



# St. Margaret Mary Parish

## Director of Youth Ministry

Location:	St. Margaret Mary Parish, Naperville, IL (100% on-site)
Reports to:	Pastor
Employment type:	Full-Time, Benefited
Normal working hours:	General Office Hours M-F 10am-6pm, with some flexibility Some evenings and weekends required for YM events

## Who We Are

As a Catholic church located in the Diocese of Joliet, St. Margaret Mary Parish exists in order to help people experience new life in Christ! Each staff member and volunteer brings a unique set of skills, talents and gifts to build up our vibrant community. If you want to join us on this exciting mission, we want to hear from you!

## What You'll Love

The Director of Youth Ministry (DYM) is responsible for developing and ensuring the success of an innovative four-year youth ministry program, where the high school youth of our parish:

- Encounter Jesus as a real, Living Person, and know they are welcome, known, and loved.
- Grow in their relationship with Jesus and understand the fundamental teachings of the Catholic faith - what we believe and why it matters.
- Feel empowered to live out the Catholic faith as they grow in virtue, discover their vocation, and serve others like Jesus.

## What You'll Do

Reporting to the Pastor, the DYM is committed and passionate about creating an engaging youth faith formation program to accompany our high school students through the conversion journey, and ultimately become disciples of Jesus Christ:

Pre-trust → Initial Trust → Spiritual Curiosity → Spiritual Openness → Spiritual Seeking → Intentional Discipleship

The DYM is a constant student of generational trends and developments, and will develop and evaluate strategies for reaching an ever-changing generation of teenagers.

Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

## Relationship Building

The DYM creates an engaging, relationship-based youth ministry program that includes effective opportunities for the youth to have powerful encounters with the real, Living Person of Jesus Christ.

**1450 Green Trails Drive, Naperville, Illinois 60540**

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- Provide in-person, experiential encounters with Christ where they are not only welcome, known and loved, but they come to know and encounter the real, Living Person of Jesus Christ.
- Provide regular social opportunities year-round.
- Maintain an open door policy and connection with current students as well as program graduates.
  - Regular open office hours so students have a welcoming place to come and connect with others
  - On-going communication with students when they graduate so they stay engaged with their home parish at St. Margaret Mary

## Youth Ministry Team

The DYM will form a Youth Ministry Team (YMT) of adult role models, who have demonstrated to be disciples of Christ, to help maintain a fruitful, mission-driven youth ministry program and to help teach and mentor the youth.

- Working with the Pastor, the DYM will form a YMT of parents, parishioners and community members who are faithful disciples of Christ and passionate about our youth.
- Supervise and meet with the YMT regularly to assure the youth ministry program is operating at standards of excellence and address any special circumstances with the youth.
- Assign each student to a YMT member to meet one-on-one and in small groups, assuring that all are known and supported.
- Form a cohort of teachers out of the YMT (formerly called catechists) to develop and maintain a faithful, joyful path in preparing for and receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- Establish the opportunity for parents to stay engaged with their high school children and their spiritual journey.
- Develop an ongoing and measurable evaluation system to determine the fruitfulness of youth ministry, and proactively respond to the data.

## Catholic Teaching & Spiritual Formation

To help the youth continue to grow in Christ, the DYM provides both structured and creative opportunities to learn about the fundamental teachings of our Catholic faith - what we believe and why it matters - and to address their spiritual needs.

- Implement and oversee a consistent, year-round schedule of mostly in-person gatherings, using technology primarily for communication.
- Provide opportunities for the youth to ask questions and have engaging conversations with the DYM, Youth Ministry Team members, and special guests.
- Guide and help the youth understand our Catholic faith - what we believe and why it matters.
- Establish a culture where the youth feel comfortable to talk about faith & life and real-world concerns.
- Support the youth as they continue to grow in virtue and discover their vocation.
- Develop and integrate a faithful, joyful curriculum and path in preparing for and receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation for all youth.
- Coordinate retreats that allow the youth to gather, be inspired, and grow in faith as a community.

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## Service

As the youth continue to grow in their relationship with Christ, the DYM fosters opportunities for the youth to feel empowered to serve others as Jesus did and calls each of us to do.

- Provide regular service opportunities for the youth to serve at St. Margaret Mary and the local community, minimum monthly.
- Provide a yearly mission trip every summer for the youth to go out and be like Christ in the world.
- Teach the youth how serving others is directly connected to being a disciple of Jesus.

## Model SMMP Core Values

All staff members are expected to adhere to our SMMP Core Values especially the DYM as the leading role model and mentor for the youth.

- Cultivate a culture of prayer within the Youth Ministry, praying for everything within the ministry and for the youth, modeling how to pray.
- Maintain healthy teamwork and positive collaboration with the Youth Ministry Team.
- Collaborate with other youth ministry leaders and share ideas & resources.
- Continually seek spiritual and professional opportunities to grow as a disciple of Christ and develop as a youth ministry leader.
- Attend Mass regularly, minimum weekly Sunday mass, to grow in Christ and be a joyfully Catholic role model.
- Continually model all SMMP Core Values to the youth while serving them and encouraging them to serve others.

## **What You'll Need**

- Undergraduate or Graduate degree in Ministry, Theology or Catechesis.
- Proven track record of successful relationship building with the youth, specifically in ministry.
- Experience working in a Catholic church setting is a plus.
- Experience in planning and facilitating youth activities, retreats, and events.
- Availability to work evenings and weekends as needed.
- Continual formation in the truths of the Catholic faith.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Must be a practicing Roman Catholic in good standing and must know, profess, and act consistently in accordance with the doctrinal and moral teachings of the Catholic Church.
- Must support the mission, philosophy, objectives and policies of the Catholic Church and the Diocese of Joliet, and be open to prayer & faith sharing in all aspects of work.
- General office hours are M-F 10am-6pm, though there is flexibility. Some evenings and weekends required for YM events.

## **Compensation & Benefits**

- Full-time employees receive generous benefits including medical, dental, and vision insurance; two weeks paid vacation per year; additional paid federal and liturgical holidays; and pension & 403B retirement plan as per Diocesan/Parish personnel policy.
- Opportunity to work in a hospitable, joyful, and vibrant community.

If you are interested in applying for this position, please send a resume and cover letter to Matthew Ernst at [mernst@smmp.com](mailto:mernst@smmp.com). No phone calls, please.

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