have come from these meetings including the official CYM Sportsmanship Prayer.

## Pastoral Care

Promoting positive youth and family development through a variety of preventive strategies (e.g., developing life skills and parenting skills); caring for youth and families in crisis through support, counseling, and referral to appropriate community agencies; and providing guidance as youth face life decisions and make moral choices.<sup>8</sup>

## Pastoral Cross

A sacramental offered by CYM for use in parishes and schools in times of crisis. Adult leaders in ministry may request to use the Diocesan Pastoral Cross to help young people deal with the death of one of their peers or the death of an adult who played a significant role in the lives of young people (i.e., teacher, youth ministry volunteer, etc.).

The cross stands about 5 feet high, including the base. Both the base and cross are on casters and the base houses a light that illuminates the cross in darker spaces. The blonde wood and glass fashioned into the cross come together for a very modern, clean look. The top of the cross can be removed so that a scroll or individual messages can be placed inside. At an appropriate time, these may be shared with the family of the deceased.



## .pdf

The initials used to identify a portable document format, an open standard for document exchange. Most of the flyers and documents sent by CYM are saved as a PDF, which can be opened by users on any computer that has a PDF reader (provided free from Adobe Acrobat) installed. PDF documents can be identified by the suffix .pdf after the document name.

## Pilgrimage

An annual event started in 2010 and held on the Saturday of Palm Sunday weekend. Young people, young adults, youth ministry leaders, and families are invited to join the Bishop as we carry the cross through the streets of Wilmington as a representation of Jesus' entry to Jerusalem and his journey on Good Friday to Calvary.

The day begins with an opening prayer and includes Reconciliation, Eucharistic Adoration, a concert with a Catholic musician, and liturgy with the Bishop. A service component was added to the day's events beginning in 2011.



<sup>8</sup> Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry, 1996, USCCB. Page 42



### **Pilgrimage Cross**

Built in 2009 by the Diocesan Youth Leadership Team, this cross is a replica of the World Youth Day Cross, given by Pope John Paul II to the young people of the world in 1984.

The cross stands ten feet high and stretches six feet wide. It is hosted by parishes and schools throughout the year as part of prayer services and liturgical celebrations. It is carried by young people and the Bishop during the annual youth Pilgrimage, held on Palm Saturday.

You can request the cross by contacting CYM. You may request the cross as often as you like.

### **Pitcher and Basin**

The annual service-learning program sponsored by CYM. Founded in 2007, more than 150 young people and adult leaders have participated in the construction of more than five homes in the Cambridge, MD area of our diocese. Working along side Habitat for Humanity Choptank, participants and adult leaders help with general construction work during the day and spend evenings journaling, in small group discussions, and in activities relating to social justice. Registration opens in January and the two one-week programs are usually filled by April. Spaces are filled on a first come-first served basis but preference is often given to young people who have not attended in prior years. Plans are underway to add a third week in another region of our diocese.



### **Prayer and Worship**

Assisting young people in deepening their relationship with Jesus through spiritual development and a personal prayer life; providing a variety of communal prayer and worship experiences with youth to deepen and celebrate their relationship with Jesus in a caring Christian community; involving young people in the sacramental life of the Church.<sup>9</sup>

### **Pre-Season Coaches' Meeting**

Every parish participating in CYM sports is required to send a representative to this meeting to discuss rule changes, ways to avoid injury, and the need to promote positive sportsmanship among players and coaches.

### **Primary Basketball Contact**

Individuals identified by parish athletic associations as those required to attend a pre-season meeting to collect important information relating to schedules, new rules, and ways to encourage positive sportsmanship.

### **Primary Youth Ministry Contacts**

The minimal requirement, as set forth by Empowering Disciples, in parishes without a paid or volunteer Coordinator of Youth Ministry. A primary contact receives the information about resources and activities and serves as the liaison between the parish and CYM staff. Anyone may serve as a primary contact, though it is not recommended that this person be clergy.

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<sup>9</sup> Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry, 1996, USCCB. Page 44

## Renewing the Vision

The Catholic bishops of the United States defined Catholic youth ministry in the 1997 document *Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry* (RTV). The bishops identified three goals and eight components which provide direction for this ministry. Youth ministry, at its best, is characterized by the following five hallmarks:

- Discipleship
- Connection
- Giftedness and growth
- Comprehensiveness
- Entire church (parish) involvement<sup>10</sup>

There are eight components of comprehensive youth ministry.<sup>11</sup>

- Advocacy
- Catechesis
- Community Life
- Evangelization
- Justice, Peace, and Service
- Leadership Development
- Pastoral Care
- Prayer and Worship



## Scout Recognition Mass

Held each spring or early summer, this liturgy provides the setting at which religious recognition awards are presented to Boy and Girl Scouts who have earned them. The Bishop usually leads the celebration and greets the Scouts at a reception afterwards.

