

# St. Louis Youth Core Team Application

Please answer all questions clearly and honestly. There are no right or wrong answers - we just want to learn more about you. All information that you provide will be held in strict confidence.

## Core Team Requirements:

- I am at least 21 years old.
- I am open to training and completing all background checks and requirements set forth by the Diocese of Austin.
- I understand that all Core team members must:
  - be Roman Catholics in good standing with the Catholic Church
  - be free of serious sin
  - have an active personal prayer life
  - attend Mass regularly on Sundays
  - be a good witness of the Catholic faith

Core team members must continue to meet these requirements throughout their involvement with St Louis Youth. Core team members are free to terminate their relationship with Core Team at any time; St. Louis Staff retain the right to temporarily or permanently remove any core team member at any time, if it is deemed unwise for that member to continue.

If your application for Core Team is accepted, for the safety and well being of our children, the Diocese of Austin requires that you complete an application for ministry, a background check, and a training course in Ethics and Integrity in Ministry (EIM). The EIM certification must be renewed every three years.

## Applicant Information:

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Name MI Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Current Address City/State/ZIP

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

What is the best way to contact you? \_\_\_\_\_

## Employment Information:

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_ May we contact you at work?: \_\_\_\_\_

**Education:** (check those that apply)

- I graduated from high school or completed an equivalent program in \_\_\_\_\_ (year)
- I am currently in college at \_\_\_\_\_ (college) and expect to graduate in \_\_\_\_\_ (month/year); I am studying \_\_\_\_\_ (major)
- I graduated from college at \_\_\_\_\_ (college) in \_\_\_\_\_ (year) with a degree in \_\_\_\_\_

**Faith Formation:** (check those that apply)

- I am a practicing Catholic in communion and in good standing with the Roman Catholic Church
- I am not in a state of serious sin
- I have received the Sacrament of Baptism
- I have received the Sacrament of Confirmation
- I regularly attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation
- I receive the Sacrament of Confession regularly
- I attend daily Mass when I have the opportunity

Circle one if it applies:            I am considering / have considered a vocation to consecrated religious life (priesthood, diaconate, religious sisterhood, etc.).

**Time Commitment:**

Sundays time commitment is anywhere from 4 hours to 6 hours each Sunday. We also have retreats throughout the year that we need Core members to help. Currently 2 retreats. There is one fall event for High School youth we need Core members as Chaperones for. In the Spring we have four events that we need Core members as Chaperones for. During the Summer we have 2 events. We also do soccer and volleyball on Fridays nights in the summer. Time - is needed...both physically and with your heart. To take time to get to know your teens and invest in them. Time spent with them at youth nights and outside of youth nights, at the events we have planned and at the school or extracurricular events that they are involved in. Building relationships will take time and effort and lots of love.

**Experience, Skills, and Abilities:**

Please note that having no prior experience does not automatically disqualify you from helping with the core team. This information simply helps determine what your individual role might be like on the core team.

What are your talents? Check all that apply.

- Environment (room decoration and setup, artistic design)
- Food Ministry
- A/V Technology
- Publicity (advertising/marketing, experience with promotions, flyer design, etc.)
- Development (ideas for activities, skits, catechesis, programs, etc.)
- Music
- Resource Coordination/Management (organizing, maintaining records, helping gather and prepare resources for youth nights or retreats)

What other skills, abilities, or talents do you have that you'd like to share?

Do you have any activities or commitments that might interfere with your availability on Sunday nights or weekend retreats? If so, please describe them.

Are there any other special issues or concerns happening in your life right now that would impact your commitment and involvement in the youth ministry (like relationships, legal matters, moving to a new home, etc.)? If so, please describe them.

Have you ever been involved in youth ministry or religious education, either Catholic or non-Catholic, before?

Are you or have you ever been involved in any other form of church ministry or service, either Catholic or non-Catholic, before?

Have you ever been involved in any secular form of work with youth, such as teaching in public schools, volunteering with Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts, etc.?

What religious formation (Catholic school, CCD/CCE, voluntary classes, youth group, etc.) have you received?

What has your walk with Christ been like so far? Where are you right now in your faith journey?

What do you do when you have a conflict with someone? How do you handle confrontation?

