



Archidiocèse de
Saint-Boniface
Archdiocese



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Youth Ministry

Road map

Youth Ministry

- Foundation
- Definition
- What it aims to do?
- Comprehensive Youth Ministry Approach
- Where do you start?



Foundations of Youth Ministry

- Mission of the Church
- Where the youth fit in this
 - We Are Stronger Together



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When Jesus, who had suffered the death of the cross for mankind, had risen, He appeared as the one constituted as Lord, Christ and eternal Priest, and He poured out on His disciples the Spirit promised by the Father. From this source the Church, equipped with the gifts of its Founder and faithfully guarding His precepts of charity, humility and self-sacrifice, **receives the mission to proclaim and to spread among all peoples the Kingdom of Christ and of God** and to be, on earth, the initial budding forth of that kingdom. While it slowly grows, the Church strains toward the completed Kingdom and, with all its strength, hopes and desires to be united in glory with its King.

Pope Paul VI, Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, *Lumen Gentium*, 5, 1964



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Where do young people fit in all of this?

“Youth must not be regarded merely as objects of the Church’s pastoral concern. In fact, young people ought to be encouraged to be active in behalf of the Church as leading characters in evangelization and participants in the renewal of society.”

Pope John Paul II, *Christifideles Laici*, 46

“Les jeunes gens ne doivent pas être regardés simplement comme l’objet de la sollicitude pastorale de l’Église; ils sont en fait, et ils doivent être encouragés à devenir des sujets actifs, qui prennent part à l’évangélisation et à la rénovation sociale.”

Pape Jean-Paul II, *Christifedeles Laici*, 46



We Are Stronger Together: A vision of Youth Ministry (CCCB, 1991)

FRENCH

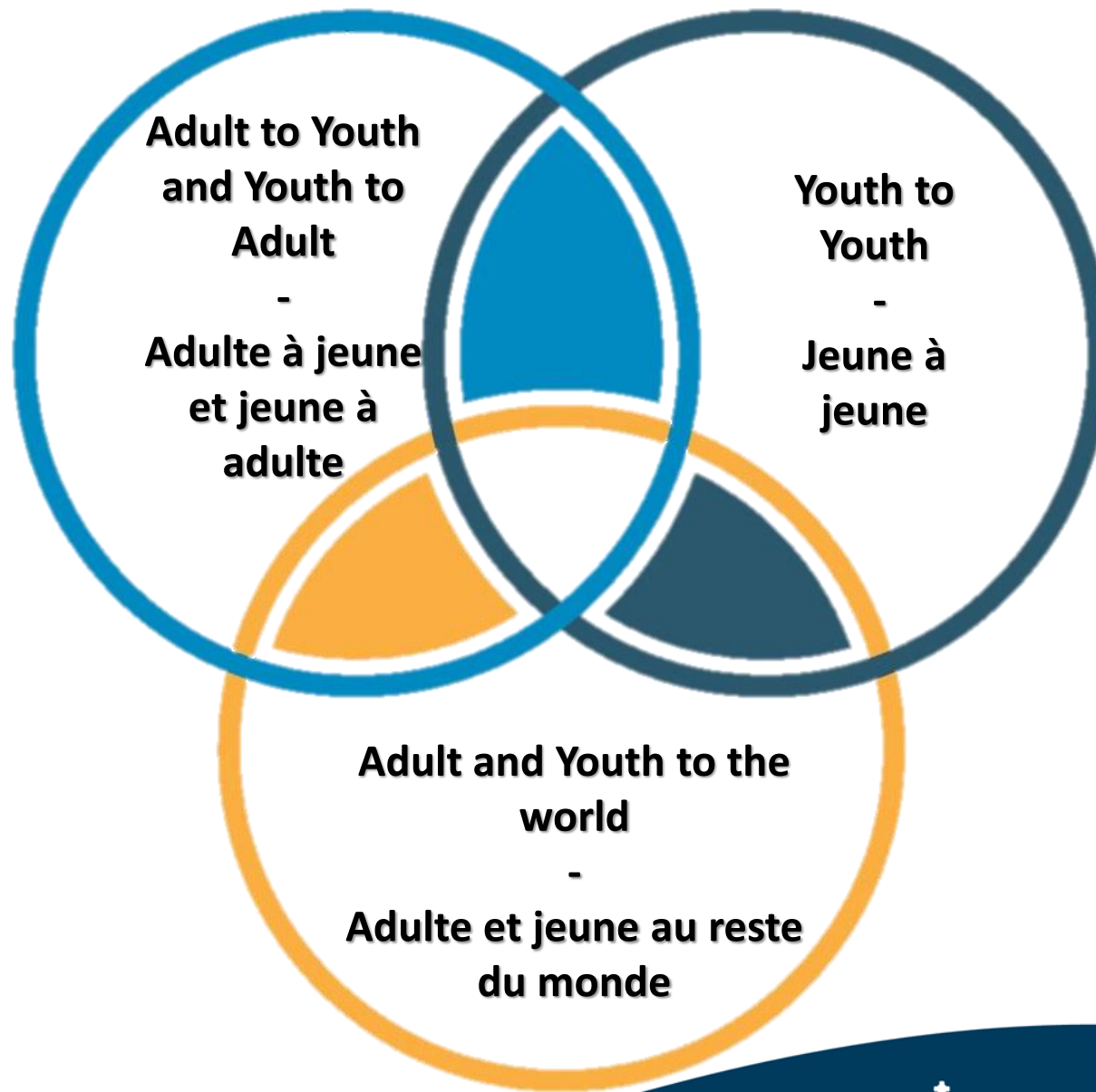
- Foundation of youth ministry based on the aspect of the relationship that exists within the Trinity.
- Community of perfect love.
- Endorse a similar partnership of reciprocity between adults and young people.
- Young people share equally with adults in ministry.



