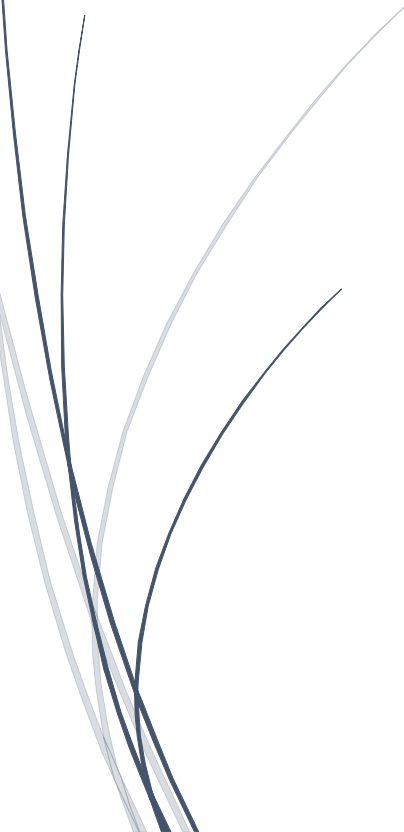




Youth Ministry

If you are what you should be,
you will set the whole world ablaze.

- St. Catherine of Sienna



The Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Board consists of high school youth and adult representatives from diocesan parishes. These members are individuals with a passion for youth ministry who apply to be a member of the board, are recommended by their parish pastor or parish youth ministry coordinator, and are selected and appointed by the Archdiocesan Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry in consultation with pastors and parish youth ministry coordinators. Youth Ministry Board members represent the young church of the Archdiocese of Anchorage. The appointment to the board is for one year of service (June 1 – May 31) and can be reapplied for annually.

Members of the Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Board are expected to strive to uphold high standards of Catholic behavior and values. They are expected to serve as positive role models and examples of modern day discipleship. Members are passionate about their Catholic faith, demonstrate a desire for holiness, want to help others encounter Christ, want to make a difference in the lives of others, and change where we live for the betterment of all. They are accompanied in faith by their parish youth ministry coordinators, pastors, and the Archdiocesan Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

Led by the Holy Spirit archdiocesan youth ministry seeks to awaken and foster Catholic identity in Alaska's youth. Members of the board help to fulfill this vision.

The work of the Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Board will consist of providing prayerful input, insightful ideas, and practical help in planning and implementing archdiocesan youth ministry activities and events such as the Alaska Catholic Youth Conference (ACYC), retreats, youth rallies, travel to the biennial National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) and the biennial National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry (NCCYM), and more.

BY-LAWS

I. TITLE

The name of this body is Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Board, Archdiocese of Anchorage.

II. Mission Statement

The Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Board represents Catholic youth and their families throughout the Archdiocese of Anchorage. We are called to serve the parishes, schools, and special ministries we represent. We serve youth and their families by praying for them, speaking on their behalf, resourcing the ministries we belong to, and promoting the goals of youth ministry as outlined in *Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry*. The purpose of our work is to lead young people and their families closer to Christ and the Catholic Church. We will journey alongside of young people and their families as they encounter Christ in their lives.

III. Vision

The vision for the Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Board is centered around the hope of Pope Francis that young people live as missionary disciples. During his homily at the final Mass of World Youth Day 2016 in Krakow, Poland, the Pope encouraged young people by stating, “The Lord doesn’t want to remain in this beautiful city, or in cherished memories alone. He wants to enter your homes, to dwell in your daily lives: in your studies, your first years of work, your friendships and affections, your hopes and dreams. How greatly he desires that you bring all this to him in prayer! How much he hopes that, in all the “contacts” and “chats” of each day, pride of place be given to the golden thread of prayer! How much he wants his word to be able to speak to you day after day, so that you can make his Gospel your own, so that it can serve as a compass for you on the highways of life!”

May the work of this board help the hope of Pope Francis be fulfilled in Alaska.

IV. Scripture Focus, 1 Timothy 4: 12 – 16

“Let no one have contempt for your youth, but set an example for those who believe, in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity. Until I arrive, attend to the reading, exhortation, and teaching. Do not neglect the gift you have, which was conferred on you through the prophetic word with the imposition of hands of the presbyterate. Be diligent in these matters, be absorbed in them, so that your progress may be evident to everyone. Attend to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in both tasks, for by doing so you will save both yourself and those who listen to you.”

