

Job Title: Director of Youth Ministry
Reports To: Pastor
Position: Full-time, Benefits
General Office Hours – Monday – Friday 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., some
Evenings and weekends required for Youth Ministry events

As a Catholic church located in the Diocese of Joliet, St. Margaret Mary Parish exists to help people experience new life in Christ! Each staff member and volunteer bring a unique set of skills, talents and gifts to build up our vibrant community. If you want to join us on this exciting mission, we want to hear from you!

The Director of Youth Ministry (DYM) is responsible for developing and ensuring the success of an innovative four-year youth ministry program, where the high school youth of our parish:

- Encounter Jesus as a real, Living Person, and know they are welcome, known, and loved.
- Grow in their relationship with Jesus and understand the fundamental teachings of the Catholic faith - what we believe and why it matters.
- Feel empowered to live out the Catholic faith as they grow in virtue, discover their vocation, and serve others like Jesus.

Reporting to the Pastor, the DYM is committed and passionate about creating an engaging youth faith formation program to accompany our high school students through the conversion journey, and ultimately become disciples of Jesus Christ:

Pre-trust → Initial Trust → Spiritual Curiosity → Spiritual Openness → Spiritual Seeking → Intentional Discipleship

The DYM is a constant student of generational trends and developments, and will develop and evaluate strategies for reaching an ever-changing generation of teenagers.

In this role, you will ...

- Build relationships by creating an engaging, relationship-based youth ministry program that includes effective opportunities for the youth to have powerful encounters with the real, Living Person of Jesus Christ.
- Provide regular social opportunities year-round.
- Maintain an open-door policy and connection with current students, as well as program graduates.
- Form a Youth Ministry Team (YMT) of adult role models who have demonstrated to be disciples of Christ, to help maintain a fruitful, mission-driven youth ministry program and to help teach and mentor the youth.
- Provide both structured and creative opportunities for youth to continue to grow in Christ by learning about the fundamental teachings of our Catholic faith – what we believe and why it matters – and to address their spiritual needs.
- Foster opportunities for the youth to feel empowered to serve others as Jesus did and calls each of us to do.
- Model St. Margaret Mary Parish Core Values as the leading role model and mentor for the youth.
- Collaborate with other youth ministry leaders and share ideas and resources.
- Attend Mass regularly, minimum weekly Sunday mass, to grow in Christ and be a joyfully Catholic role model.
- Support the mission, philosophy, objectives and policies of the Catholic Church and the Diocese of Joliet.

Requirements

- Undergraduate or Graduate degree in Ministry, Theology or Catechesis required.
- Proven track record of successful relationship building with the youth, specifically in ministry.
- Experience working in a Catholic church setting is a plus.

- Experience in planning and facilitating youth activities, retreats, and events.
- Availability to work evenings and weekends as needed.
- Continual formation in the truths of the Catholic faith.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Must be a practicing Roman Catholic in good standing and must know, profess, and act consistently in accordance with the doctrinal and moral teachings of the Catholic Church.
- Must support the mission, philosophy, objectives and policies of the Catholic Church and the Diocese of Joliet and be open to prayer & faith sharing in all aspects of work.

Salary and Benefits

- Full-time employees receive generous benefits, including medical, dental, and vision insurance.
- Two weeks paid vacation per year.
- Paid federal and liturgical holidays.
- Pension & 403B retirement plan as per Diocesan/Parish personnel policy.

Working Hours

- General office hours are Monday – Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.; however, there is flexibility.
- Some evenings and weekends are required for Youth Ministry events.

*Interested candidates should apply for this position by sending a **resume and cover letter** to Matthew Ernst at mernst@smmp.com. No phone calls, please.*