



Charter of the Archdiocese of Louisville Young Adult Board

Approved December 2021

I. Charge

The Young Adult Board of the Archdiocese of Louisville exists to promote the growth of pastoral ministry, evangelization efforts, and missionary discipleship formation with and among young adults throughout the Archdiocese. This is so more young adults within the Archdiocese will encounter the love of Jesus Christ and His Church and will respond with a desire to become missionary disciples to impact the world around them. It is to be convened through the Office of Youth and Young Adults (OYYA) and will serve at the pleasure and need of the Archbishop to further the mission of the Church.

The Young Adult Board will work to:

- Create opportunities to listen to and voice the needs of the diverse young adult populations (age, ethnicity, geography, marital status, etc.) within the Archdiocese;
- Be intentional in the prayerful study and on-going formation in best practices and movements of ministry with young adults and help to discern practical ways the Archdiocese, parishes, and colleges can apply these principles;
- Assist with fostering networking, collaboration, and coordination between young adult groups, ministries, and apostolates;
- Be available to advise, answer questions, and provide input or feedback as needed to Archdiocesan agencies on initiatives and projects that involve or outreach to young adults;
- Undertake other tasks as assigned by the Archbishop or his representative acting on his behalf.

II. Governance

The Young Adult Board serves the Archdiocese of Louisville, is responsible to the Archbishop, and is supported by the OYYA. The Board will consist of at least 13 members appointed by the Archbishop. Two Co-coordinators, selected from among their number by the Archbishop, will plan meeting agendas with ample time for prayer and reflection, lead meetings ensuring everyone has an opportunity for input and is included in a consensus process as applicable, maintain regular communication with members, and submit meeting minutes and an annual report to the Archbishop and the OYYA.

Additional functions, such as Secretary, Parish Outreach, Communications, etc., will be identified and created as needed by the Board and filled with members of the Board through a process of discernment and consensus.

Either the Director or Associate Director of the OYYA will serve as Archdiocesan Liaison and provide necessary oversight of the Board, ensure the Board stays on course with the Archdiocese's Mission and Vision, serve as a communication conduit to and from the Archbishop, and be a readily available resource and support for the work of the Board. The Archdiocesan Liaison serves ex officio and is not eligible to serve as Co-coordinator or in any other capacity on the Board. The Liaison is advisory to the Co-coordinators and the Board members, helping to establish Board priorities, providing guidance on archdiocesan protocol and policies, identifying opportunities to engage and establish relationships with other relevant archdiocesan activities and resources.

III. Membership

All Young Adult Board members are appointed by the Archbishop. Candidates must be between the ages of 18-39 and in good standing with the Catholic Church as a practicing Catholic. Young adults interested in serving on the Board can submit themselves for consideration with a recommendation from 1) a priest, deacon, or staff member in parish, college campus, or archdiocesan pastoral ministry, 2) a current member of the Young Adult Board, or 3) a leader of a Catholic young adult-serving apostolate operating in good standing within the Archdiocese of Louisville. Submissions should be sent to the OYYA, where they will be collected and verified, and then forwarded to the Archbishop for selection and appointment. *[Application and Recommendation forms available online at www.archlou.org/youngadults]*

To a reasonable extent, Board membership seeks to reflect the diversity of young adults in the Archdiocese including culture/ethnicity, geographic setting (rural, suburban, urban), state of life (single, married, clergy/religious), male and female, age, and representation from Catholic young adult-serving apostolates. Also taken into consideration are such important gifts and experience of ministry involvement, lived faith, reliability, collaboration, interpersonal skills, relationship-building, humility, charity, leadership, communication, etc.

Members who choose to take public positions contrary to the teaching of the Catholic Church risk being asked to step down.

IV. Terms of Service

Co-coordinators will have a two-year term of service except for the first year of the Board's existence, when one Co-coordinator will commit to three years of service to establish a rotation of leadership and avoid having both Co-coordinator's terms end simultaneously. All other members are asked to commit to a two-year term of service. All members' terms begin upon acceptance of the Archbishop's appointment and may be renewed once (two consecutive terms). The Archbishop will affirm all renewed terms. Members may not start a two-year term of service if they will age out prior to the completion of that term.

V. Meetings

The Young Adult Board meetings will occur six times per year as determined by the Board. The meeting schedule will be determined annually by the Board and adapted as current circumstances may necessitate by the Co-coordinators. Meetings would preferably be in-person, but online or in-person/online hybrid are allowable if circumstances preclude full in-person meetings. A minimum of one meeting per year should be scheduled with the Archbishop, though he is welcome at any meeting.

Members are expected to attend all general meetings and communicate beforehand with the Co-coordinators if a meeting has to be missed. Any member absent without an excuse from two or more meetings in a year will be considered as automatically resigning their position on the Young Adult Board unless extenuating circumstances dictate otherwise. The Co-coordinators have the responsibility to contact any member absent from two or more meetings to discuss the continued fulfillment of that member's commitment. The Archbishop will make the final determination whether the member will continue to serve on the Board.

Additional meetings may be scheduled as needed for work with subcommittees or specific projects. These are in addition to regularly scheduled Young Adult Board meetings and do not count in attendance requirements.

VI. Changes

This document may be changed at the Archbishop's directive or by the Board using a process of discernment and consensus with recommendations submitted for review by the OYYA and approval by the Archbishop.