

# Beginning a Ministry

- What is your Passion?
- What is your Mission?
- What is your Focus?  
It should incorporate Prayer, Education, Advocacy, & Service

An effective ministry leader...

1. Knows the pastor – take him to coffee, meet with him, ask his priorities, offer him solutions to a problem in his parish (e.g. moms in his pews face unplanned pregnancy and we want to help)
2. Knows the parish secretary – buy them donuts, bring flowers, follow-up with emails
3. Is involved in the parish – join the parish council, volunteer for the carnival, meet the other ministry leaders, become a servant leader

Checklist for Effective Ministry:

➤ TEAM

- Does your leadership consist of a team?
- Are you inviting new people to take on leadership?
- Are you involving younger people and people with different perspectives?

➤ PLANNING

- Does your leadership team do annual or regular strategic planning?
- Do you ask for feedback from the pastor or other parish leaders?
- Do you analyze the success of your activities/initiatives?
- Do you look to the Archdiocese for programs?
- Do you check with the Archdiocese before using outside sources?

➤ INTEGRATION

- Is your ministry integrated into the life of the parish?
- Do you regularly interact with your pastor?
- With the Pastoral Council?
- With the school principal/DRE/Youth Minister/Confirmation Coordinator/marriage preparation team?

➤ OUTREACH

- Are you listed as an official ministry on the parish website or in the bulletin?
- Does your ministry have a table/booth outside Masses regularly?
- At the parish festival or ministry fair?

Discussion Questions

1. How do you determine action?
2. What are your criteria for prioritizing action that is timely, effective and meets the needs of your parish and community?

3. How do you analyze success for your activities/initiatives?
4. What would be the most helpful thing for us to do to help you in your ministry?
5. What have you found to be the most effective way to recruit new members?
6. How do you reach out to beyond the usual parishioners?
7. Can you partner with other nearby parishes for more effective programs?
8. What leadership materials/resources would help you most?