

YOUTH COUNCIL



PURPOSE

The Diocesan Youth Council (DYC) works to foster personal and spiritual growth in each young person of the diocese. It also seeks to draw young people toward responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the faith community.¹

The Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee Youth Council exists to:

1. Promote comprehensive youth ministry at both the diocesan and parish levels as found in the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' *Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry*.
2. Provide a balance of diocesan youth programs and events based on the components of youth ministry in *Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry*.
3. Share their gifts as well as their youthful energy and enthusiasm with the church.
4. Provide representation at all deanery and diocesan youth activities.
5. Provide opportunities for youth to voice their needs and concerns at the diocesan level.

STRUCTURE AND MEMBERSHIP OF DIOCESAN YOUTH COUNCIL

The youth council will have eight (8) representatives selected by a diocesan committee of adults. These youth represent all the deaneries of the diocese.

Western Deanery
Eastern Deanery

West Central Deanery
East Central Deanery

Youth council candidates will be interviewed using an online platform.

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Youth Council will include the following:

1. Maximum of 8 members discerned by a diocesan committee of adults
2. Additional deanery members as needed and appointed by the Diocesan Director of Youth Ministry
3. Additional at-large members as needed and appointed by the Diocesan Director of Youth Ministry
4. Director, Office of Youth Ministry
5. Other adults as needed
6. Diocesan Bishop (ex-officio member)

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Diocesan Youth Council members will:

1. Represent the youth of their deaneries on the Diocesan Youth Council
2. Stay active in their youth groups
3. Promote and coordinate a comprehensive program of social, educational, spiritual, cultural and community service activities for the youth of the diocese
4. Attend at least six meetings per year for the purpose of planning specific diocesan youth events.
5. Communicate with the youth in their deaneries and parishes about the work of the Youth Council and the importance of youth becoming leaders in their parishes
6. Be present and assist at diocesan youth events as determined by the Director of Youth Ministry

¹ United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry* (Washington D.C.: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 1997) 11-15.

MEETINGS AND DIOCESAN EVENTS

Youth Council members are expected to attend all meetings and diocesan events as listed below. There are seven meetings during the term of service on the council. Youth council members may miss one meeting.

Meeting Dates*

September 11
October 16
November 6
December 4
January 8, 2022
February 5
April 2

Diocesan Events

February 19, 2022 – High School Youth Conference @ St. Rita
March 5, 2022 – Middle School Retreat @ St. Peter

*Location of meetings to be announced

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Selected and appointed members:

1. Are Catholic
2. Should be active in the parish and parish youth group during their term on Youth Council
3. Must have the support of parish priest(s) and youth minister
4. Are in high school during the term
5. Have consent and support of their parents
6. Are 15 years of age by the time they join Youth Council
7. See this position as a main priority in their schedule
8. Are able to attend at least six meetings per year – online or in-person

TERM

1. The term will be one year from July 1 to June 30.
2. The term is renewable one time.
3. If a member is not able to serve the full term, the Diocesan Youth Director along with the youth and advisors from that deanery will select a replacement for the remainder of the term.

Deadline to apply – July 31, 2021