



YOUTH Co-leadership Protagonism Initiative

2026 YCOPI Cohort Sessions Detailed

PROGRAM TIMELINE

Phase 1: DISCOVERY (July 2026-September 2026)

- Virtual *Orientation and Introductions* (July 23)
 - This session is to introduce key concepts, nurture peer relationships, and plant seeds for Youth Mission Initiatives (YMI)
- In-person *Discovery and Discernment Immersion Week* (August 1-5)
 - An immersive experience grounded in Goodfaith's model of transformative service, engaging young people through encounter, accompaniment, protagonism, and spiritual imagination, while connecting works of justice to the Eucharistic as Source and Summit.
 - Instruction on Baptismal Call paired with guided Ignatian discernment, inviting participants to reflect on the movements of the Holy Spirit, their unique gifts, and how they are called to live out their faith every day and in their communities, especially as they envision their YMI.
 - Formative days of service immersion that strengthen participants as people of faith, sent forth to serve and engage in works of justice as an expression of their baptismal identity.
- Virtual *Unpacking the Immersion Week* (September 3)
 - This session will allow participants to further process and reflect on their *Discovery and Discernment Immersion Week* experience.
 - Participants will continue practicing Ignatian discernment and begin envisioning their YMI's emerging direction.

Phase 2: FORMATION (October 2026 – February 2027)

- In-person *Deep Dive Mission Workshop* (October 3)
 - This session will be devoted to YMI planning and execution, reflecting on the needs of their communities and training in core competencies and skills.
 - Youth will walk away from this experience with a detailed “roadmap” (or action plan) to begin to implement their YMIs in their home communities.
- Virtual *Catholic Charities of Philadelphia Presentations* (November 5)
 - The session will introduce Cohort participants to the Catholic Charities of Philadelphia network. Youth will present their YMI and receive feedback from a representative of Catholic Charities of Philadelphia. Youth will be presented with resources as required by their YMI.
- Virtual *Prepping for the “Pastor Pitch”* (December 3)

[YCOPI page at phillyOMY.org](http://www.phillyomy.org)

222 N. 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103

PhillyOMY@archphila.org | 215.587.3714 | www.phillyomy.org |    @PhillyOMY | #PhillyOMY

- Youth will be guided in preparing a presentation of their YMI to their pastor and parish pastoral staff.
- Includes facilitator focused reflection and training.
- Virtual *Individual Consultations* (January 2027)
 - Youth and adult accompaniers receive individual coaching to prepare them for Pastor Pitch and YMI launch.
- In-person *Commissioning* with Archbishop Pérez at the Philadelphia Catholic Youth Conference (PCYC) Closing Mass (February 20, 2027)
 - Celebrate and strengthen the Spirit for mission beyond the formation portion of the “initiative” and commission participants to engage their YMI’s in their parish communities.
 - Cohort participants will also co-lead aspects of the day.

Phase 3: MISSION (March 2027)

- Youth Mission Initiative (YMI) Kick-offs (March 2027)
 - The youth, with the support of their accompaniers, will launch their YMIs in their respective parishes.
- Virtual *Mission Launch Check-in* (April 1, 2027)
 - An opportunity for participants to review their YMI launch with the YCOPI Cohort, share early experiences, celebrate initial successes, troubleshoot challenges, and receive guidance and support for next steps as needed.
- *Presentation Symposium* (June 26, 2027)
 - An opportunity for youth to present their YMIs to their families, pastors, and parish liaison. Other parish leaders, partner organizations, and other key stakeholders, as well as past YCOPI participants and prospective parishes, will also be invited.
 - The goal of the Symposium is to inspire future YCOPI participation and support as teens give witness to how YCOPI “form[s] youth and adults in missionary discipleship, empowering young leaders to live out their Baptismal Call as protagonists of change within their faith communities” through the lens of Catholic Social Teaching.

HOW TO REGISTER

Complete the [YCOPI Sign Up Form](#). The OMY will then send you the registration forms.

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