

# GATHERED

## Older Youth Group Ideas



“YOUTH MINISTRY... IS A PROCESS THAT IS GRADUAL, RESPECTFUL, PATIENT, HOPEFUL, TIRELESS AND COMPASSIONATE”

**CV 236**



THE ARCHDIOCESE  
of BIRMINGHAM

**KYT**

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## **Discussion and decision making group:**

This could be a group that meet for activities and discussions focusing on theology, bible study or key themes. This group could also take on a role of decision making and input helping to plan things within the parish such as, decoration of the church for particular seasons, planning events within the parish or helping in the day to day life of the parish eg: Children's liturgy .

## **Parish centred Social Outreach Group:**

This group could focus on taking physical action within the parish and local area. Becoming servant leaders. This could start off as creating a place for people to come and meet eg: for the elderly in the parish who may be isolated to come together to share a cup. of tea and some cake. Can be catered to the needs of the parish.

## **Young adults culture and lifeskills Group:**

Do you have someone in the parish who is an excellent chef or seemsstress could they pass on this skill to the young people. This could also be a time to share in different cultures and traditions. Perhaps there are traditional ways to celebrate key celebrations in the Catholic Church this could be an element of the group.





## Bigger Social Outreach Projects:

This group may focus on a particular issue that the young people identify in their local area. For example: Homelessness – the group may start by having a sleep out and basic meals with activities designed to allow the young people to earn “food tokens” or “extra blankets” this will act as an introduction to the issue. The group could then investigate what resources are available in their local area and the way in which people can access them. It may be possible for them to have the opportunity to visit one of these charities or organisations or “team up with them” to help provide for the local community.

## AWARDS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

### **Vital:**

VITAL is a great opportunity to develop the leadership potential of young people aged 14 - 17 years.

It is a six week course and includes a project aimed at linking schools with a parish community.

VITAL is fun and it is a lively and interactive training course encompassing many life skills.

As well as building confidence and developing new and existing skills.

VITAL is a Diocesan Certificated Course and all participant will receive a certificate signed by Archbishop Bernard on completion.



## **The John Paul II Award:**

The Award enables participants to take an active part in the life of their Church – in the life of their community and society. It also enables young people become more aware of the teaching and role of the Catholic Church in the world and to engage at a deep level with Christ.

The Award is committed to helping young people enhance their spiritual, physical, emotional and social development through participation in school, parish and community activities. As well as the feeling of personal achievement that a participant will gain from taking part in the Award,

## **Faith in Action Award:**

The CYMFed National Catholic Award Scheme, challenges young people in school years 6 to 11 to put their faith into action in their schools, parishes and in the wider community. There are four Awards for different age-groups: Pin, Bronze, Silver and Gold. Each Award requires a level of commitment to service and to reflection.

Participants keep a Journal and, to complete the Award, they present a piece of work, in a medium of their choice, to represent their personal faith in action journey.

Many of our Primary Year 6 pupils already live out their faith in generous service to others. This may be through Mini Vinnies or in a variety of other ways. The Award seeks to recognise, affirm and celebrate all that they do as individuals and as a group.

## Youth Alpha:

The Alpha Youth Film Series is 12 video sessions designed to engage 11-18 year olds in conversations about faith, life and Jesus.

It is a series of interactive sessions exploring the basics of the Christian faith. The series covers a range of topics that will enable young people to explore their faith.

**These are just a few ideas of how older youth groups may run.**

**For more information in regards to setting up an older youth group or to share ideas and questions please contact Libby - [libby.cox@kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk](mailto:libby.cox@kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk)**

