

Guidelines *for* The Commission on Youth Ministry

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. In 2014, Bishop Wright commissioned twelve clergy and lay adults to evaluate and make recommendations for changes to our Diocesan Youth Ministry Programs. In 2015, the task force was expanded to the Commission on Youth Ministry, calling upon youth, young adults, and adults to serve the church by continuing to strengthen and streamline youth ministry in the Diocese of Atlanta.

II. PURPOSE

- A. The purpose of the Commission is to ensure proper execution of the purpose statement of youth ministry in our diocese: “raise up disciples by the teaching of the unconditional love and inclusivity of Jesus Christ.”
- B. In order to realize this purpose, the Commission will
 1. Be an advocate for diocesan youth ministry on a parish level
 2. Plan and facilitate Jr. and Sr. DYC
 3. Plan and facilitate the Annual Council Lock-In
 4. Plan and facilitate the Hunger Walk/Run Eucharist
 5. Plan and facilitate the Graduation Celebration
- C. IN ORDER to fulfill its purpose, the Diocesan Youth Commission will meet 3 times throughout the year, at various churches throughout metro Atlanta.

III. COVENANT

- A. Our Covenant with Each Other
 1. Attendance at all of the scheduled Commission meetings is a requirement. Our commitment to each other to be at these meetings is crucial to the ministry we have taken on.
 2. Participate fully in the discussions and work during Commission meetings, remembering to listen to and respect those who may have ideas different from our own.
 3. Pray for the members of the Commission and the work we have been given to do.
 4. Live the faith that is in us by representing and honoring Christ in our conversations, actions, thoughts, and attitudes. Walking the walk and making mature decisions in how we live our lives at school, at home, at Church, and in the world. Our actions should reflect the morals and Christian commandment to love God and our neighbors. Specifically, we agree to refrain from using illegal drugs, underage drinking, and inappropriate sexual behavior.
 5. Be regular in attendance on Sunday mornings at our own parish worship service, serving in the ministries available to us (acolyte, lector, chalice bearer, etc) and also be regular in attendance at Sunday school and our own parish youth group.
- B. Our Covenant to Our Ministry
 1. Assist in planning and attend at least one DYC Retreat and 1 another diocesan youth event during the school year.

2. Serve as an ambassador for diocesan and parish youth ministry programs and events. We are the apostles of youth ministry and as such it is our role to tell people about the events, support our local parish youth leaders, and invite others to join in the events and programs.
3. Support the decisions we make as a Commission and keep our discussions confidential. Consensus building lies at the heart of Christian leadership.

IV. ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT

- A. These guidelines of the Diocesan Youth Commission may be adopted by majority by the Commission on Youth Ministry
- B. These guidelines of the Commission on Youth Ministry may be amended at any time by majority by the Commission on Youth Ministry