

## 9 High Level Themes (3 event teams)

<b>A1) Lack of knowledge of the faith and moral beliefs</b>
<b>A2) No one to encourage me or go with me to Mass / Lack of transportation to Mass</b>
<b>A3) Lack of Capital Investment</b>
<b>B1) Lack of service opportunities</b>
<b>B2) Perception that Confirmation = Graduation from religious studies</b>
<b>B3) Lack of a "God Experience"</b>
<b>C1) Mass takes a back seat over sports and other activities</b>
<b>C2) Parishioners switching churches for various reasons</b>
<b>C3) Lack of connection between life and faith</b>

## Top ideas by number of votes

Create youth-friendly Masses with teen focused homilies and music to encourage teens to attend*	<b>79</b>
Pool parish activities - several churches working together/ Create more multi-parish activities/interact with local parishes*	<b>53</b>
Provide more field trips and retreats for youth	<b>36</b>
Unite youth groups of community parishes	<b>33</b>
Help young people understand the value of the Mass	<b>27</b>
Host "days of service" to clean the church, soup kitchen, retirement homes, etc.	<b>25</b>
Host post confirmation reunions and other activities	<b>25</b>
Create faith formation opportunities for college age students	<b>25</b>
Increase communication between local church communities in the area	<b>23</b>
Educate young people to teach classes (witnesses)/Peer ministry	<b>22</b>
Use higher amounts of social media outside of the classes	<b>20</b>
Create budgets for youth ministry and faith formation. Allocate funds	<b>20</b>

## Overarching Themes

### Combine the resources of multiple parishes for youth outreach

- Youth group
- Social activities, e.g. make Confirmation a diocesan-wide event, Confirmation reunions
- Catholic sports league
  - RI travel team
- Fundraising
- Mission trips
- Youth Explosion, Steubenville, Providence Youth Day

### Create more activities that involve the *whole* family

- Catholic Day of Service
- Volunteer opportunities
- Faith formation
- Bible study

### Revisit process leading up to Confirmation

- Eliminate “feel” of graduation
- Consider timing

### Reach out to youth directly – don’t wait for them to come to us!

- Create youth contact lists
- Offer Post-Confirmation faith formation and activities
- Invite/ask for participation in Church ministries
  - Youth-friendly Masses
  - Youth choir/music ministry
  - Eucharistic ministers
  - Lectors
  - Ushers

### Improve communications

- Utilize social media
- Reduce use of only book learning. Incorporate other types of media and activities that involve the whole person
- Share information on youth activities “Around the Diocese” for youth.
- Show faith based movies and host discussions afterward
- Promote inter-parish communications

### Consider creative ways to hand on the content of the faith

- Create ongoing learning opportunities post-Confirmation.
- Blend multi-media Confirmation programs (e.g. Decision Point or Chosen) with standard catechesis.
- Conduct adult faith formation that runs the same time as youth faith formation (or combine them).
- Eliminate sign-in requirements for attending Mass.
- Provide opportunities for post-Confirmation youth graduates to serve in the role as a teacher or assistant teacher.
- Combine parishes to leverage quality learning environments.
- Utilize multi-media for a more engaging learning experience.
- Include peer ministry where youth can share positive faith experiences and their relationship with God with one another.

- Review and view You Tube and other videos that are faithful to church teachings.
- Identify a team of skilled speakers who can talk effectively with students about tough moral issues and help them develop well-informed opinions in order to make good choices.
- Implement teaching methods that include experiential learning activities, e.g. 1) walking the stations of the cross and tying each one to daily life experiences, 2) journaling scripture verses from Mass and sharing its personal and unique life application and 3) leveraging art and music to enhance the learning experience by opening the door of faith through beauty.