The Catholic Youth Bible, Saint Mary’s Press, NAB Revised Edition

V. Function

1. Members pray for youth and their families, especially those that they know personally from their parishes, schools, and other affiliations and groups.
2. Members serve as a communication link between their home parishes and the Archdiocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry. Specifically, each member schedules a separate meeting with his or her parish pastor, parish coordinator of youth ministry, or other appropriate parish ministry leader(s) between each board meeting to sit and discuss current events and hopes for youth ministry.
3. Members generate enthusiasm and involvement in archdiocesan youth ministry activities and events.
4. Members assist in spreading the word about upcoming archdiocesan youth ministry events and programs.
5. Members work closely with one another, parish coordinators of youth ministry, and the Archdiocesan Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry. They are engaged in their home parish’s daily life and youth ministry in the parish.
6. Members promote the mission of archdiocesan youth ministry, especially the vision and activities set forth by the Archdiocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

VI. **Membership**

Members will serve a term of one year (June 1 – May 31) with an option of another year if agreeable with the member, the parish pastor and/or parish youth ministry coordinator that he or she represents, and the Archdiocesan Director of Youth and Young Adult Youth Ministry. Member Agreements will be mailed out between March 1 – May 15 each school year, and are due to be completed and returned by May 1. A term may be renewed annually by the member according to the stipulations within this document.

If, at the end of one year, expectations have not been met on the part of the board member or if the board member decides that he or she does not want to continue as a representative, the Archdiocesan Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry will inform the necessary constituents of the need to select a new representative.

There is not a specific limit to the size of the board and new members may be added at any time of the calendar year as necessary.

VII. **Meetings**

Members may participate in person, telephonically, or via their own computer. A link will be provided prior to each meeting so those not able to be present in person may join the meeting from their location. The length of each meeting will vary, but will typically last around 1.5 hours. Meetings will occur at least quarterly.

Wednesday, June 7, 2017 at 7:30 a.m. During ACYC at Lumen Christi High School/St. Benedict Church

Wednesday, September 6, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.*

Thursday, December 7, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.*

Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 7 p.m.*

*each meeting will take place online, in addition to a meeting on-site, at a location yet to be determined.

APPLICATION

The Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Board

Your Name: _____

Please check with one applies to you and provide the corresponding information:

O High School Teen, Current Grade in School: _____

O Adult, In what youth ministry capacity at your home parish: _____

Email Address: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____ Home Phone Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Home Parish: _____

Parent/Guardian’s Name and Cell Phone Number: _____

[Only high school teen applicant’s need to provide parent or guardian information]

Please list any parish, school, or other leadership positions you have held or currently hold:

Please list activities that you are currently involved in: _____

Candidate, please write a brief letter of intent stating your strengths and interests and why you would like to serve on the Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Board. Please submit the letter with your application. In addition, please submit a completed Pastor/Parish Youth Ministry Coordinator and Parent/Guardian Recommendation (only required for high school teens) with your application. Thank you.

I have read the information about the Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Board and I wish to be considered to serve as a board member representing my home parish. I will take my commitment seriously and I fully understand the responsibilities of this position.

Applicant’s Signature: _____

Please submit the application, letter of intent, and recommendations together by May 1 to: Matthew Beck, 225 Cordova St., Anchorage, AK 99501 or mbeck@caa-ak.org.

Pastor/Parish Youth Ministry Coordinator Recommendation For the Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Board

Directions; This form is to be completed by the Pastor or Parish Youth Ministry Coordinator and submitted with the candidate’s application. Please complete this form and place it in a sealed envelope and return it to the candidate. The candidate must have the application submitted to the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry by May 1. Thank you.

Name of Candidate: _____

Parish: _____

Your Name and Parish Position: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Please check below which statement you agree with the most:

*I support this person’s candidacy as an Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Board representative from our parish. I believe this person has the leadership potential and can be a role model for young people. Our parish will support and guide this candidate in the endeavors necessary for this position.**

I **do not** support this candidate as a representative from our parish to the Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Board.

Please state the reason why you believe this applicant is a good candidate for your parish representative to the Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Board:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Thank you!

* You and the parish are not committing financial support for the candidate. Rather, you are committing to support the candidate in meeting the requirements of members of this board. For example, each board member is required to schedule a separate meeting with the Pastor or Parish Youth Ministry Coordinator (most likely the person completing this recommendation) between each of the regular board meetings to receive feedback and communicate important information regarding archdiocesan youth ministry activities and events.

Parent/Guardian Recommendation **[Required Only for High School Teens]** For the Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Board

Directions; This form is to be completed by the parent or guardian and submitted with the candidate’s application. Please complete this form and place it in a sealed envelope and return it to the candidate. The candidate must have the application submitted to the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry by May 1. Thank you.

Name of Candidate: _____

Parish: _____

Your Name and Relation to Candidate: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Mailing Address (if different from the candidate): _____

What leadership qualities does the candidate possess to enable your teen to fulfill the duties of a member on the Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Board?

As a member of this board, your teen will be asked to attend 4 board meetings each year and to help coordinate, plan and assist with ACYC, retreats, and other archdiocesan youth ministry activities and events. Do you feel that planning for and attendance at such events may be possible in your teen’s schedule? _____

What support can you give your teen if he or she is chosen as a member of this board?

Please check which statement you most agree with:

I have read the information about the Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Board and recommend my teen for the position as a member of this board. I will support my teen if he or she is chosen.

I **do not** support my teen’s participation as a member of the Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Board.

Signature: _____ Date: _____