



What is NYMO?

'NYMO' stands for the Northampton Youth Ministry Office.

We work on behalf of young people (aged 11-18) throughout the Catholic Diocese of Northampton (Northants, Beds, Bucks and Slough).



Our aims are

- to empower local communities in their mission to call young people into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ
- to encourage young people to grow to their full potential, developing a life of prayer and spirituality, so that they can live as disciples in the world today, rooted in the living tradition of the Church
- to enable young people to participate fully in the life of the Catholic community, recognising the intrinsic value of youth and all that it has to offer to the Church.

Some of the work of NYMO is done on a face-to-face level with young people, but we also work to help nurture new forms of youth ministry, and to support and resource the ministry already being undertaken in parishes, secondary schools and local communities throughout the diocese. This means that, working together, we can all be so much more effective in our ministry, wherever we are.

All of the NYMO team are full-time, part-time or volunteer professionals, and are available to help in whatever way we can to develop your parish or school's ministry with young people.

To find out more about specific events, or to discover our online resources, you can visit our website at www.nymo.org. To make contact with the team, you can call on 01844 273337, or email info@nymo.org

What can NYMO offer to you?

NEIL undertakes most of our youth work associated with young people who are in parishes. Some of the things that he is involved in are: leading sessions or activities with confirmation classes or youth groups; organising twice-yearly 'Iumos' weekends for teenagers in January and July; running the 'Salt and Light' course, a leadership programme for 15-18 year olds; and (new this year) working with young adults to help them to continue to grow in their faith. Alongside Matthew, he also writes much of the content for our youth-focussed website at www.themichahspace.com

MATTHEW has responsibility for outreach work with young people. Some of the things that he has responsibility for are: facilitating mission experiences in schools, parishes and ecumenically; leading assemblies, retreat days and speaking in RS classes; creating and sharing evangelistic resources through the internet; and working with adults to help them to share the message of the Gospel in relevant and accessible ways. He is also responsible for this year's 'Revelation' course, exploring the Bible with 16-25 year olds.

PAM works with adult youth ministry volunteers around the diocese. Some of the things she offers are: seasonal retreat days; regular 'refresher' days and training initiatives, providing tips, advice and inspiration for using when working with young people; sharing practical advice about health and safety and current legislation in youth ministry; and parish consultancies, working through a process with each individual parish to help them to form a long-term strategy about how to reach out to young people

LIZ looks after the administration of the youth ministry team, and will often be the person you speak to if you call the office! STEPHANIE looks after our range of communications (including www.nymo.org) and is responsible for all the practical arrangements for all of the events that we run. The Diocesan Planned Giving Officer, BRIN is based at our offices, and offers funding advice to the work of the team. He investigates new ways of accessing external resources to help enable us to undertake our ministry. Meanwhile, he is also available to work with parishes and individuals to help them raise funds for youth provision, events or other youth-related needs.



AVRIL leads the work of the whole team, keeps us up-to-date with current research in youth ministry, and runs the one-off events that pull all the strands of our ministry together, including the recent 'Festos' day.

CHARLES works with Bishop Peter to oversee the direction and overall strategy of the office, ensuring we are working to fulfil our youth ministry mandate.

To find out more about any of these areas of work, or to ask any questions, you can contact each member of the team by calling 01844 273337, by emailing info@nymo.org, or by visiting our websites at www.nymo.org (adults) and www.themichahspace.com (young people).

The team at the Northampton Youth Ministry Office can offer help in all sorts of different areas about youthwork, including:

How to start a youth group

Want to work with young people and don't know where to start? Take the opportunity to discuss and explore all the options available to you.

How to find resources/fresh ideas

Do you get to the day before and not have a clue what to do for the next session? Find out where to access ideas and fresh ways of doing things.

How to run a retreat experience

Find out all you need to know about putting together a confirmation or general retreat for your group – how to build your timetable, generate ideas for sessions and give your group a fantastic opportunity to explore their relationship with God.

How to find someone else to do this with me

Struggling to keep the youth group going with so few adults to help? How about a few ideas about identifying and working with potential leaders, and how to keep them coming back.

How to talk to young people about God

How can we harness our everyday experiences to share our faith with young people? What language we can use when we're talking about God and how to use elements from culture to engage young people in a variety of ways.

How to pray with young people

Unsure how to share prayer with young people? Experience a wide range of techniques and resources to help build a prayerful atmosphere.

How to get new teenagers

Wondering how to appeal to young people who seem disconnected from what you're doing? Take a look beyond the normal boundaries and reflect on how we attract those with minimal or no relationship with church activities.

How to keep young people interested in church

The age old question! Although there are no hard and fast answers to this, there are things we can do to make church more accessible for young people.

To find out more about any of these options, or to chat over anything else you would like us to help you with, contact Pam here at the office on 01844 273337 / pam@nymo.org

Upcoming Events 2008/2009

As well as being on call to help on an individual parish or school level, the team also run a series of wider events during the course of the year. If you have never been involved with a NYMO event before, there are a variety of opportunities for you to do so in 2008/2009 - here are just a selection of some of the things we have coming up in the next few months:

From 8th October: Enliven training course - www.nymo.org/enliven

A series of ecumenical events looking at all aspects of youth ministry, in Northampton but open to all who register.

From 1st November: Salt and Light team - www.themichahspace.com/saltlight

An opportunity for young people aged 15-18 to experience leadership, through training, mentoring and a practical project in their parish or school.

29th November: 'Glimpses' Advent Retreat - www.nymo.org/advent

A chance for those involved in ministering to young people to take some space to reflect with Nigel Pimlott, Frontier Youth Trust.

From 5th December: Revelation bible course - www.themichahspace.com/revelation

A year-long course for 16-25 year olds to grow in their knowledge and confidence with Scripture, beginning with this residential weekend.

16th - 18th January: Lumos - www.themichahspace.com/lumos

The next installment of our popular lumos weekends will be looking at 'the word' - book early to avoid disappointment.

28th February: Lent Retreat - www.nymo.org/lent

Another chance to take some time out to reflect alongside others from around the diocese in preparation for Easter - speaker tbc.

24th - 26th April: 'DeeperWider' young adult weekend - www.themichahspace.com/deeperwider

An opportunity for young adults between 18 and 25 to meet together, share experiences and to look afresh at their faith.

9th May: 'How to...' resourcing day - www.nymo.org/howto

A day for anybody working with young people to explore how to get the best out of current youth ministry resources.



**For up to date information, maps and further details etc, keep an eye on our website at www.nymo.org
Don't forget that our new youth ministry resources looking at 'Saints and Holiness' are released on 10th October.
To receive these session plans, ideas, powerpoints, film and music reviews straight to your email inbox,
you need to register to receive DYSpatches online by emailing stephanie@nymo.org**