

# BEST YOUTH MINISTRY PRACTICES DURING A PANDEMIC

Best practices were collected from discussions from youth ministry leaders.

## OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Outdoor activities are a lower risk option than indoor activities because of space to spread out and wind circulation. But even then, you really have to remind the kids to stay apart.



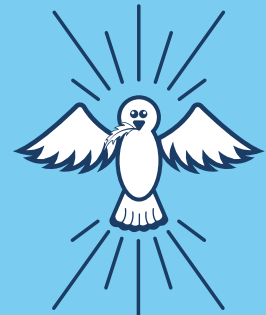
## SMALL GROUPS = "POD APPROACH" OF YOUTH MINISTRY



This helps reduce the spread by limiting who is in contact with who. The group is able to spread out. It also solves issues of a lack of large gathering spaces. Teens get mentors by caring adults and can focus on their personal faith development.

## ALLOW THE HOLY SPIRIT TO HELP YOU THINK CREATIVELY

Look at your events you have planned, think about what needs those events were supposed to meet (ex: fellowship, prayer, service, multicultural), and see if those needs could be met in other ways. It's ok to keep things simple this year or back to basics. Ministry is going to look different. And that's ok.



## PEOPLE OVER PROGRAMS



This is something I've heard again and again and again. Invest in the person one on one, build that relationship, help them feel welcomed and loved in the parish, and let them know they are seen. Covid has revealed that we need to be more of a community, and communities grow when relationships grow.



Diocese of Gary  
OFFICE FOR YOUTH  
& YOUNG ADULTS