

The Chisholm Region's ACTiv8 Youth Ministry has been operating since 2005. It comprises of a faithful youth coordinator, Bec Piefke; and a team of vibrant volunteers who are committed to working in schools and parishes within the Maitland Pastoral region of this Catholic Diocese.

The name ACTiv8 came from the theme of the 2008 World Youth Day hosted by Sydney Australia, chosen by Benedict XVI - Acts 1:8 "*You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses*", as well as a call to action as in the word "activate."

ACTiv8 Youth Ministry aims to provide a space for young people between the ages of 7 to 18 where they can develop lasting friendships and learn more about their Catholic faith in a fun and engaging environment through youth groups and youth events.

We currently have Youth Groups running at the following:

- 302 High St, Maitland on Monday at 5.30pm
- Therry Centre, East Maitland on Tuesday at 5:00pm
- Holy Family Church Hall, Largs on Wednesday at 5:30pm

A major focus of Chisholm's ACTiv8 is the Sunday Night Regional Young People's Mass. The team strives to create a regular Eucharistic celebration that is welcoming to families including those with young children; A Mass that is relevant while still being reverent. Our focus is outreaching, to make a place in our church for all young people.

At the Sunday Night Mass every week, we aim to provide a welcoming and accepting atmosphere, "younger" Mass music, a regular BBQ and cake after mass, and a place for everyone to meet Jesus. This mass is held at St Joseph's East Maitland each Sunday night at 6pm.

The Chisholm pastoral region with ACTIV8 Youth Ministry also offers a program called RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation of Children).

This program is for children 7 to 18 years' old who are wishing to be baptised or complete their sacraments. The young person undergoes a preparation process where most of the work is done with the parents at home, and they are initiated into our youth community through compulsory attendance at one of our youth groups.

Everyone is welcome to become involved in ACTiv8's youth ministry activities. We are also always open to ideas and suggestions for ways to reach out to young people in our Catholic Faith here in our Church.

For inquiries you can contact Bec Piefke at Rebecca.Piefke@mn.catholic.org.au.