

Internship Summary

For my internship, I was given special permission to complete that at my place of employment. I am currently employed as the Director of Formational Ministries at St. Pius X Roman Catholic Church in Greensboro, North Carolina. While my background is in teaching, transitioning into a role in religious education was new for me when I started this job because I was formerly a high school English teacher. To make a very long story short, I was asked to fill in as our parish youth minister, after the youth minister resigned abruptly. So I took on a full-time volunteer positions on top of my full-time job, and my husband thought I was crazy. I was in charge of supervising every aspect of the ministry, but only leading the high school youth group. A few months later, the job was posted for the DRE position (now my current title), because there was a vacancy in that role as well. I spent the entire season of Lent praying the Rosary daily about whether or not to apply and asking for God's will to be done. I had been drawn to the DRE position because of my background in teaching, and I felt that my strengths played more to that than youth ministry. I was hired in the spring of 2017 and began working early that summer.

Initially, my internship was going to be focused on youth ministry, because being able to give a "talk" and witness in front of others was one aspect of this job that I felt I needed to grow into the most. I was given the opportunity by our youth minister to speak at a few youth nights, which was last spring. Fast forward to this fall, and she has flourished in her ministry role and does not need the help that she once did. I have also grown tremendously in my position and saw a need for expansion in other areas. I spent this semester focused on developing a parish catechetical retreat for children and parents for First Reconciliation, and I am working on another for First Holy Communion. I created, implemented, and executed this retreat in November for 80 students and their parents.

The supervisor of my internship has been my boss and pastor, Monsignor Anthony Marcaccio. I can't say enough kind things about him. What I can say is that he demands excellence, so I know that I am held to a high standard every day. The professionalism and thoroughness he expects has made my job easy, in that I flourish with structure, clear expectations, and measurable success. He has guided me through decision making, participated in events that I have organized, and taken on not only the role of a supervisor, but a mentor as well.