

# Charter of the Youth Apostolate

of the Saint Thomas SyroMalabar Catholic Diocese of Chicago USA

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## **Section I: Mission of the Youth Apostolate**

- ❖ A communion of youth groups, initiatives and ministries to unite all young people of the Diocese in response to the holy gospel of Jesus Christ by encouraging the formation of a deep interior life that overflows into genuine service to the Church and to the world.

## **Section II: The Soul and Principles of the Diocesan Youth Apostolate**

### ❖ **Soul of the Apostolate**

### ❖ **Principles of the Apostolate**

#### ▪ **Communion**

- Emphasizes the harmonious collaboration of distinct charisms, talents, perspectives, and visions without competition and without vain ambition.
- Applies both within and between local youth groups, diverse ministries, regional teams, the national team, and the hierarchy in union with the Magisterium of the Church

#### ▪ **Disciples of Christ**

- The youth apostolate is to both be empowered and to empower others to live as *Disciples of Christ* and a life of servant leadership.

#### ▪ **Holistic Growth**

- As the Diocesan Youth Apostolate, we recognize that the universal call to holiness is a call to live life in its fullness. In response to this call, we desire the holistic growth of each person and every community with regard to the following components:
  - Advocacy, Catechesis, Community Life, Evangelization, Justice & Service, Leadership, Development, Liturgy & Sacramental Life, Pastoral Care and Interreligious and Ecumenical Dialogue

## **Section III: Structure of the Youth Apostolate**

### ❖ **Youth Apostolate Director**

### ❖ **Parish level**

- A team of coordinators in a parish who are selected and appointed by the individual parish vicar.
- Value each local youth organization's particular structure and tradition which has been formed throughout their history, local reality, and community context.
- A youth group in parish life should find its fullest reality and communion with other members of the parish in the celebration of the Holy Qurbana.

### ❖ **Regional Teams of Coordinators**

- For fruitful practice of a Christ-centered and genuine communion of SyroMalabar youth groups, regional teams will serve as a "bridge", connecting their respective parishes/missions with the wider vision of the DYA.
- These teams will ultimately build communion of parishes within the region by communicating and executing the vision of the Youth Apostolate.

### ❖ **National Team of Coordinators**

- Directed by the Bishop and, with him, the Youth Apostolate Director, the National Team of Coordinators is responsible for the discernment of the mission and vision of the Diocesan Youth Apostolate.
- Guided by the Holy Spirit and in communion with Bishop, the clergy, parish/mission leaders, and youth groups, together the National Team of Coordinators most importantly promotes unity of vision and purpose.