

Consultation Options Continued:

• Justice & Service Consultation

Parishes will be assisted in developing an overall justice & service strategy that includes organizing intergenerational



service opportunities such as monthly trips to a nursing home and annual week-long home repair outreach in impoverished and disaster areas of the country/world.

• Rites & Ritual Blessings Consultation



Whether youth ministry prepares young people for Confirmation or provides opportunities to live out Confirmation, an intergenerational strategy will be discussed on how to create public acknowledgement of the different stages of faith formation.

• Catechist Training/Empowering

Adults who commit to sharing their faith with youth will be empowered to see themselves as youth ministers and will be provided with the skills needed to affectively create intergenerational relationships through one or two sessions.



• Leadership Training



Training is provided for retreat teams or similar groups needing small group and large group leadership skills. Amount of time spent depends on needs and degree of skill level desired.

• Parent Gatherings



Parents will be introduced and welcomed into Senior High Youth Ministry through an hour-long presentation. An explanation of youth ministry, its goals, and the role of parents within it will focus on partnership with the parish.

• Fundraising Consultation

Sometimes parishes need additional funding in order to provide youth ministry opportunities. Ideas and insights will be given in a meeting so that money can be raised in ways that involve youth and build Christian community.



****Of course, consultation options can be combined into one meeting****



Fred T. Mercadante
Youth Ministry Consultant for the
Diocese of Scranton
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- Twenty-One years experience as a full-time Youth & Young Adult Minister.
- Designed and implemented an Initiation model of Youth Ministry as applied to the US Bishops' document: *Renewing the Vision* and based on an adaptation of the RCIA model and Family-based Faith Formation model.
- Published author in the field of Catholic Youth Ministry.
- M.S. - Pastoral Ministry (specialization in youth & young adults) - Fordham University.

Does Your Parish Need to Enrich Ministry By, For, & With Youth and Their Families?



THE DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Fred T. Mercadante Youth Ministry Consultant

- Centered in Eucharist
- Consistent with the U.S. Bishops' document, *Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry*
- Author of *Senior High Ministry that Works: A Parish-based Initiation Model* (Twenty-Third Publications)

Dear Pastors, Pastoral Associates,
Professional Youth & Young Adult Ministers,
DRE's, & Volunteer Ministers:

This Consultant Will Help You!

Especially if....

- You would love to see more young people and their families come to Mass.
- You would love to be confident that the young people and their families who do come to Mass know why they are there.
- You want to tap into the energy of young people.
- You want to see teenagers remain active in the life of the parish after confirmation.
- You want to be a coordinator of service opportunities rather than a probation officer.
- You want youth ministry to give you life rather than suck it out of you.
- You want to be able to use all your gifts.
- You believe that Faith is caught, not taught.
- You believe that children and youth are just as much a part of the Church as any adult.
- You believe that the word, "intergenerational," can be a reality rather than a nice thought.
- You believe in parish.
- You live in the image and likeness of a creative God.
- You want a strong youth ministry in your parish that is not in competition with other parish ministries.
- You believe that there is a huge developmental difference between freshmen and seniors that demands age appropriate catechesis.
- You are most concerned that young people are developing into an adult Faith.

This brochure describes a unique service that will enrich your youth ministry, taking teens beyond

Confirmation and into the life of the parish community and the larger Church as well.

The relational nature of youth ministry and the need for on-going formation of the young Church are crucial to a vibrant parish community. The service that Fred offers is unique because he comes to your "home" and works with you on your specific youth ministry needs, whether it be starting with a blank slate or improving a youth ministry that is already established.

Overall, the parish can view this service as an investment in their youth. It is a chance to bring in a well established and educated youth minister who can empower parishioners and staff to be in true relationship with youth and their families.

Who Benefits From This Service and How?:

1. Parishes with already successful senior high youth ministry will be able to consult with Fred regarding discovering ways of building on their success and taking it to the next level.
2. Parishes looking to make a paradigm shift in their approach to youth ministry will be able to dialogue with Fred who has extensive experience with overseeing youth ministry paradigm shifts within parish life.
3. Parishes who are approaching youth ministry with a "blank slate" and have made a pastoral decision to put in place a deliberate structure will find that consultation with Fred can help form a good strategy.

****Although consultation is geared toward parish-based youth ministry, youth minister/volunteer minister/YM team workshops can be scheduled on diocesan and deanery levels****

Consultation Options:

• Youth Ministry Vision Consultation



Parishes will be assisted in developing a consistent and unifying model of youth ministry through which youth and their families are encouraged to live out their Baptismal call. Practical suggestions for structure, schedules and programs will be provided in one meeting, series of meetings or workshop format.

• Youth-Friendly Mass Consultation

Full, conscious and active participation in Mass is the expectation of all parishioners, including youth. A discussion around the steps that can be taken by a parish to foster this ideal will be facilitated.



• Retreat Process Consultation



Parishes will be assisted in the implementation or improvement of parish-based retreat processes, utilizing a "peer-leadership" approach and emphasizing on-going

conversion rather than "one shot deals." Consultation is best done through a series of meetings involving all participating adults and youth leaders.