

Youth Cell

Aims

The aim of youth cell is to bring young people together in a safe environment to discover more about their faith and deepen their relationship with God.

Youth cell enables young people to be peer ministers and leaders.

Values

1. Jesus at the centre
2. Everyone growing
3. Everyone ministering
4. Everyone in community
5. Everyone sharing their faith / the Gospel

Every session includes the four basic elements.

Welcome **W**orship **W**ord **W**itness

As the group becomes more confident and familiar with one another the four parts of the evening can be given to different members of the group to prepare for the following week. Leadership and ownership of the group is eventually among the young people. Adult leadership in Youth Cell is of a 'mentoring' mentality, enthusing and encouraging the young people to be leaders themselves.

Welcome

The welcome can vary from week to week. Often snacks are a great way to begin, alongside an icebreaker game. It's important to provide a time for young people to get to know each other.

Worship

Worship can include singing or listening to Christian music, led prayer or quiet time in front of the Blessed Sacrament, a time of listening to God.

Word

This time provides the main input for the group. Scripture is the focus. An adult leader (or a confident peer leader) can give a teaching on a particular scripture or particular theme. This time can also be a time of catechesis.

Another way the 'Word' can be used is by a simple group scripture study or a time of *Lectio Divina*.

Witness

It is important that the Youth Cell is not an inward focussed group, but an outward looking evangelistic group.

The 'Witness' part of the meeting can be a time of intercession (for the local area, the parish, the world).

It is important for young people to be active witnesses in their faith. This may mean volunteering for ministries for the parish Mass (reading, altar serving, being a Eucharistic minister). The group may want to run fundraising events for the parish or charity or get involved with local SVP initiatives or ecumenical youth groups. As the group becomes more able and equipped they could help with parish catechesis (particularly Confirmation).

The group can get involved in Diocesan youth events.

**This is just a simple outline of some of the aspects of Youth Cell.
For more information about Youth Cell contact:**

Anna Cowell
Youth Officer
abcleedsdiocese@hotmail.com
0113 2618058