

# WORTHY OF THE CALL

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## TRAINING FOR YOUTH WHO VOLUNTEER/WORK FOR THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness, patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:13

### SECTION ONE: YOU ARE CALLED

With Bishop Gordon Bennett

Question for Discussion:

1. Do you look at what you do as a response to God's call? What is God calling you to do?
2. What are the things that you are doing or hope to do, that make you part of the Church's present?
3. How is service part of your faith?

Take some time to review the following quotes from Bishop Bennett in Section One.

When we talk about ministry what we're talking about is really trying to do our best to live the life of Jesus in this world.

I bet you hear a lot that people say to you that you are the church's future and I believe that but I want to emphasize today that you are also a very important part of the church's present. The church needs your energy and your vision right now

The best way to explain the mission of the church is to say that every person does his or her very best to try and live the life of Christ in this world. And that means young people, you are a very important part of the church's mission. We need your gifts and we need your spirit if church is going to fulfill it's mission to the world today.

If I could say one thing to young people who are doing ministry for the church I would choose a quotation from Mother Theresa, of Calcutta who said when she was sending her sisters out to do ministry to the poor and the dying, Let the people eat you up. Be totally available to the Christ who presents himself to you in the person you are called to serve.

## SECTION TWO: CORE PRINCIPLES

With Steve Angrisano

### AUTHENTIC

1. How do you represent Christ to others? ...to your family. ....to your friends. ...to those you serve. ...to the stranger.

You are an ambassador for us, to the world, an ambassador of our Church, your individual parish and the whole church, and people see you and say “wow that’s what it means to be Catholic.” Steve Angrisano

2. What are you saying through your actions and your service about what it means to be a Catholic?

When people say that I am representing the Catholic Church, when I am going out and meeting different people, it’s a great responsibility because, pretty much you are representing this whole organization and you’re representing Christ to others. You can represent a whole world of understanding and love and I think it is necessary that people go out there a be proud of the church that they belong to.

Monica  
St. Jane Frances Church

3. What about the Catholic Church makes you proud?

### COMPTENCY

4. In your service/leadership/ministry, what do you have to be good at? How will you become good at it?

5. Considering developing a plan to help young people acquire the skills they will need for their service role.

### DIGNITY

6. Who respects you and treats you in a way that makes you feel good about yourself? How will you imitate those same behavior as your serve or lead others?

7. As you look ahead to the leadership or service that you hope to do in the name of the Church, what things will you need to remember that will help you respect the dignity of those who will lead and/or serve? In your discussion, be sure to include the following points.

Listen to those you serve and cherish them  
Be attentive and responsive, especially to those with special circumstances...  
Be open and receptive  
Identify and celebrate the holy in the lives of those you serve.  
Praise and affirm what is good.  
Be open to learning from those you serve, especially those whom you teach  
Respect others and their ideas

## ACCOUNTABILITY

8. What do others expect of you as a leader?
9. What do you expect of those who supervise you?

## SECTION THREE: RECOGNIZING SIGNS OF ABUSE with Melissa McDermott Lane, Lenny Howard and Chris Ashby

Ask the participants to identify the following statements as true or false. Be sure to have them explain their reasons.

1. When minors in a ministry role hear about unsafe behavior, they should involve their adult supervisor.
2. Hugs are inappropriate when doing ministry.
3. A leader who shouts and uses some manipulative actions to control the group is still within the boundaries of responsible leadership skills.
4. Leaders should be aware when planning to avoid activities that might put young people at physical or emotional risk.
5. With leadership comes power and good leaders will learn to take advantage of them for favors, gifts and even friendships.

## SECTION FOUR: MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Laura Cartagena

1. What is the difference you hope to make by doing the service/ministry for which you are preparing?
2. Tell about someone you know whose service to you has made a difference in another's life.

What are people in the church looking for? I think one of the most attractive things is people who know what being Catholic is all about and trying to live that lifestyle. The church needs people who are honest and straight up.

Laura Cartagena

3. What do you think people in the Church are looking for?