Adults and youth become partners through commitment, mutual trust, respect and care, they participate in what we call *reciprocal community ministry*.



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Discussion questions

“Young people share equally with adults in ministry.”

How does your experience speak to this statement?



“As reciprocal community ministry, youth ministry must operate in three spheres that are also interrelated:

- a) Adult to youth, youth to adult*
- b) Youth to youth*
- c) Adult and youth to the world.”*

How does this statement effect (change, confirm) your vision of Youth Ministry?

Where do you see one or more of these spheres at work in your parish?



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Definition of Youth Ministry

What it aims to do?



What is the definition of youth ministry?

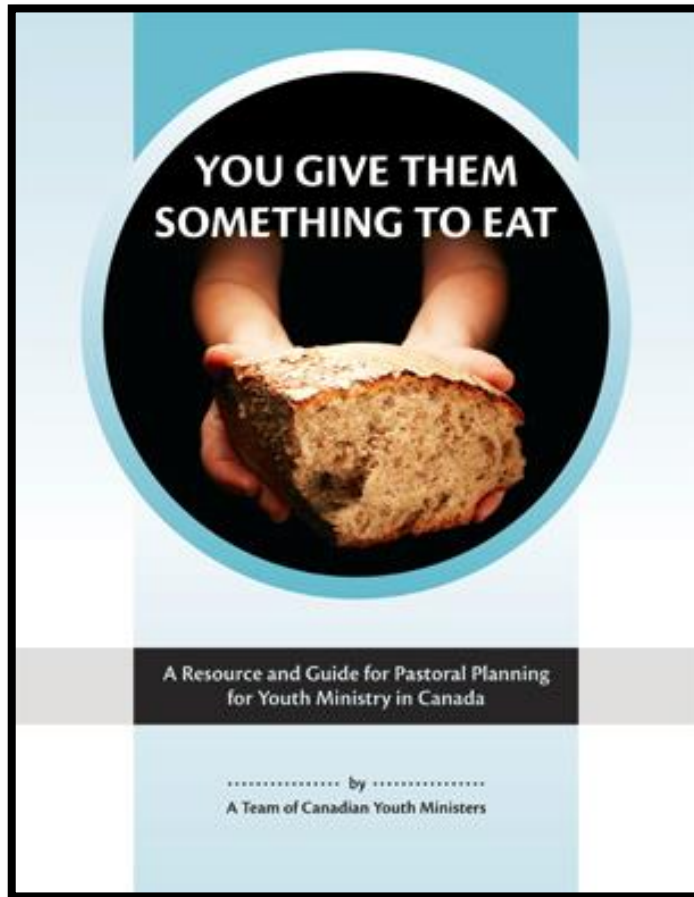
“Youth ministry is the response of the Christian community to the needs of young people and the sharing of the unique gifts of youth with the larger community.”