Why do you want to get involved with youth ministry? What do you want to accomplish?

What do you expect/feel your role should be in the core team? What do you expect of the youth minister, other core team members, and parish staff?

Are you willing to:

- Lead small groups?
- Give talks?
- Share your testimony?
- Chaperone retreats/trips?
- Do manual or maintenance work like taking out the trash, cleaning things, etc.?
- Organize or lead a fundraiser?

**Catholic Doctrine:**

Below are listed several of the fundamental teachings of the Catholic Church. Please check each of the teachings you accept. Leave blank those you do not accept, if any.

- The Holy Eucharist** is the True Presence of Jesus Christ (body, blood, soul, and divinity). The bread and wine at Mass become the Body and Blood of Christ through transubstantiation, and by receiving Holy Communion, one enters into Communion with God Himself.
- Papal infallibility** on matters of faith and morals is ensured by Christ's promise to the Church that He would not allow her to be led astray. When the Church through its supreme Magisterium proposes a doctrine for belief as being divinely revealed, that doctrine must be adhered to with the obedience of faith, as the Magisterium is guided by the Holy Spirit to make these decisions.
- The Blessed Virgin Mary** was conceived in her mother's womb without sin, never committed sin, remained perpetually a virgin, and was assumed into heaven at the end of her earthly life; however, none of this was because of her own merit, but it was done through the grace and power of God alone.
- Abortion**, the intentional termination of a pregnancy or prevention of an embryo from implanting in the mother's womb, is a direct and grave contradiction to the sanctity of life. Abortion is inherently wrong.
- Contraception** contradicts the purpose and meaning of sexual intercourse as it was designed by God. Sex is intended by God to be an act of total self-giving and openness to the transmission of life, and contraception holds back the total gift of self and is not open to new life. Contraception is inherently wrong.
- Premarital sex** is an inversion of the order which God gave to marriage. God intended for the covenant of marriage to be initiated in the marital vows and consummated in sexual intercourse; he did not intend for sex to happen prior to or in any way outside of marriage. Premarital sex (along with extramarital sex of any kind) is inherently wrong.
- Homosexual acts** are an inversion of the order which God gave our bodies. A person may have homosexual inclinations, but to willfully entertain or to act upon those inclinations is inherently wrong.

The information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I, the undersigned, give my authorization to release any and all records or information relating to working with minors. St. Louis Catholic Church may contact my references and appropriate government agencies as deemed necessary in order to verify my suitability as a minister to the youth. I understand that the personal information in this application will be held confidential by the professional parish staff.

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Print Name

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Signature

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Date

# St. Louis Youth Volunteer Code of Conduct

As a volunteer, I will:

- Treat everyone with respect, loyalty, patience, integrity, courtesy, dignity, and consideration.
- Avoid situations where I am alone with youth at parish activities.
- Use positive reinforcement rather than criticism or comparison when working with youth.
- Neither accept expensive gifts from nor give expensive gifts to youth without prior approval from both the parents/guardian and the pastor.
- Report suspected abuse to the pastor or appropriate supervisor, and to the local Child Protection Services agency or other civil authorities.

As a volunteer, I will NOT:

- Use, possess, or be under the influence of tobacco or alcohol at any time while volunteering or in the presence of the youth.
- Use, possess, traffic in, or be under the influence of illegal drugs at ANY time.
- Pose any health risk to youth or fellow volunteers (i.e. no fevers or other contagious situations)
- Strike, spank, shake, slap, or otherwise physically harm youth.
- Touch a youth in a sexual or other inappropriate manner.
- Use any discipline that frightens or humiliates youth.
- Use profanity or any obscene language or gestures in the presence of youth or in any capacity as a volunteer.

I understand that as a volunteer working with youth, I may be subject to a thorough background check, including criminal history. I understand that any action inconsistent with this Code of Conduct or failure to take any action as outlined in this Code of Conduct may result in my being asked to no longer volunteer in this ministry or in my parish.

## Safe Environment

In ministering to teens, we believe it is our responsibility to seek ministers that are able to provide healthy, safe, and spiritually sound ministry. You will need to complete the diocesan background checks and Safe Environment training in order to minister to teens. All forms and class times will be provided for you.

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Print Name

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Signature

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Date