

Parish Youth Ministries Annual Report 2022

Parish Youth Ministries (referred to as PYM henceforth) was a year-long committee located within the Office of Formation whose purpose was to carry out christian youth formation programs; specifically, this group hosted 2-4 annual youth retreats for congregational youth across the Diocese. This committee was composed of high school students from various congregations, and in conjunction with its charge of creating retreats for youth ages 11-17, the committee served as a space to curate spiritual direction and leadership development for the students serving on said committee.

While Parish Youth Ministries has been a powerful component of the Diocese's Youth Formation Ministry and has been impactful in engaging high school age youth, the committee was disbanded in the year 2022 due to a lack of personnel. The Director for Christian Formation moved out of her position in the Diocese and the position has not been replaced.

Since its disbanding, this program has been requested by parents and Diocesan affiliate groups within the year 2022 (such as congregations and Shrine Mont Retreat Center), so there is space for this program in the future of the Diocese's formation ministry.

Actions taken in 2022

Paris Ball, the then Director of Christian Formation within the Diocese of Virginia, convened the 2021 PYM committee members. Paris Ball informed the members that she was leaving the position of Director for Christian Formation, and that since there was not a replacement for the role, that the committee was suspended indefinitely.

The committee did not provide any programming in 2022, either for the committee members or congregational youth of the Diocese.