# PRACTICAL WAYS to ADAPT THE CURRICULUM TO A YOUTH MINISTRY CYCLE of SESSIONS

FRAMEWORK TOPICS TO BE COVERED ARE IN BOLD/SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION IN SESSIONS ARE BELOW EACH BOLD PRINTED HEADLINE:

### The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture

Our human longing for God

God desires a relationship with US

Finding Joy in our relationship with God

Understanding the Bible and how God is revealed to us through scripture

How do Catholics read the Bible?

Old Testament encounters with God

What wisdom can we gain from Wisdom?

What does it mean to have faith? The difference between FAITH and RELIGION

Proof for the existence of God: St. Thomas Aquinas and things we can't explain

#### Who is Jesus Christ?

The church is the Body of Christ in the world: How do we live as that??

Reflecting on Christ's life in the Gospels

The Holy Trinity

The Incarnation

Blessed Virgin Mary: Marian Prayers/Saying YES to God in our own way

Human Dignity: Created in the image and likeness of God

Our unique selves: Loved by God, given a purpose

What does it mean to respect others?

WE are stewards of creation

What does it mean to follow Jesus; the way, the truth and the life

Sin, Repentance and Reconciliation

The Power of Forgiveness

Seeing the beauty of creation when there is evil in the world/Understanding suffering

The beatitudes teach us how to live

Learning from the parables

Living the Two Great Commandments

Why we should think about "the final judgment": God's expectations of us

The importance of prayer/How to pray

Exploring prayer styles

An in-depth look at the words our savior taught us

What does it mean to be a modern-day evangelizer and spread the message of Christ?

Companions: the Communion of Saints

Four last things: death, judgment, heaven and hell

## The Mission of Jesus Christ (The Paschal Mystery)

Seen and Unseen: Do angels exist?

Created as male and female: Understanding the other gender

Original sin: Adam and Eve as a story of rebellion against God/Message learned

God's covenants with God's people

God is with us in our suffering and understands our human emotions

The story of Job: overcoming suffering

Creation is constantly evolving and moving toward ultimate perfection/understanding free will/natural disasters and why bad things happen to good people

What is REAL happiness? That is God's desire for us

Recognizing HOPE: We are an Easter people

What is true joy? The mark of a disciple

The apostles were real people: lessons we can learn from them

Walking in the last days of Christ: Understanding the power of love and compassion

Practicing the virtues of faith, hope and love

Growing in holiness: reflecting on Christ's call to us

Conscience formation / Moral Decision Making

Every choice we make influences both us and society/ thinking through

consequences

Serving the poor and marginalized as Jesus taught us

Walking in the footsteps of others: SOLIDARITY

#### Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church

Pentecost and the beginning of the Church Jesus Christ instituted for us

The HOLY SPIRIT living among us

My Gifts and the Gifts of the Spirit

One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic: Understanding the Marks of the Church

Embracing diversity among our Catholic world (learn about other cultures Catholic traditions such as Los Dios Del Muertos )

Saints as models of holiness

The church as salvation for all people

Guided by successors of the 12: Our Pope and Bishops

Our role as "the laity"

Vocations of the laity: Marriage and family life/Single life/Consecrated life

A day in the life of a Priest: A closer look at Holy Orders/Pizza with the Pastor Question

and Answer panel

# Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ

What is a sacrament and what is grace

Jesus Christ as sacrament

Signs and Symbols of the Sacraments

Liturgical prayer and the Holy Mass

Parts of the Mass

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Confiteor/ Act of Contrition/ Kyrie

Types of Sin

Why prayer?

The essential elements of the sacraments

What does it mean to belong: the power of Baptism

The Baptism of Jesus

What do our baptismal promises mean? Owning our faith

Turning away from sin and selfish actions

Priest/Prophet/King

What is the RCIA?

Gifts of the Spirit

Fruits of the Spirit

Stewardship

Recognizing the Spirit at work in your life and our world

Taking a deeper look at the scriptures about Eucharist

Old Testament connections to the Eucharist

Eucharist as THANKSGIVING: Session on gratitude

Our role as active participants in the Mass

The REAL PRESENCE of Christ

Living reverently

Rules around the Eucharist: Understanding our Catholic Faith

Nourishing Christ's love within us

The Sending Forth: We have a job to do

Preferential Option for the Poor

The seal of confession

Anointing of the Sick

Viaticum and understanding a Catholic funeral

God is with us in our suffering

Servant Leadership

What an ordination looks like

Holy Matrimony: Vows and what they mean to the couple

Nurturing Children and the Domestic church

Marriage and family as a witness to Christ's love

Before getting married: things every young person should think about and discuss with a future spouse

The requirements of marriage in the Catholic faith

#### Life in Jesus Christ

Understanding God's plan for us/Listening

Endowed with reason, intellect and free will: how that impacts us and our world

What does it mean to be a follower of Christ?

Human rights and duties in God's eyes

Moral codes across cultures and religion (things like "the Golden Rule")

Applying the Ten Commandments to our lives

Cardinal and Theological Virtues

Moral responsibility

Discipleship daily life and work

Challenges to Discipleship

Challenges to our Moral Code

Thou Shall Not Have Other Gods: What consumes us and draws us away from God?

Thou Shall Not Covet: Fighting the green monster of jealousy

The Seven Deadly Sins: What makes them deadly

Bearing False Witness and the danger of social media

Honor thy Father and Mother: Respect and Communication within your home

Thou Shall Not Steal: It's not right just because everyone does it (how stealing is more than just robbery)

Healthy and Holy Relationships

## **Sacred Scripture**

The Pentateuch and our Judaic roots

Praying the Psalms

The Books of the Prophets and Modern Messages

**Gospel Writers and Comparisons** 

**Gospel Messages** 

Letters from Paul; he is writing to us still today

Symbolism in the Book of Revelation

How the Biblical timeline matches with the Historic timeline we learn in school