

## Your invitation to apply for the

# DIOCESAN YOUTH MINISTRY COMMITTEE

The Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee (DYMC) is a permanent subcommittee of the Diocesan Board of Education. Its purpose is to promote comprehensive youth ministry in the diocese. The committee is composed of three youth (high school age) and one adult from each deanery. These members will meet at least five times a year to learn about youth ministry and ministry in the church in general and to discuss ideas and projects for promoting youth ministry in the Diocese of Davenport. The weekend meetings will consist of fun, community, learning leadership skills and developing new programs for youth ministry.

### Qualifications

We are looking for members who are in high school and who have been active in their parish and the diocese. The deans from each deanery will appoint the members of the committee from that deanery for a one-year term. Terms will begin with the first meeting of the year (see dates below) and will conclude with the meeting held in August of 2010. Members may be re-appointed up to three times. It is highly recommended that those applying for the Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee either have attended the Christian Leadership Institute or plan on attending CLI this summer. While not being able to attend CLI should not stop you from applying for the committee, first consideration will be given to those who have attended or are planning on attending. The dates for CLI 2009 are July 19-24 and July 26-31. Information and an application for CLI can be found at [www.davenportyouth.org](http://www.davenportyouth.org)

### What will be expected of you?

We are looking for people who are enthusiastic, creative, committed to youth ministry, and open to new ideas. Committee members are expected to:

**Attend all committee meetings** (unless excused as described in the by-laws). You must make these meetings a priority. The first meeting is three days and includes team-building and goal-setting. Other meetings mostly run from Saturday morning to Sunday lunch. They are scheduled at various parishes around the diocese. 2009-10 meetings are:

August 14-16

Oct. 17-18 (High school Rally)

December 6

February 20-21

March 20-21 (Jr. High Rally... tentative date)

*A year-end wrap-up gathering may be scheduled for early June. Attendance is encouraged but not required.*

(continued)

### **DYMC expectations, continued**

- **Report back to their deaneries** concerning what the committee is doing.
- **Gather ideas and concerns** from people in their deanery and bring them to the attention of the committee.
- **Work on committees** that are developing projects for promoting youth ministry. This work needs to take place between DYMC meetings. We sometimes have optional work sessions shortly before our youth rallies.

### **How do you apply?**

Look over the rest of the information in this packet, including the constitution of the committee. If you are interested in being a part of the committee, simply fill out the attached application. It must be received by your dean by May 11, 2009. Then give the recommendation form and a stamped-envelope, addressed to your dean, to a parish leader (who is not your parent) and ask them to fill it out and mail it. Your dean also must receive this by May 11, 2009. The deans and their addresses are listed at the top of the application. Appointments will be made by May 16th and you will be notified shortly thereafter.

### **What will the committee do?**

Much of that will be up to you and the other members of the committee. The committee adopted several projects in its first seven years:

- The committee played a large role in the Diocesan Youth Rally last seven years and intends to do so again this year.
- They have developed an annual award for outstanding youth in the diocese and outstanding adult who ministers to youth, which is presented each year at youth rally.
- DYMC members write columns on youth issues and events that appear in the Catholic Messenger twice a month.
- They are maintaining a website for youth ministry in this diocese and exploring use of other technology to reach out to youth.
- The DYMC helped create the Junior High Youth Rally, which draws over 400 youth every year.
- Other committees explore ways to expand our knowledge of the faith, to use our gifts for responsible participation in the Church, and to respond to the needs of pre-adolescents (youth in grades 2-5).

There is no telling where the Holy Spirit may take the committee in the future. Come and join the excitement!

For more information, contact your youth ministry coordinator or Pat Finan at (641) 842-5148 or [finan@iowatelecom.net](mailto:finan@iowatelecom.net)