



2018-2019 RECOGNIZE

*“Were not our hearts
burning within us
while he was talking
to us on the road?”
(Luke 24:32)*

Highlights: Synod, “Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment” (October 2018), World Youth Day (January 2019)

The primary focus of our pastoral year will be ministering to the ministers, recognizing their desire for continued formation. Continuing in a spirit of consistency, invitation and accompaniment, youth ministers, parish personnel and stakeholders in school communities are invited to take part in a variety of capacity building initiatives to grow in their own skill.

In our pre-Synodal consultation, 62% of all young people, aged 16-29 named their Youth Minister and/or a youth mentor as an important person in their faith formation.

Our work, in light of what we’ve seen and heard from young people themselves, will be to grow in our confidence as ministers so as to “accompany every young person, without exclusion, towards the joy of love.” (Cardinal Baldisseri, 2018).

2019-2020 INTERPRET

*“We are ambassadors
for Christ, God is
making his appeal
through us.”
(2 Corinthians 5:20)*

Highlights: Canadian Catholic Youth Ministry Conference, Hamilton ON (February 2020)

The primary focus of our pastoral year will be to interpret the wisdom learned both from our pre-Synodal consultation with young people and those who minister to them through the offering of two new and very specific opportunities:

- 1) A Diocesan Certification in Youth Ministry Studies: A ten course, two year certification will be made available via online learning to all those who minister with young people in the Diocese. This certification will be affordable, accessible, and meet the demands of busy ministry life.
- 2) The Canadian Catholic Youth Ministry Conference will be hosted in the Diocese of Hamilton. The hope is that this conference will provide for professional development opportunities for those working in ministry throughout the Diocese of Hamilton, and across Canada. The focus of the conference will be on the Synod and The Apostolic Exhortation *Christus Vivit*.

2020-2022 CHOOSE

*“As Samuel grew up, the
Lord was with him and
let none of his words fall
to the ground.”
(1 Samuel 3:19)*

Highlights: Preferential Option for Accompaniment of Young People (June 2022)

The culmination of the past two years of formation and experiential learning will be the movement towards a culture of preferential option for youth in our parish communities. The language of the Synod on Youth is very clear, “taking care of young people is not an optional task for the Church, but an integral part of her vocation and mission in history.” (*Instrumentum Laboris*, 2018)

In response to this mission, our goal by the end of 2022 is to support the development of a personalized pastoral plan for accompaniment of youth in every single parish within our Diocese.

The Frassati Leadership Program: The Office of Youth Ministry is happy to offer a one year program for senior high school students for further faith formation and leadership skill development. This program is designed to allow our young leaders to go deeper in their faith, and prepare for life post-high school in a way that opens up the opportunity for discernment about vocation, mission and service to God’s Holy Church and the world.