

JUNIOR BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

Junior Chapter Sponsors Guide

Junior Brotherhood Committee

April 2009



A guide for senior chapter members who want to begin a ministry to the young men and boys in their parishes.

THE BROTHERHOOD OF SAINT ANDREW

A culture, a neighborhood community, or a church, whether successful or well-known, will find that recognition diminished by neglecting to instill in its young men and boys the best morals and ideals for daily living. If these principles are not taught during the formative years in a young man's life leading to manhood, whether at home, in school or in church, they may miss the advantage other boys will have had, who received this guidance. The Brotherhood of Saint Andrew is committed to teach its Christian values to boys by mentoring them, and through their personal example, teach them to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. To fulfill this commitment, we have established the National Junior Brotherhood Committee which proposes to do the following:

1. To inspire and extend a ministry outreach to boys wherever a senior Brotherhood chapter exists by communicating this ministry to the membership with printed materials, promotional videos, articles in the St. Andrew's Cross Publication, or in speeches given by our Field Leadership to men and boys at these parishes during their meetings or worship services.
2. To equip sponsors and mentors to promote a boy's ministry led by our senior chapters. Partner with the Boy Scouts of America and suggest using Boy Scout programs to supplement their chapter's activities. Encourage chapter participation in other parish youth group events. This joint effort of partnering should provide ideas and invaluable resources to chapters looking to develop their own programs, and another method to assist chapters with boy's leadership training.
3. To make available on CD's or DVD's, the resources to build boy's ministries in parishes, both in video and audio format, and have printed manuals for training purposes. A link to our website for the Junior Brotherhood will be developed, which will provide the resources for chapters to download, and will display the highlights of all ongoing Junior Brotherhood activities.

The National Junior Brotherhood Committee's mandate is to advise, develop and implement programs that support activities for the mentoring and spiritual growth of the young men and boys who participate in this ministry. It will suggest programs for chapters to consider, and encourage projects that have been identified to benefit our ministry to the boys in our parishes. When called upon for advice the Committee will assist as is possible, with existing boy's programs and help lead the development of new programs, as the need is identified. Our mission is the spread of Christ's kingdom among men and boys, and to this end, the Committee will work diligently to accomplish this objective and together we will disciple young men who will disciple other young men.

Our Guiding Principle

The guiding principle of the Brotherhood is to evangelize, and we exist as a ministry to "awaken the spiritual life of the men and boys in the church".

FULFILLING THE MISSION OF THE BROTHERHOOD

Nothing can equal the joy experienced by a Brother Andrew when the Lord uses him as an instrument to lead someone to Christ, especially when that person is a young man or boy. Bringing someone to Christ should not be confused with inviting someone to join the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew as a new member. It is possible to ask someone to join the Brotherhood who may not yet have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. This presents an opportunity for a Brother Andrew to be used as a disciple in order to lead a boy or man to Christ.

Proclaiming the Gospel message is the mission of the Junior Brotherhood and we should always pray for guidance and courage to share our faith with other young men and boys.

LEADING BOYS TO CHRIST

There may still be some confusion as to what constitutes “leading men and boys to Christ.” Some Brothers Andrew are certain whenever they sponsor a fundraising event and use the proceeds to send boys to a summer camp or when they support similar youth activities within their churches, these actions satisfy the mission to bring boys to Christ. Actually it falls short, particularly if there is no attempt made to share the message of the Gospel with the boys. While these events are important, there is no substitute for sharing the Good News with boys and adding a personal witness.

“So faith comes by hearing, and hearing through the Word of Christ”, Roman 10:17. Boys need to develop that faith for a personal relationship with Jesus as Lord and Savior. If no one shares the Good News with them, they won’t hear it; and if they don’t hear it, they can’t respond to its message and receive the gift of salvation.

And Jesus said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the Good News to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” Mark 16:15-16.

If we are faithful to our Lord we will do what is pleasing to Him rather than what seems good and right in our own eyes. We call ourselves Brothers Andrew, following the example of the Apostle, Andrew. Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, “We have found the Messiah”. And he brought him to Jesus, John 1:40-42. When Andrew found the boy as described in John 6: 9 he said to Jesus, “Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish”.

Our Junior Brotherhood ministry will grow through the proclamation of the Good News through discipleship and personal witness and this is our mission. Anyone who has experienced the saving grace of Jesus and has grown in the Holy Spirit will want to share the Good News. For those who find it difficult to proclaim the Gospel or to share their witness for Jesus, we want to provide the tools that will equip you for ministry as we grow together in our relationship with our Savior.

