



**YOUTH, YOUNG ADULT,
& CAMPUS MINISTRIES**
DIOCESE OF DALLAS

The Diocese of Dallas is offering Young Adult Small Groups through parishes.

Are you in?

Why Small Groups?

In the wake of the Covid pandemic, the Diocese of Dallas, along with many parishes, has made the decision to forego in-person, large-group, gathered events for Summer and Fall 2020.

This has left many Young Adult Ministry Leaders asking how they can continue to support young adults in their communities who are accustomed to such events. As a part of its response to this question, the Office of Youth, Young Adult, and Campus Ministries (OYYACM) is mobilizing parishes to offer small group ministry for young adults.

Small groups are a timeless and effective Christian model of ministry that is particularly viable during the current times when gatherings are encouraged to be either **small in attendance** or **conducted online**.

12 parishes have already participated in offering Young Adult Small Groups this Fall.

Who from my parish would participate in these young adult small groups?

Any individual over 18 years of age would be welcome to participate in small groups through your parish. We will encourage small groups to be formed by life-stages (single, married, married with kids) and the small group reflections will offer material specific to each demographic.

Tell me more about the small group content.

The small group content will be authored by nationally renowned ministry couple, Katie Prejean & Tommy McGrady of the Electric Waffle Podcast, in consultation with a hand-selected advisory group of Dallas young adults.

The small group content will be:

Relevant → Directly addressing the needs made known by the advisory group

Liturgically Inspired → Drawing upon the liturgical calendar; highlighting liturgical seasons, feasts, and practices

Scriptural → Rooted in Biblical texts, communicating the basic tenets of faith and central Gospel message

When would my parish hold these small groups?

The OYYACM is committing to providing parishes with **2 seasons** of small group content, both to be held during Fall 2020. Each **season** is a seven-week series during which small group members would gather. Each gathering prepares for the coming Sunday's Gospel and is intended to meet for an hour and a half.

Season One- August 31- October 18 (Involvement Period Has Passed)

Season Two- Called to Holiness/ Preparing for Advent

Week #1- Mon, October 26- Sun, November 1

Week #2- Mon, November 1- Sun, November 8

Week #3- Mon, November 9- Sun, November 15

Week #4- Mon, November 15- Sun, November 22

Week #5- Mon, November 23- Sun, November 29

Week #5- Mon, November 30- Sun, December 6

Week #6- Mon, December 7- Sun, December 13

Where would my parish hold these small groups?

The decision of where to hold small groups lies with the Ministry Leader and pastor/leadership at the parish. The OYYACM strongly encourages each parish to give the utmost concern to the health and safety of its young adults during Covid, as well as to follow all legal parameters and diocesan recommendations available at the time.

That being said, your parish may consider holding small groups on site at the parish, in parishioner homes, in a neutral and public location, or virtually.

What is the timeline for this effort?

September 24: Parishes officially decide if they are in for Season Two

September 28: Registration Launches

October 15: Registration Closes

October 26-December 13: Small Groups Run

How will the OYYACM support my parish?

The OYYACM will support your parish by:

- Providing Small Group Coordinator, Facilitator, & Participant Guides in both English and Spanish
- Providing the small group content in both English and Spanish
- Promoting Parish Small Groups through Diocesan/ The 635 platforms
- Providing step-by-step guidance for launching your small groups via our website: <https://catholicdallas.org/yasmallgroupcoordinators/>
- Offering 1-on-1 consultation with your parish leadership to plan for implementing small groups, to answer any questions regarding best practices, and to set your parish up for success
- Providing Facilitator Trainings in both English and Spanish

We want your “yes”!

The Office of Youth, Young Adult, and Campus Ministries would like to invite your parish to mobilize small groups for young adults, in an effort to provide effective ministry during these times of Covid and hopefully, beyond. The resources are at your fingertips, the support is readily available. Now is the time!

How do we commit?

- Meet with Parish Leadership: Small groups require the support of the pastor and parish leadership. While these small groups should NOT require any financial resources, their success will require publicity through parish platforms, an efficient way to register for the small groups online, and regular communication to participants. With leadership, consider what resources the parish has in regards to publicity and communication.
- Determine the point person or team for young adult small groups who would be responsible for coordinating the parish efforts.

Contact the OYYACM to let them know you're in before September 24!

Further support for launching your small groups will come with your commitment. If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to ask!

→ Katie Erskine: kerskine@cathdal.org

→ Joshua Salinas: jsalinas@cathdal.org

We are praying for you and your parishes' young adult communities!