

The Youth Leadership Program (YLTP)

YLTP or the Youth Leadership Training Program is a one-three-year leadership training opportunity to equip young people to take an active leadership role within their parishes and communities as group leaders, committee members, etc. Once you're accepted into Year One, you're automatically registered for Years Two and Three but may choose to opt out at any time.

YLTP Mission

The Youth Leadership Training Program is a Christian-based learning experience sponsored by the Diocese of Niagara. The mission of YLTP is to help young people grow in six areas:

- ✚ **Call** - to articulate a sense of personal identity, awareness, and mission.
- ✚ **Stewardship** - to understand and practise service to others.
- ✚ **Living Community** - to work with others in an intentional, safe community.
- ✚ **Spiritual Enrichment** - through Christian worship and study.
- ✚ **Fostering Self** - to enhance leadership and related skills.
- ✚ **The Heart** - to have fun with good friends.

As its name implies, YLTP is grounded in leadership - learning, modeling, and practicing effective leadership in church, school, and community.

Why attend all three Years?

- ✚ Development and nurture relationships and friendships that last a lifetime.
- ✚ Receive all resources and training materials.
- ✚ Hands on experiences and or immersion leadership opportunities offsite.
- ✚ Build upon skills development in previous years.
- ✚ Resume building and interview tools.
- ✚ Commissioning Service offered to those who complete the three-year program.

What to expect

Year One – Call & Living in Community

Participants will be able to articulate a sense of personal identity, awareness, and mission. They will identify the gifts and skills they hold and explore areas of new growth and developed. There will be opportunities for leading prayers and social activities.

Year Two – Fostering Self, Challenge, & Stewardship

Continued self-exploration of skill development. Participants will take on further leadership roles within the program by leading worship, socials, and community building opportunities. An area of focus is encouraging others to act within the program, their parish, school, and community. They will also begin to discuss and brainstorm Year Three Projects. Year Twos may have the opportunity to visit a local community initiative to inspire ideas and passions.

Year Three Project

The purpose of the project is to practice the leadership skills you have been working on over the past two residential sessions. Plan, implement, and evaluate. Projects can be completed individually, in pairs, or as a year group. Participants are invited to plan and execute a program, event, or initiative that they are passionate about or inspired by. Examples of projects from previous years:

- Food drive
- Parish talent show
- Re-building computers for low-income households
- Fundraising dinner for immigrant families
- Sunday School lesson plan
- Care packages for those experiencing homelessness.
- Cottage Game Olympics
- Bible Journaling Program

Year Three- The heart: Inspire, Encourage & Model

Participants will actively exercise their leadership skills and learn the importance of modelling the way and encouraging others to participate. Year threes will finish any last-minute preparations for their projects and present during the Project Marketplace. Year Threes activity plan worship, socials, and the welcoming of Year Ones, and Twos. Tools will be discussed and offered for resume building and interviewing practices. As Year Threes prepare to leave the program we will acknowledge a commitment to lifelong learning, growing, and development as we continue to listen for God's call.

YLTP Commitment

The Youth Leadership Training Program will continue to adapt and grow with the faith communities of the Diocese of Niagara, responding to the needs of the younger generation in every changing season. Some areas of the program have been changed to accommodate safe practices in response to the COVID pandemic and will continue to do so.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Sarah Bird at:

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