## Sports Leadership Institute

A four to five hour workshop hosted by CYM for two to three seventh and eighth grade athletes per parish. Through a series of activities and small group processes, young people are encouraged to be good sports and positive role models to others (including their coaches and parents) during competitive practice and play.

## Sports Coordinators

Due to the size of the CYM athletic program, most individual sports have an individual that is designated as the sports coordinator. The sports coordinator is primarily responsible for scheduling of games/matches, rescheduling of events and working with coaches and the director of CYM sports. The following sports have a coordinator:

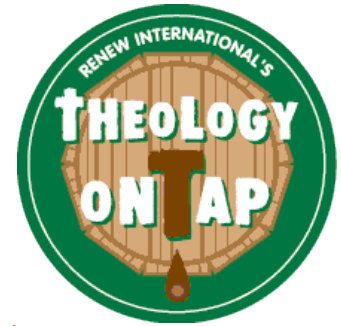
- Fall – Cheerleading, Cross Country, Football, Soccer, Volleyball
- Winter – Boys' Basketball, Girls' Basketball
- Spring – Baseball and Softball

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.nfcym.org/catholicym/index.htm>

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.usccb.org/laity/youth/renewingpart3.shtml>

### Theology on Tap

A speaker series that started in Chicago, IL in 1981. The series is for young adults and often takes place in a parish hall or a local restaurant or bar. The program is now owned by Renew International and local dioceses who wish to participate must pay a fee for the use of the Theology on Tap logo and title.



The Diocese of Wilmington hosted Theology on Tap for several years, beginning in 2002. At its height, Theology on Tap was taking place in three locations around the diocese, drawing in dozens of young adults. In recent years, participation has wained and the series has been shelved as young adult ministry in the Diocese of Wilmington is reevaluated.

### United Way

A coalition of charitable organizations that focus on identifying and resolving pressing community issues, as well as making measurable changes in the communities. The issues United Way offices focus on are determined locally because of the diversity of the communities served. However, the main focus areas include education, income and health.<sup>12</sup>



Catholic Youth Ministry joined the United Way of Delaware in 1956 and collects approximately \$20,000 in donations each year. CYM also receives a small amount of money from the United Ways in Chicago, Southeastern Pennsylvania, and New York, mostly from benefactors who once lived in the diocese. The United Way of Delaware donation code for CYM is 0180.

### USCCB

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is the episcopal conference of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States. Founded in 1966 as the joint *National Conference of Catholic Bishops and United States Catholic Conference*, it is composed of all active and retired members of the Roman Catholic hierarchy (i.e., bishops and archbishops) in the United States.



### Young Adult Ministry

Young Adult Ministry refers to programs, services, and activities sponsored for young adults (generally ages 18-39).

### Young Adult Commission

This group of young adults provides vision and strategic planning for ministry to young adults in the Diocese of Wilmington. They began meeting in September 2009 and will continue their planning as programs and services for young adults begin to take shape. There are no term limits and membership is open, pending approval from the CYM staff.

<sup>12</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_Way\\_of\\_America](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Way_of_America)

### Youth Leadership Institute

Youth Leadership Institute (YLI), sponsored by CYM. Once a week-long conference, YLI has, in recent years, been shortened to a three day event that includes workshops, liturgy, and activities aimed at helping young people become better leaders in their parishes, schools, and communities. The target audience for YLI is high school students. Though not held annually, YLI is on the radar screen of several ministry leaders for a comeback in 2011 or 2012.

### Youth Leadership Team

Youth Leadership Team (YLT) is the gathering of young people (high school students) from parishes and schools across the diocese identified by their faith communities as leaders among their peers. The group meets five to seven times during the academic year for leadership development and to assist the CYM office with diocesan events like CHAOS, One Spirit One Church, and the Pilgrimage.

### Youth Ministry Access

Youth Ministry Access is a subscription-based online resource library sponsored by the Center for Ministry Development (CMD). An annual subscription is paid to CYM, who, in turn, pays CMD. By subscribing at the same time as other parishes, all parishes that subscribe enjoy a twenty percent discount.