USCCB, Renewing the Vision, p.1



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You Give Them Something to Eat: A Resource and Guide for Pastoral Planning for Youth Ministry in Canada (2016)



- What does youth ministry aim to do?
- Where does youth ministry take place?
- Elements of a vision for youth ministry



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What does youth ministry aim to do?

Effective youth ministry:

- 1) Calls the Catholic faith community to continually renew its affective and effective option for young people.
- 2) Fosters the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person.
- 3) Invites and empowers young people to live as missionary disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today.
- 4) Draws young people to participate responsibly in the life, mission and work of the Catholic faith community.



Exercise 1 – Exploring the Definition of youth ministry

Youth needs – Parish resources

1. Identify the needs of the youth
What do young people need to grow in this time of adolescence?
2. Identify the resources of the parish.
What are the resources and opportunities the parish has that could connect with youth?
3. Connect words or sentences between the columns.

Ex: The youth needs a way to share their gifts – connect with the parish leadership and ministry opportunities.

Youth gifts – Parish needs

1. Identify the gifts and qualities of the youth.
2. Identify the needs of the parish
To become a vibrant, faithful, gospel-filled community
3. Connect youth gifts with parish needs
Ex: Youth gift of creativity connects with the parish needs for new ideas.



What is the definition of youth ministry?

“Youth ministry is the response of the Christian community to the needs of young people and the sharing of the unique gifts of youth with the larger community.”

USCCB, *Renewing the Vision*, p.1



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Where does youth ministry take place?

- Youth
- Family
- School / University
- Parish Community
- Social Media and Technology
- Wider Community



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Elements of a vision for youth ministry

- A good balance is essential
- All elements cannot be realized in the same place and time
- Balance is achieved through intentional and life-giving collaboration from all sectors of the community
- Ministry can take place in a gathered and non-gathered format.



Elements of a vision for youth ministry

- Evangelization – *L'évangélisation*
 - Being captured by the Joy of the Gospel and compelled to share the Good News.
 - Inviting youth into relationship with Jesus Christ through ongoing witness.
- Catechesis – *La catéchèse*
 - Helping youth to develop a deeper and stronger relationship with Jesus Christ and the Christian community.
- Intentional Relationships – *Les relations intentionnelles*
 - Encourage youth to enter into life-changing relationships and teaching skills and capacities for respectful engagement.



Elements of a vision for youth ministry

- *Advocacy - Plaidoyer*
 - Helping youth and their families find their voices
 - Three dimensions
 1. For the place and importance of young people within the Church at large and the local faith community.
 2. For young people who are marginalized by society or who experience particular challenges.
 3. For providing opportunities for young people to become involved in advocacy themselves, and to assume leadership roles as advocates.



Elements of a vision for youth ministry

- Justice and Service – *La justice et le service*
 - Engaging young people in the direct service and social action.
- Community Life – *La vie communautaire*
 - Building community with young people, their families, the parish and the wider community.
- Leadership Development – *Le leadership*
 - Inviting, training, mentoring, and supporting young people and adults in leadership.

