

**Southern African Catholic Bishops
Conference (SACBC)
YOUTH MINISTRY OFFICE
QUESTIONNAIRE for YOUTH
in Dioceses & Parishes**

The aim of the questions is to assist the Pope and the Synod for Youth Participants in preparation of the draft work document before Synod, that would reflect the real life of young people and assess their experience of understanding vocational accompaniment.

Dear Young People, please complete the form, using your best ability, then save and print or send by email to your Youth Chaplain, coordinator or someone appointed to collect the forms.

1. Gathering Statistics

- Number of People in the diocese & parish and the birth rate.

- Number and percentage of young people (ages 16-29) in the Diocese & Parish

- Number and percentage of Catholics in the Diocese & Parish.

- Average age (*for the last 5 years*) for marrying (*distinguishing between men and women*) - in Diocese & Parish

- Average age (*for the last 5 years*) for entering the seminary and the consecrated life (*distinguishing between men and women*) - in Diocese & Parish

- In the 16-29 age group, the percentage of students, workers (*if possible specify the type of work*), unemployed

b) Pastoral Vocational Programmes for Young People

8. How are families and communities involved in the discernment of vocation of young people?

9. How do schools, universities or other educational institutions (civil or Church) contribute to young people's formation in vocational discernment?

10. In what ways are you, as young people, are taking into account the cultural changes resulting from the development of the digital world? (social media)

11. How can World Youth Days or other national or international events become a part of ordinary pastoral practice?

12. What is your Diocese and Parish planning when it comes to pastoral vocational programmes (*helping to recognise your life vocation*) for young people?

c) Pastoral Care Workers with Young People

13. Describe the way in which personal spiritual guidance is provided by clergy or other formators and how much time is provided for this?

14. What formative moments or opportunities are given to those who provide pastoral vocational guidance?

15. What individual spiritual guidance is offered to seminarians?

**d) Specific Questions According to Geographic Areas - AFRICA - SACBC Region -
Botswana - South Africa - Swaziland**

- a. Describe the plans and structures of pastoral vocational care that best respond to the needs of your Region & respective Country.

- b. In places where young people grow up without a father figure how can “spiritual fatherhood” be meaningful to them? What formation is offered to these young people?

- c. How do you create awareness in young people that they are the today & the future of the Church?

2. Sharing Activities

1. List the main types of pastoral activity in accompaniment and vocational discernment in your present situation.

2. Choose three activities you consider the most interesting and relevant to share with the universal Church, and present it according to the following format (no more than one page for each experience).
 - a) Description: In a few sentences, roughly describe the activity. Who are the leading characters? How does the activity take place? Where? Etc.

 - b) Analysis: Evaluate the activity, even in layman’s terms, for a better understanding of the important elements: what are the goals? What is the theoretical basis? What are the most interesting insights? How have they developed? Etc.

 - c) Evaluation: What are the goals? If not achieved, why? Strengths and weaknesses? What are the consequences on the social, cultural and ecclesial levels? Why and in what way is the activity important / formative? etc