

A Message for Parents

Your support makes all the difference!

Most youth say they got involved in a parish ministry because a parent or family member first invited them. **Your encouragement** can draw your child **closer to God** while helping them grow in virtue and life skills. Here's why:

- **Face-to-Face Connection:** Involvement in a youth-related parish ministry builds **social skills** and **emotional awareness**. Warm greetings, genuine laughter, teamwork, encouragement, and friendship. These nourish the heart in ways that social media “likes” don’t.
- **Habit Formation:** Committing to a parish ministry builds **discipline**. As they see the fun benefits of fellowship and accomplishment, they grow stronger in **reliability** and **responsibility**.
- **Attention Training:** Parish ministry requires presence. In altar serving, for example, kids learn to pay attention to Mass, listen to others, and follow through on tasks. Over time, this builds **self-control** and **patience**.

“Not me, but God.” — St. Carlo Acutis



Open to learn more



Your Parish Needs Youth!

Many young people first joined a parish ministry because a parent or family member encouraged them.

***Parents** - your invitation is the spark.*

***Young people** - your “yes” sets hearts on fire. You are not just the future of the Church... you are the Church today!*

Share your God-given gifts with your parish community. Grow closer to God, build virtue, make new friends, and have fun!

Contact your parish office to discover the exciting opportunities available.



Your Parish Needs YOUTH!

A call to young people to share their God-given gifts with their parish.



To learn more about the spirituality of stewardship, including charisms, visit www.archtoronto.org/stewardship or scan the QR code



Archdiocese
of Toronto

A Message for Young People

You are important to God!

St. Carlo Acutis, the first young saint from our times, was an ordinary kid who loved soccer, video games, and hanging out with friends, yet he lived with an extraordinary love for God.

He attended Mass frequently, prayed the Rosary, helped the poor, and used his computer skills to share his faith online.

St. Carlo showed that becoming a saint is about giving your best to God in the everyday moments of life.

If a teenager in jeans could inspire the world, imagine what **you could do** if you deepen your relationship with God!

Take a step toward **something meaningful** by asking yourself:

- What do I love doing?
- What gives me life?
- How can I use that for God and others?

Interested? Talk to your parents, ask for their blessing, and then contact your parish office together.



"To always be close to Jesus, that's my life plan". — St. Carlo Acutis

Sharing Your God-given Gifts Inspires Others!

At a recent Bishop's Altar Server Awards hosted by GTA Serra Clubs, young altar servers were asked why they first became servers. Here's what they shared:

- They expressed a desire to be closer to God.
- Many said they joined because a parent, grandparent, sibling, friend, or pastor asked or inspired them.
- Others said it was a desire for purpose, to make new friends, or to have fun.

In their own words:

"The nearer you are to the altar, the nearer you are to God. You actually feel His divine presence!"
— Sonia L.

"I got inspired by my dad because he used to do it when he was younger... And for me, it's like fun, and it makes me feel happy." — Sophia L.

"It was really because of my mom. She encouraged me to become an altar server, so I started the training." — Renata A.

"I saw some of my friends...they became altar servers and, you know, that really ignited a spark within me. It really spoke to me. It inspired me. If they can become altar servers, I think I could do it too. And, over time, it became a great way to meet new people and grow closer to God." —Max L.



Altar Serving is only one way you can share your God-given gifts with your parish. There are many other ways. Contact your parish office to learn more!



To watch their interviews, scan the QR code