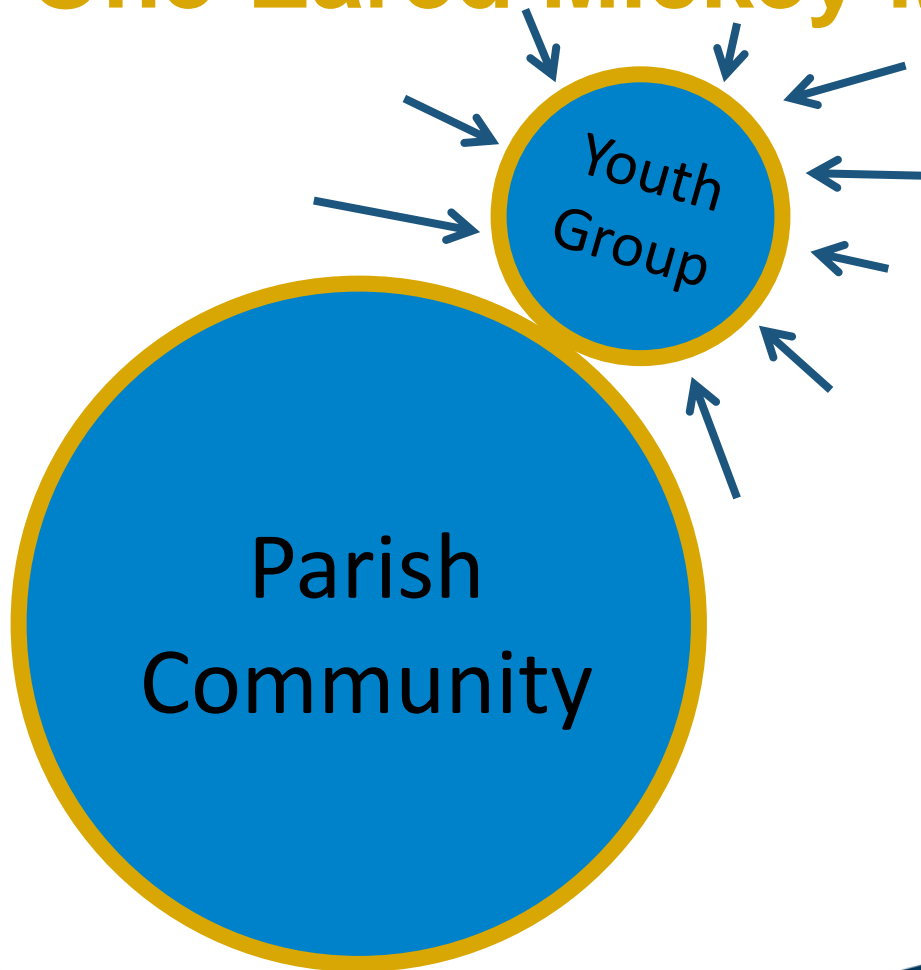


Elements of a vision for youth ministry

- Pastoral Care – *Les soins pastoraux*
 - Providing prevention programs for youth and families, caring for those in crisis, and providing guidance during times of decision-making and moral choices.
- Prayer and Worship – *La prière et la louange*
 - Helping youth develop their prayer life, experience a variety of communal prayers and involving youth in the sacramental life of the Church.



Youth Group Model: One-Eared Mickey Mouse



Group Ministry starts with a group and ask others to join.

Assumes:

- That youth needs are similar
- That youth like to join groups
- That youth are available at the same times
- That one or a few adults can meet the needs of the group



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Comprehensive Youth Ministry



Comprehensive Youth Ministry begins with a team of adults and youth formed for ministry.

