“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” 1 Peter 4:10

Nomination Packet
2020-2021

OFFICE of ADOLESCENT CATECHESIS and EVANGELIZATION

2403 Holcombe Boulevard
Houston, Texas 77021
713.741.8723

The Office of Adolescent Catechesis and Evangelization is supported by the Diocesan Services Fund
January, 2020

Dear Parish Youth Ministry and Catholic High School Campus Ministry Leaders:

It is that time of year to begin thinking about the young people you wish to nominate to serve on the Archdiocesan Youth Council for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.

I pray that you will take this opportunity to discern the many gifts that the young people of your parish/school possess and consider offering those youth the opportunity to serve the larger Church as representatives of their peers with humility over the next year. Those who will serve are not set apart as having more privileges than their peers. They are called forth as servant leaders to give selflessly without seeking personal gain or public recognition.

As you review this nomination packet, please pay particular attention to the check list on page 5 to make sure you have submitted all necessary paperwork for your nominees. It serves as a quick guide for you to converse with your nominees and parents regarding the work of the council, how it operates and the procedures that govern it. Make sure the nominees and parents know that in order to serve on the council, the teen must attend the Discernment Weekend Retreat on March 6-8, 2020 and all materials needed for completed nomination process are due by February 13, 2020.

Parishes and schools may not nominate more than 2 representatives to the council. **If you have 2 or more youth currently on the council who are eligible for discernment for an additional year (not graduating from High school),** it will be important for you to have conversation with those currently serving to inquire if they are interested in serving an additional year or you may nominate someone new in that representative’s place. **Youth Council Members seeking an additional second or third term must be re-nominated.**

No more than two youth will be allowed to serve from each parish/school per year. If you are planning to nominate youth currently serving, you must complete a new nomination form and letter. Please send your nominations to Randy Adams, 2403 Holcombe Blvd., Houston, TX 77021 or radams@archgh.org. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact myself or Randy Adams at 713-741-8723.

Timothy E. Colbert
Director
Goals of the Archdiocesan Youth Council

In response to the mission statement of the Office of Adolescent Catechesis and Evangelization, the Archdiocesan Youth Council was established in March, 1994 with the first members beginning July 1994 for the following purposes:

- To assist in assuring active participation of youth in Archdiocesan events.
- To assist in interpreting the needs of youth and advocate for their concerns to the Archbishop and Archdiocesan officials.
- To represent the youth of the Archdiocese in various capacities and to encourage the Archdiocese to attend to their needs.
- To further Christian growth through involvement in developing programs for youth. This shall be accomplished through observation, discussion, and action.

In the context of youth ministry, the council works to foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person in the Archdiocese. It also seeks to draw young people to responsible participation in the life, mission and work of the faith community. (Adapted from the USCCB Document, *Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry*, 1997)

Archdiocesan Youth Council Members

While it is a given that all young people have potential, it is recognized that some special characteristics and talents would be helpful for prospective representatives. An Archdiocesan Youth Council Member should:

- Be nominated by a parish or Catholic high school official who can attest to the nominee’s leadership skills and level of commitment.
- Be an incoming high school sophomore, junior or senior for the 2020-2021 academic year.
- Must be an active participant in a parish youth ministry/high school campus ministry program.
- Have the ability to listen to others and to report their concerns without judgment and be honest in communicating their own feelings.
- Be able to consider the whole Archdiocesan reality rather than the individual parish or school.
- Be an individual who is able to take responsibility for his/ her attendance and commitment to the areas assigned.
Meeting Schedule

All new council members will be required to participate in planning meetings, which are held three times during the year (Camp Kappe Youth Retreat Facility). The 2020-2021 meeting dates are:

- March 6-8, 2020
- August 14-16, 2020
- December 11-13, 2020

In addition to the council meetings, they will also have the responsibility of one additional committee to fulfill their duties and some may be called forth to serve on the Leadership Team which calls for additional meetings.

All nominees must attend the mandatory discernment weekend experience March 6-8, 2020. This weekend is designed to help the nominees get to know one another and to get a first-hand view of the mission and ministry of the council.

