

Elise Martinez

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DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

My name is Elise and I am heading into my third year of working at St. Benedict Church. I was born and raised in Wisconsin where my three older sisters, parents and nieces/nephews still reside. I graduated from Franciscan University of Steubenville in 2015 with Theology and Catechetics. This past May I got married and I am thrilled to be at the beginning of another adventure.

I love running and being outdoors, reading, listening to Steve Moakler, *Just Dance*, watching Packer games and spending time with Jesus in adoration. My favorite saints are St. Peter Julian Eymard, St. Margaret Mary Alogue and St. Therese of Lisieux.

This youth ministry position brought me to Alaska almost two years ago and I am very blessed and excited that it did (through God's will). I have been able to experience many new things such as seeing moose in my front yard and intersections, hiking up a mountain with students and being able to attend my first World Youth Day in Poland! It also allowed me to meet my husband, Chase Martinez!

WHAT I DO.

I minister to the High School Youth and Young Adults by putting on various events, mentoring and overseeing sacramental preparation. Our parish is a happening place with events every week and/or weekend.

Youth Nights (High School) are every Wednesday night from 7-9pm in the Upper Room. During the summer we have Sunday Events in the afternoons such as sports, hiking, going to festivals...etc. Check the website under [Calendar Fall 2018](#) for details!

Young Adult Nights (18-35 years old) are every other Thursday (2nd and 4th) of the month. We started the "Wild Goose" series and will continue the 2nd Thursday of every month at 7:30pm in the Upper Room. Community nights are 4th Thursdays! We also have a Catholic Young Adult Conference at St. Benedict's over the summer!

Leadership Team is comprised of High School students wanting to take that next step in their faith by reaching out to other students around them, growing deeper in their relationship with Christ through a Leadership Team Retreat and prayer nights, planning youth events and truly seeking to know and spread their Catholic faith.



With my husband, Chase, riding the Tram down after a hike with the students up North Face Summer 2018.