HOW TO START A JUNIOR BROTHERHOOD OF SAINT ANDREW CHAPTER

1. Before a decision is made to start a junior chapter, permission must be obtained from the rector or priest-in-charge of the church concerned. No chapter will flourish in a church where it is not supported by the clergy.
2. A junior chapter must be sponsored by adult members who are active, in good standing, reliable and who are faithful members of a senior chapter, or are members-at-large. One Brother can be responsible for the supervision of the junior chapter, and be assisted by two or more other men for the purpose of planning programs and projects. The men who agree to be part of this effort must complete their diocesan child abuse prevention workshop, which is also required by the Church Insurance Corporation.
3. A chapter can be started with three or more boys ranging in ages from 7 to 18 years, and they must be baptized Christians.
4. To start a Junior Chapter, you must also obtain consent from the parents of the boys and afterwards a meeting should be called to acquaint the boys about the Junior Brotherhood and the benefits of becoming members of a junior chapter. At that meeting, it should be determined who are believers in the Lord Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and who are baptized. All who have decided to become members of a junior chapter and are not baptized should be counseled by their priest to prepare them for this sacrament.
5. A second meeting should be set with those interested in continuing further in forming a junior chapter, to make certain that there is clear understanding of the mission and ministry of the Brotherhood, and what may be expected of its junior members, and to select a Director, Vice Director, Secretary and Treasurer (if needed) amongst the junior members, and provide training for their responsibilities. If this action is not properly performed it could result in a disorganized chapter that in time may not last. Each Junior Officer must clearly understand his duties in order to faithfully carry them out.
6. Having finalized this to the satisfaction of all concerned, the ceremonies for Junior Chapter installation and institution of Junior Officers should be reviewed and then plan a date to have an installation. The ceremonies can be found in the Brotherhood Devotional Handbook on page 15: A Service of Chapter Installation or Admission of Members into the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew and on page 23 for a Service for the Institution of Assembly or Chapter Officers.

JUNIOR CHAPTER FORMATION

The officers of the junior chapter must attend church services regularly. They should be boys whose love for Jesus and whose desire to serve Him are well known to their sponsors.

Every junior officer must receive training for their positions, and an orientation about the mission and ministry of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. It is important to have junior officers who will become leaders and role models for their junior members in the practice of their ministry. Sponsors must resist the temptation to begin a junior chapter before the officers are properly trained and oriented. Training and orientation should also be extended to other junior members.

ACTIVITIES

The National Junior Brotherhood Committee for ministry to boys does not exist simply to tell each chapter what programs and projects it should undertake. That is the responsibility of the sponsors, adult Brotherhood chapter members, and the clergy. However, it is expected that prayer, regular Bible study, including a study of the Book of Common Prayer would have a high priority at meetings.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SPONSORS AND RECTOR

A chapter of the Junior Brotherhood cannot be formed in a parish without the consent of the rector or priest-in-charge. However, the measure of success it achieves is directly related to the involvement and support it receives from the rector or priest-in-charge. Sponsors must build and maintain the best possible relationship between their parish priest and the junior chapter.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SPONSORS AND PARENTS

Sponsors must do everything possible to acquaint themselves and maintain a close working relationship with the parents of every boy as he is admitted to membership in a junior chapter. This relationship will help a junior member receive the kind of support and encouragement from his home that he would need to grow and mature in his relationship with our Lord.

THREE DISCIPLINES

The Disciplines of Prayer, Study and Service within the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew ministry cannot be overlooked by any junior member, for any reason. By word and example, sponsors are responsible for seeing that these disciplines are conscientiously observed by every junior member, and without faithful observance of the Three Disciplines, no junior can be a faithful member of the Brotherhood ministry.

THE JUNIOR BROTHERHOOD OF SAINT ANDREW CHAPTER GUIDELINES

1. MEMBERSHIP IN THE BROTHERHOOD

All applicants for junior membership must be baptized Christians between the ages of 7 and 18 years. At the age of 18 years, all boys are eligible for adult membership in the Brotherhood. Applicants must be sponsored by an adult Brother Andrew from a senior chapter, where a chapter does not exist, then by a member-at-large. All sponsors must be in good standing, which means current with their dues according to the records of the National Office. Annual dues must accompany each new membership application to the National Office.

2. DUES

Dues shall be 20% of the annual dues for adult members and are due on November 30th.

3. JUNIOR CHAPTER FORMATION

Applicants must have the approval of their rector or priest-in-charge, before making application for a chapter. Three or more baptized boys between the ages of 7 and 18 years of age may through an adult chapter, or with the help of a member-at-large, apply for a charter to form a boy's chapter. The National Office can take no action on an application for a charter unless the properly completed application is accompanied by the dues specified for each member listed.