Duties of the Archdiocesan Youth Council

This body of representatives from parishes and Catholic high schools is called to:

- Bring the youth of the Archdiocese together to gather the needs and concerns of their peers within the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and gain input for the planning and implementation of the numerous Archdiocesan youth formation programs.
- Meet at least three times each year as a council to share information, plans, ideas, and be mentored by key adults in the area of youth ministry/campus ministry.
- Participate in planning and implementation of programs designed for younger and older adolescents
- Maintain communication with youth of the Archdiocese in a variety of ways including articles written by youth to youth in the Archdiocesan newspaper “The Texas Catholic Herald,” through special mailings and publications, through personal efforts, and through special focus group sessions.
- Maintain communications with Archdiocesan officials through letters and committee meetings throughout the year.
- Maintain a high level of commitment and responsibility by holding each other accountable for their actions and follow through on assignments.

Archdiocesan Youth Council Adult Advisory Team

A select group of adult youth ministry/campus ministry leaders have been chosen to assist the Office of Adolescent Catechesis and Evangelization Director and Associate Directors who have the responsibility for coordination, formation, and development of the group. The advisory team assists with the ongoing training, development, chaperoning and mentoring of the youth council.
As an Archdiocesan Youth Council Member...

Here Are Two Gatherings with Cardinal DiNardo Not to Miss

Commissioning of 2020-2021 Archdiocesan Youth Council at the Archdiocesan Youth Conference (AYC)

August 2, 2020
Mass begins at 9:30 am
Hilton Americas - Downtown Houston

Archdiocesan Youth Council Meal with Cardinal DiNardo

During the August Youth Council Committee Work Weekend
August 21-23, 2020
Camp Kappe Youth Retreat Facility
In nominating potential youth council members, please follow the steps listed. Check off as you complete each task. 
Note that youth ministry leaders may not nominate their own son/daughter.

☐ Select young people that match the listed qualities of potential council members. Remember, no more than 2 youth may be nominated from one parish/school. 
If you are able, please nominate one boy and one girl.

☐ Have an in-depth conversation (in person...not via email or other social networking) with your nominees about the council and the responsibilities it entails including: 
Mandatory Discernment Weekend Date in March 6-8, 2020
- Other Weekend Meetings
- Role and Responsibilities of the Council. (Committee Meetings)
- Nomination and attendance at the Discernment Weekend does not guarantee membership on the council.

☐ After meeting with your nominees, meet in person with their parents (not via email or other social networking) to discuss the same information shared with the nominees 
- Include the parent’s role in supporting the nominee through the entire process.
- Getting young people to meeting sites.

☐ If both the parent and nominee agree to the nomination, complete the form on the back of the brochure.

☐ Make sure one of the parents signs the nomination form on the designated line.

☐ Write a one page letter of recommendation on each nominee. Remember, this letter should be written by the nominating adult, not the parent or young person. If you have more than one nominee, make sure each letter is separate and distinct from the other. Include the following in the letter:
- Share nominee’s involvement on the parish, deanery, school, and Archdiocesan levels.
- Share any experience the young person has had in the area of program planning.
- Describe your experience of the nominee living his/her faith.
- As concisely as possible, describe the nominee and tell why you feel he/she would make a good representative on the Archdiocesan Youth Council.

☐ Submit the Nomination Form, a Letter of Recommendation, Parental /Guardian Consent/Liability Waiver and Medical Form, and a current picture of the nominee to the Office of Adolescent Catechesis and Evangelization by February 13, 2020.
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## Parental/Guardian Consent Form & Liability Waiver

**Participant’s Name**: __________________________

**Date of Birth**: __________________________

**Home Address**: __________________________

**City/Zip Code**: __________________________

**Parent(s)/Guardian(s)**: __________________________

**Alternate Phone Number**: (___) __________________________

**Cell Phone or Work**

**Parish or Catholic School**: __________________________

**Grade**: _____  **Age**: _____  **Gender**: _____

**Participant’s Email Address**: __________________________

**Parent’s Email Address**: __________________________

**T-Shirt Size** (Please circle one):  Small   Medium   Large   XL   2XL   3XL   4XL

## Consent & Liability Waiver

**Important! To be filled out by the Parent/Guardian for youth under 18 years of age.**

(If participant is 18 years of age or older, consent must be signed by the individual)

