

Youth Ministry/ Parish Connection

To Evaluate How "Youth Friendly" Your Parish Community Is, Consider These Questions...

yes No

- ☐ ☐ Are the young people, or at least their needs, being adequately represented at staff, pastoral and finance council meetings?
- ☐ ☐ Do the Youth Ministry Coordinator and the Director of Religious Education work together to create a faith formation program for the young people of the parish?
- ☐ ☐ Is the youth ministry program expected to fund raise more for its program expenses than other ministries in the parish?
- ☐ ☐ Are parents of teenagers being ministered to as well as the teens themselves?
- ☐ ☐ Do the liturgies speak to the youth as well as invite them to fully participate as lectors, eucharistic ministers, musicians and ushers?
- ☐ ☐ Is professional training and continuing education made available to the Youth Ministry Coordinator as well as the volunteers who minister to the youth?
- ☐ ☐ Are young people actively encouraged to become involved in leadership and ministry positions at all levels of the parish?
- ☐ ☐ Are the youth ministry efforts at the parish being promoted, affirmed and spoken about in a positive and affirming manner?
- ☐ ☐ If the Youth Ministry Coordinator is a paid position, is he/she being offered an equitable and just wage for the number of hours worked?
- ☐ ☐ Are youth excited about the parish and present at many of the activities?

Why the Parish?

- * most important place where Christian community is formed
- * fraternal and welcoming family
- * where human differences melt away and are absorbed into the universality of the Church
- * usual place where faith is born and grows
- * where the Church lives
- * where the Gospel is proclaimed and celebrated
- * where believers are formed and sent to renew.
- * home of the Christian community
- * heart of our Church
- * where God's people meet Jesus

What does a youth friendly parish look like?

- * youth are involved in decision making- (parish council etc.)
- * youth are working side by side with adults
- * youth do Christian service with adults
- * the voice of youth is heard
- * the environment is multicultural
- * youth are altar servers, music ministers, greeters, ushers, catechists, youth ministers
- * the environment is multigenerational
- * the environment is life-giving