



St. Marie of the Incarnation Award

"God never led me by a Spirit of fear, but by love and trust."

Presented by the Archdiocese of Saint-Boniface



St. Marie of the Incarnation Award is to highlight a person that is a leader in excellence in Youth Ministry within the Archdiocese of Saint-Boniface. The person is described in having a youth minister's heart. They serve as a companion to young people and lead them in a spirit of love and trust as they journey towards Christ. This person encourages young people to strengthen their faith and to live an authentic Christian life.

Here are ways to notice a youth minister's heart in action.

- **Evangelization:** proclaiming the Good News and inviting youth into relationship with Jesus Christ through ongoing witness.
- **Catechesis:** helping youth to develop a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and the Christian community and increase their knowledge of the Catholic faith.
- **Intentional Relationships:** developing meaningful relationships where young people and the community will be challenged and affirmed, grow and be changed.
- **Advocacy:** helping youth and their families find their voices within the church and the wider community.
- **Justice & Service:** engaging young people in direct service and social action.
- **Community Life:** creating authentic, positive, accepting, understanding and prayerful places where learning and growth occurs safely and assuring young people that they are valued, cared for and needed.
- **Leadership Development:** inviting, training, and supporting adults and young people in leadership.
- **Pastoral Care:** providing prevention programs for youth and families, caring for those in crisis, and providing guidance during times of decision-making and moral choices.
- **Prayer & Worship:** helping youth develop their prayer life, experience a variety of communal prayers and involving youth in the sacramental life of the Church.

Who is eligible?

Individuals

- a young person
- a youth ministry coordinator
- a priest
- etc.
- a volunteer
- a parent
- a teacher

*Please note a person may only be recognized with this award once.

Who can nominate?

The nomination must come from someone else. We encourage for people, groups and organizations to come together when nominating exceptional individuals who share their gifts and talents at the service of young people.

Nomination Process

Each nomination must be accompanied by a completed nomination form. Two additional references must support the nomination. One reference must be from a Priest or a Parish Life Director. The second reference may be a leader within the parish, a member that has worked with the nominee, a young person, etc.

If a member of the clergy is nominated for the award, one of the references must be from another clergy member within the Archdiocese of Saint-Boniface.

Nominations can be submitted until September 14, 2018.

Once the selected nomination confirmed. Both the nominee and nominator will be contacted. The award will be presented at the Archdiocesan Gala that will take place in October.

Name of the Award

Saint Marie of the Incarnation is a Canadian saint with a youth minister's heart. Marie Guyart was born on October 28, 1599, in Tours, France. Her first mystical grace happened when she was 7 years old. She felt the need to give her life to Christ. Her parents didn't really understand her yearning for religious life. At the age of 17 she married, per her parents' wishes. By the age 19, she was a widow with a newborn son. Even though the mystical graces were still telling her to commit her life to Christ, she decided to wait and raise her son before committing to religious life. In 1631, she finally entered the monastery of the Ursulines of Tours. Her vision continued and led her to understand that she was called to establish the Catholic Faith in Canada. In August 1639, she arrived in Quebec City and founded a convent. She took great joy in teaching and spending time with the young girls, French and First Nation. She was an avid writer and wrote French—Algonquin and Iroquois dictionaries as well translated catechism books into some First Nations languages. She encouraged all her students to practise their faith in their mother tongue. At the age of 72, she passed away in 1672. In 1874, she was declared venerable and then beatified by Pope John Paul II on June 22, 1980. She was canonized by Pope Francis on April 3, 2014. Her Feast Day is celebrated April 30.

Biography taken from CCCB.