4. CHAPTER DELEGATE TO NATIONAL COUNCIL

Every junior chapter is entitled to elect one delegate to represent them at National Triennial Conventions with a membership of up to twenty-five.

5. OFFICERS

There shall be a Director, a Vice Director, a Secretary and a Treasurer. Where the membership is less than six, the secretary may also serve as treasurer. Every officer shall be a communicant in the Episcopal Church or Anglican Communion.

6. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Director: The Director shall preside over all meetings of the chapter. He shall provide direction to the young men and boys in his chapter; initiate any planning for projects and become an example of Christian servant leadership to his membership.

Vice Director: The Vice Director shall preside at meetings for the Director in his absence, and be willing to assist the Director with planning and implementing projects decided by the chapter.

Secretary: The Secretary shall keep records of all meetings and other activities of the chapter, notify members of the scheduled meetings and other chapter activities, and perform such additional duties as the Director may assign. Upon leaving office, the Secretary shall promptly turn over to his successor or to the Director any property and documents belonging to the chapter for which the Secretary has been given responsibility.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be responsible for all funds received on behalf of the chapter and shall give a report of all funds received and disbursed at monthly meetings. All funds of the chapter except an agreed upon amount for petty cash, shall be turned over by the junior chapter treasurer to the treasurer of the sponsoring chapter for deposit in its parish account or a bank savings account approved by the sponsoring chapter. The account shall be opened and maintained in full accordance with the National Bylaws of the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew. The treasurer of the sponsoring chapter or sponsor shall make the necessary transactions for the junior chapter and all relevant statements made available to the members of the junior chapter at their meetings.

7. WITHDRAWAL OF FUNDS

As long as the officers of the junior chapter are below the legal age for transacting business with a bank, the director and treasurer of the sponsoring chapter shall be the two authorized

signatories for withdrawal of funds for the junior chapter from an account opened for that purpose or from the parish's account. Upon leaving office, the treasurer shall turn over to his successor or to the director of the junior chapter all monies and documents belonging to the chapter.

8. DUTIES OF SPONSORING CHAPTERS AND SPONSORS

The sponsoring chapter or the sponsor is responsible for training the junior chapter officers and shall supervise meetings and other activities of the chapter. No junior chapter meeting or other activity shall be conducted without direct supervision by the sponsoring chapter or the sponsor.

9. MEETINGS

Time should be set aside during the meetings for the purpose of studying the Holy Bible and the Book of Common Prayer as well as training of the officers.

10. OPENING AND CLOSING OF MEETINGS

Opening and closing of meetings shall be conducted in accordance with "An Order of Worship for Chapter meetings" found on page 3 in the Devotional Handbook.

11. QUORUM

Quorum for meetings shall be decided by each chapter, but generally a majority of members.

12. INSTALLATION OF JUNIOR MEMBERS AND CHAPTER OFFICERS

The services and procedures set forth in the Brotherhood adult Devotional Handbook shall be used accordingly for admission of Junior Members, for Junior Chapter installation, and for the institution of Junior Chapter Officers.

13. ELECTIONS

Junior chapter officers shall be elected annually before St. Andrew's Day. Incumbent officers shall be eligible for re-election. If an officer leaves office before his term expires, the Director of the sponsoring chapter or the sponsor may appoint someone to complete the remainder of the term, or hold a special election for his replacement.

14. ANNUAL REPORT

Under supervision of the sponsoring chapter, every junior chapter shall prepare an annual report on a form provided by the National Office for the period December 1st through November 30th. A copy is also included in the Junior Chapter Reference Manual. Annual dues should be mailed promptly with the annual report by the chapter director. Members who are unable to pay their dues in full or not at all may apply to the National Office, through their sponsor, for possible exemption. Junior members who do not pay their annual dues by July 31st of the next year, and give no explanation to the National Office, shall be deemed inactive. Active membership may be restored when the dues owed are paid in full.

JUNIOR CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORT FORM

Chapter Number: _____ Parish Name: _____

Parish Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parish Telephone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Number of Meetings held during the year: _____ Average Attendance: _____

Describe your chapter's programs:

How have you reached out to other boys for Christ?

List any special events:

How many new members have been added? _____ How many became inactive? _____

What problems, if any, were encountered during the year?

New Officers: Director: _____

Vice Director: _____

Secretary: _____

Treasurer: _____

Submitted by: _____ Title: _____ Date: _____

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