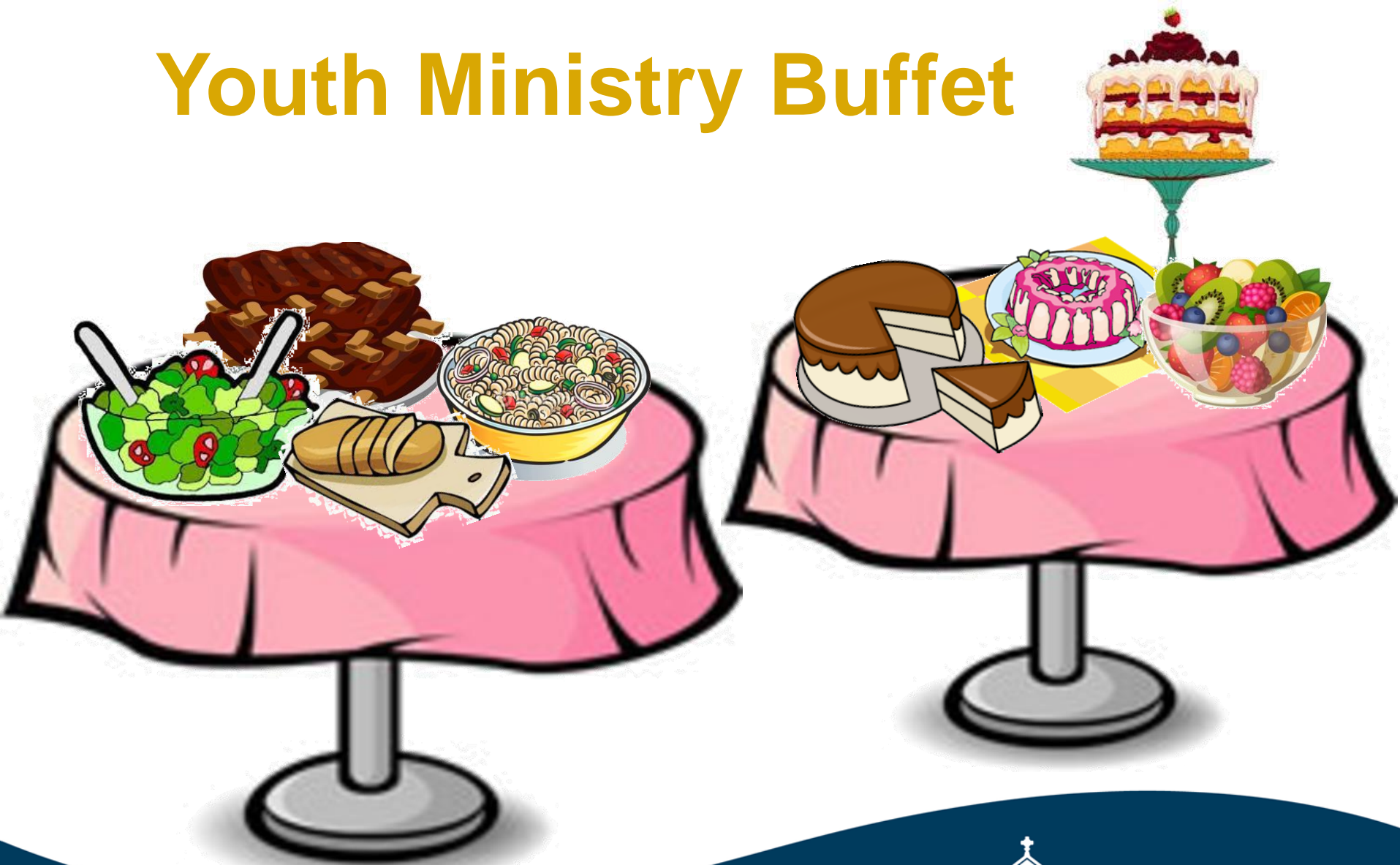
Assumes:

- that youth have different needs
- that youth like to choose how to be involved
- that youth have hectic schedules
- That many people doing a little can get a lot accomplished
- that young people benefit by having variety of adults to relate to



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Youth Ministry Buffet



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Youth Ministry Planning Grid

ELEMENTS	Youth		Family		Parish		School		Social Media & Technology		Civic Community	
	Gathered	Non-Gathered	Gathered	Non-Gathered	Gathered	Non-Gathered	Gathered	Non-Gathered	Gathered	Non-Gathered	Gathered	Non-Gathered
Evangelization												
Catechesis												
Intentional Relationships												
Advocacy												
Justice and Service												
Community Life												
Leadership Development												
Pastoral Care												
Prayer & Worship												

A TOOL FOR PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT FOR PARISH YOUTH MINISTRY