I (name of parent/guardian) ___________________________________, grant permission for my child, (participant’s name), ___________________________________, to participate in Archdiocesan Youth Council Discernment Retreat to be held March 6-8, 2020, from 7:00 p.m., Friday - Noon, Sunday at Camp Kappe Youth Retreat Facility in Plantersville, TX and if discerned, to participate in all other Youth Council Retreats: August 14-16, 2020, and December 11-13, 2020, (time) 7:00 p.m., Friday — Noon Sunday at (location) at Camp Kappe Youth Retreat Facility in Plantersville, TX.

In consideration of my child’s participation in this event, I agree on behalf of myself, my child named herein, and our heirs, successors, and assigns to indemnify, hold harmless and defend the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, the sponsoring parish, its pastor, youth ministry leader, principal, other agents, employees or other representatives associated with the event from any and all injuries, losses or claims arising out of my child’s participation in the event.

*In signing this form I certify that all information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.*

__________________________  __________________________
**Signature (Parent/Guardian)**  **Date**

**YOUTH PARTICIPANT**:

In signing the line below I agree to abide by any/all policies and rules established for this event/activity (see Code of Conduct). Should I not be able to maintain the guidelines and expectations of the adults and my peers, I understand that there will be consequences for my actions, including being removed from the activity and being sent home at my parent’s expense.

__________________________  __________________________
**Signature (Youth Participant)**  **Date**

## Video/Photography Consent

As parent/guardian, I understand that promotional pictures and videos (individual and group) will be taken during this event. I give permission for my son’s/daughter’s picture to be used for promotional materials (newsletter, web page, calendars, power point, video etc.) in highlighting the event.

__________________________  __________________________
**Signature (Parent/Guardian)**  **Date**

Edited: February 2016
Medical Matters
I hereby warrant to the best of my knowledge, my child is in good health, and I assume all responsibility for the health of my child. Of the following statements pertaining to medical matters, sign only those in accordance with your wishes:

Emergency Medical Treatment
In the event of an emergency, I hereby give permission to transport my child to a hospital for emergency medical or surgical treatment. I wish to be advised prior to any further treatment by the hospital or doctor and I understand that all financial obligations are my responsibility.

Name & Relationship _____________________________ Phone _______________________
Family Doctor _____________________________ Phone _______________________

Medications
My child will bring all such medications, well labeled, that are necessary. Names of medications and concise directions for seeing that the child takes such medications, including dosage and frequency are as follows

Medical Conditions Information: (Archdiocesan personnel will take reasonable care to see that the following information will be held in confidence.)

- Has had an episode of the following or has been diagnosed: __Seizures __Asthma ___Diabetic
- Allergic reactions to the following (foods, dyes, latex etc.) __________________________
- Has had a medical surgery within the last six months? ___Yes ___No Still under doctor’s care? ___Yes ___No
- Has a medically prescribed diet?
- The following physical limitations?
- Immunizations current and up to date: ___Yes ___No Date of last tetanus/diphtheria immunization
- You should also be aware of these special medical conditions of my child (e.g. depression, anxiety, etc.):

Insurance Information:

No, I do not carry medical insurance at this time.

Insurance Carrier: _____________________________ Name of Insured: _____________________________
Insurance Policy Number: _____________________________
Father’s Name: _____________________________ Day Phone: _____________________________
Mother’s Name: _____________________________ Day Phone: _____________________________

In the event it comes to the attention of the chaperones associated with the activity that my child becomes ill with repeated symptoms such as headache, vomiting, sore throat, fever, diarrhea, I want to be called immediately. If this will be a long distance call, I want to be called collect (with phone charges reversed to myself). I fully understand the foregoing statements and sign this Parental/Guardian Medical Consent Waiver knowingly, freely, and willingly.

Signature (Parent/Guardian) Parent/Guardian must sign for anyone under 18 years of age. Date

Signature (Participant 18 years of age or older must sign own consent) Date