



Office of Youth and
Young Adult Ministry
614-241-2565

Dear Pastors, Coordinators of Youth Ministry, and High School Campus Ministers:

Due to the realities of the COVID Pandemic and the safety concerns it poses, we feel it is not in the best interest of young people, their families, and the people we serve to host an overnight Gospel Road event this summer. We also recognize that there are elderly and vulnerable people within our communities that need help, and young people who need to hear and spread the Gospel message of God's love and service. For these reasons, there will be a Gospel Road event throughout the Diocese of Columbus this summer 2021, but the opportunity to participate will look a bit different than in years past.

We are requesting group leaders from one or multiple parishes/schools to sign up to be a "destination" on our Gospel Road Trip this summer. The youth will sign up at their destination to do service in smaller groups within their own community. There will be a website where groups can share video and photos, and follow other destinations.

Our theme for this summer's Gospel Road will be "United as One" and we will have a shared schedule, prayer reflections/journal, suggested activities for groups, and evening live-streamed speakers. The groups are encouraged to safely gather locally for Mass, Adoration, activities, and the live-streamed speakers followed by group reflection, but we are not planning to gather as a whole diocese for safety reasons.

A portion of the cost of the event will go to help cover a t-shirt, live speakers, and other things that will help to connect people across the diocese and help us to feel "United as One" in our mission of spreading the Gospel message through service, community, and prayer.

There is no limit to the number of destinations, but we ask that group leaders who sign up as a destination take into consideration the size of their space and their ability to gather youth safely distanced, and limit the size of the group at their destination accordingly.

If you or someone within your parish is interested in learning more and signing up to be a group leader to coordinate a local destination for this year's Gospel Road, please go to:

www.columbuscatholic.org/Gospel-Road

Sincerely,

Sean M. Robinson

Coordinator of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry

Diocese of Columbus