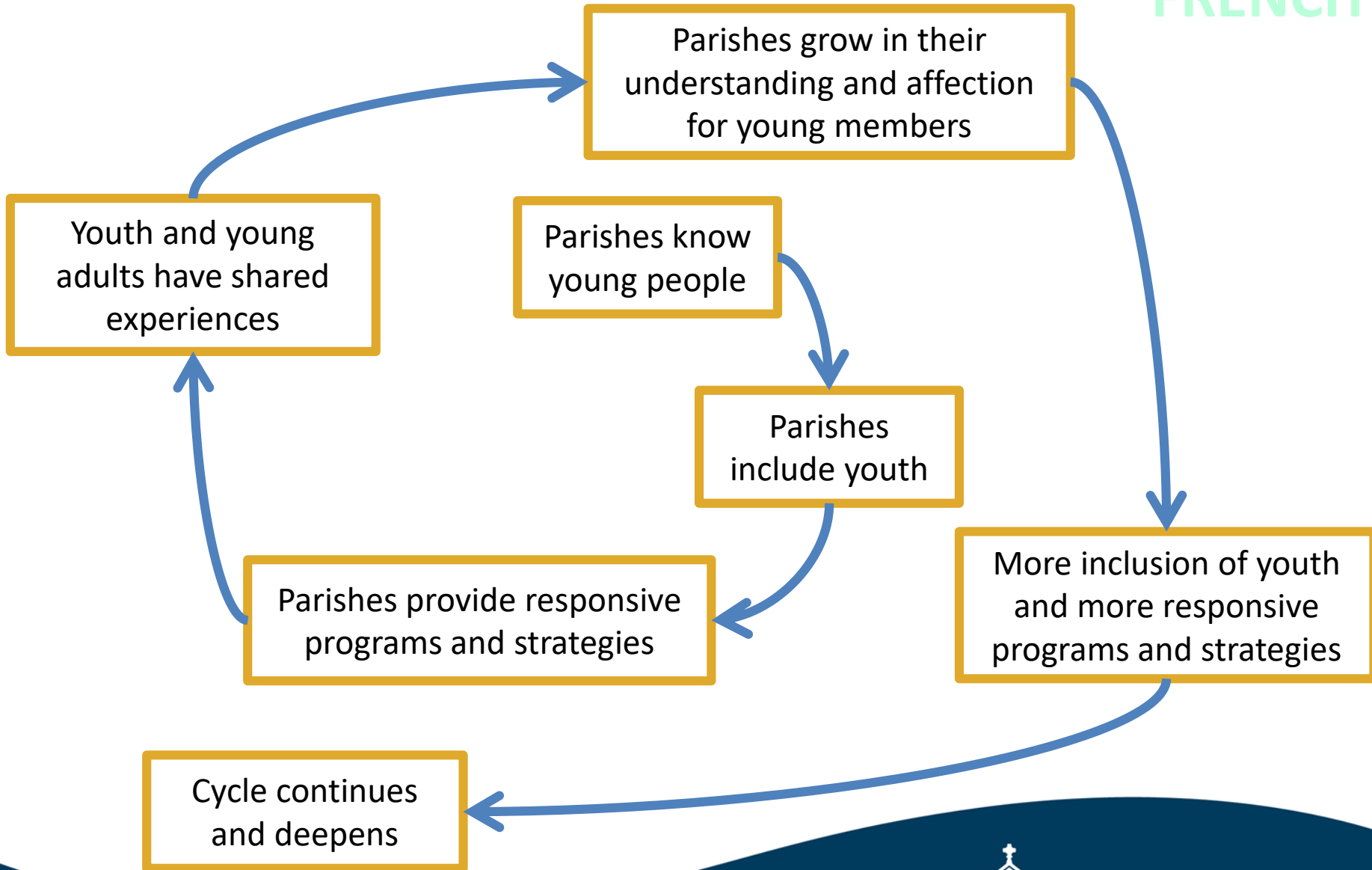


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**Where do you
start?**



La pastorale jeunesse et jeunes adultes existe pour offrir une orientation, un soutien ainsi qu'une formation spirituelle et professionnelle à ceux qui servent les jeunes et les jeunes adultes dans l'archidiocèse.

Comment est-ce accompli ?

- En aidant les paroisses à cultiver l'esprit d'une pastorale jeunesse complète
- En soutenant les leaders en pastorale jeunesse
- En offrant des ateliers et des formations (pratiques et spirituelles)
- En facilitant des événements archidiocésains
- En construisant et en renforçant des liens avec des groupes ou organisations locales et nationales
- En partageant des ressources actuelles le biais du Centre de ressources diocésain, des sites internet, etc., et en offrant de l'appui aux ressources

The Ministry of Youth and Young Adults exists to offer guidance, support, as well as spiritual and professional training to those who serve youth and young adults in the archdiocese.

How is it accomplished?

- By assisting parishes in cultivating a Comprehensive Youth Ministry mindset
- By supporting leaders in Youth Ministry
- By offering workshops and training (practical and spiritual)
- By facilitating archdiocesan-wide events
- By building and strengthening relationships through collaboration with local and national groups and organizations
- By sharing current resources through the Diocesan Resource Centre, websites, etc. and offering resources support





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Questions

Looking at different models

- Weekly youth night
- Small faith communities
- Weekly religious education
- Monthly events
- Youth ministry as parish involvement

