

"Let no one look down on you because of your youth,  
but be a continuing example of love, faith, and purity to the believers."  
- 1 Timothy 4:12

Worldwide Catholic Youth Ministry has 3 goals:

**1. To empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today.**

Youth Ministry is what Pope John Paul II calls a "noble and authentic adventure"- youth being challenged to explore (with adult mentors) what discipleship ultimately involves. Jesus Christ calls us to make a difference in the world. We, the parishes, are called to offer young people a spiritually challenging and world shaping vision that meets their hunger for the chance to participate in something with purpose that is exciting and risky.

**2. To draw young people to full responsible participation in the life of the Catholic faith community**

Youth have the call from their Baptism to fully participate at home, in the parish, Catholic schools, and service organizations. They need to belong and be accepted by peers and caring adults who offer safe haven.

**3. To foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person**

Church with teens means focusing not only on their spiritual needs, but also their unique developmental and social needs- so they may be healthy, competent, caring and faith-filled. They need tools to deal with obstacles to healthy growth such as poverty, racial discrimination, social injustice, sin, secular values, and the negative impact of the consumer mentality