

Sacred Hearts Parish

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To the Youth of Sacred Hearts Parish:

Pope Francis has convoked a synod for youth in October 2018. It is called Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment. As is noted in the introductory remarks, “The Church has decided to examine herself on how she can lead young people to recognize and accept the call to the fullness of life and love, and to ask young people to help her in identifying the most effective way to announce the Good News today...”

With this in mind we as a parish have been asked to submit a written response to the Vicar Foraine by July 7. We are asking you, the young people of Sacred Hearts Parish, for your input into this document. Please let us know what you have experienced in relation to these questions. The term “vocation” in these questions is used in the broadest sense of the word: one’s call to live a full life.

Below are several questions we would like for you to prayerfully answer and return to Betty Desjardins, Pastoral Associate (bdesjardins@sacredheartsparish.com) by June 30, 2017. Thank you in advance for your help in this very important matter.

Betty Desjardins

- 1) How does the Church listen to young people?
- 2) What are the main challenges and most significant opportunities for young people in the United States today?
- 3) What opportunities/gatherings of people your age have been successful within the Church? Outside the Church?
- 4) What do you need from the Church especially when making an important life decision? How can the Church help meet these needs?
- 5) How do you approach or have you approached discerning your vocation? Who has helped you in that process? How has the Church helped you?
- 6) Have you ever attended a World Youth Day event? If so, what impact did it have on you? If not, what would make you want to attend?

- 7) Have you ever received any spiritual guidance? From whom? What was the benefit of such guidance?
- 8) How does our community care for young people who experience extreme violence? What role does the Church play in this? How could the Church do better?
- 9) Has there been a time in your life when the Church has been helpful in your discernment process? Please explain.