Resources include a variety of gathered programs, non-gathered activities, journal articles, and online learning sessions. Youth Ministry Access is based upon *Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry* — the national pastoral letter of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (1997). All resources are designed utilizing the latest youth ministry research conducted by the Center for Ministry Development and published in *Effective Practices for Dynamic Youth Ministry* (Saint Mary's Press, 2004).<sup>13</sup>

### Youth Ministry

Youth ministry is more than programs and events. It is “the response of the Christian community to the needs of young people, and the sharing of the unique gifts of youth with the larger community.” (*A Vision of Youth Ministry*, p. 6, quoted in RTV 1). To be most effective, this is a ministry to, with, by, and for young people that involves their families, their parish community, and the larger community. At the heart of ministry with young people is the presence of caring, supportive relationships where youth experience the Good News in the flesh.

A comprehensive approach to youth ministry utilizes the eight components identified in *Renewing the Vision* as a framework: advocacy, catechesis, community life, evangelization, justice and service, leadership development, pastoral care, and prayer and worship. These components guide our efforts in proclaiming the Good News, connecting young people with the faith community, and calling our young people to the challenge of discipleship.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> [www.cmdnet.org](http://www.cmdnet.org)

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.nfcym.org/catholicym/index.htm>

### Youth Ministry Certification

The required training for full time and professional Coordinators of Youth Ministry in the Diocese of Wilmington. This certification is sponsored and taught for the diocese by the Center for Ministry Development. It includes eight two-day sessions and subsequent course work, which results in the awarding of a national certificate, transferable to other dioceses for work in ministry or to several universities for undergraduate or graduate credit. Under normal circumstances, completion takes two years.

### Youth Ministry Effectiveness Tool

Found in *Empowering Disciples: A Work in Progress*, the Youth Ministry Effectiveness Tool is designed to assess the effectiveness of youth ministry in your parish by asking a series of questions of youth ministry leaders. The Parish Youth Ministry Leadership Committee members should complete the assessment as accurately and honestly as possible. During this process committee members should be sure to keep in mind the environment and realities of the parish as they currently exist - not as they may/could/should exist at some point in the future.

It should be noted that this instrument is designed as a resource to assist you in discovering where your ministry to, with, and for young people could be enhanced. It is not intended as an indictment against parish leadership or as a means of demeaning ministry efforts currently underway.

### World Youth Day

World Youth Day is a youth-oriented Catholic Church event. While the event itself celebrates the Catholic faith, the invitation to attend extends to all youth, regardless of religious convictions.

*World Youth Day* (or in short 'WYD') was initiated by Pope John Paul II in 1985. It is celebrated on a diocesan level annually on the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, and at a week-long international level every two to three years at different locations. The international level events attract hundreds of thousands of youth from almost every country on the planet. It is a major part of the upsurge in Catholic youth ministry in some countries over recent years.

The Diocese of Wilmington has, in recent years, had delegations attend WYD in Rome (2000), Toronto (2002), Germany (2005), and Australia (2008).

The Patron Saint of World Youth Days is Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta.



## **Other Useful Information**

*For assistance writing press releases and other marketing needs, contact*  
Office of Public Relations and Media  
302-573-3116

*For assistance with For Sake of God's Children required background checks, contact*  
Human Resources  
302-573-3126

*For assistance getting the word out to the local Catholic community, contact the official diocesan newspaper*  
The Dialog  
[news@thedialog.org](mailto:news@thedialog.org)

*For assistance with issues of social justice or Catholic Social Teaching, including guest speakers on these topics contact*  
Parish Social Ministry Office, Catholic Charities  
302-655-9624

*For assistance with issues relating to Catholic Schools, contact*  
Catholic Schools Office  
302-573-3133

*For assistance with catechist certification, religious education accreditation process, ministry to those with special needs, ministry to the deaf, and other religious ed questions, contact*  
Office for Religious Education  
302-573-3130

*For assistance promoting priestly and religious vocations with your young people, contact*  
Office of Priestly and Religious Vocations  
302-573-3113  
[www.CalledbytheLord.com](http://www.CalledbytheLord.com)

*For assistance with liturgical questions or if you are organizing liturgy where the Bishop is present, contact*  
Office of Worship  
302-573-3137

*For assistance meeting the needs of Hispanic young people, contact*  
Office of Hispanic Ministry  
302-655-018

*For assistance referring young people or adults for counseling, contact*

Counseling	Pregnancy Counseling 24/7 Hotline
Catholic Charities	1-877-225-7870
302-655-9624 (Wilmington)	
302-674-1600 (Dover)	
302-856-9578 (Georgetown)	
410-749-1121 (Salisbury)	

## Notes



