

First off, thank you for considering helping with Our Lady of Victory's Youth Ministry. Our ministry cannot be effective without adults like you sharing their time, talent and treasure with us. There are many different areas that we need help in and we truly appreciate you!

**Relational Ministry:**

Our goal is to show our teens who Christ is and how He can be part of their lives. We follow Jesus' example of how to reach out to others—meet people where they're at, sit, eat, and talk to them about how there is something more to life. We do this through caring and listening to them while guiding them towards understanding God in practical ways, aka "relational ministry."

Teens need adults who will: *(Adapted from Life Teen Start-up Kit)*

- Love God and live for Him
- Be interested in their lives
- Be present in their lives
- Pray for them
- Be authentic (real)
- Say encouraging words
- Believe in them
- Laugh
- Remember their names and care for them
- Share how God works in your life
- Be committed to the programs
- Be patient

Commitments:

1. Monthly planning meeting
2. Small group specific night
3. Large group nights with your small group.
4. Chaperoning when available

**Preparation:**

It is important to be nourished and immersed in the life our Faith first before ministering to others. Part of our program will include:

- **Once a month meetings - time TBD, for planning and spiritual refreshment**
- **Core team formation opportunities through the parish and diocese**

**ADULTS Only**

In addition, our Diocese requires **VIRTUS/Safe Environment** training and a back ground check for any adult who works with minors more than 4 times in a year, which hopefully will be you! (<http://www.virtus.org/virtus/>) Lisa Willows in the faith formation office handles Virtus for our parish, and can be contacted at: olvre@qwestoffice.net

More than any workshop, taking the time to reflect on your spiritual life is the best preparation. Feel free to meet with a priest or your spiritual director and get their input and prayers about starting this ministry to our teens.

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**Opportunities:**

Our teens are each in a different place in their lives and on their faith journeys. In order to reach them, we offer a multi-faceted ministry with a variety of different catechetical, social and service opportunities throughout the year.

Please look at each component carefully and pray about where your strengths would best serve God.

**Small Group Leader:**

- Get to know teens, collect prayer intentions, facilitate faith discussions in small groups
- Times: Wednesday nights for large groups, and some small groups. We may also have need for additional times for teens who can't make Wednesday nights work, and thus for Core team volunteers for those nights too! So if Wednesday's don't work for you, that doesn't mean you can't serve with us!
- And a once a month core meeting.

**Community Building and Fun Stuff:**

- Be present for various fun things we do: Bonfires, color wars, water balloon fights, hiking and climbing, laser tag, mini golf, pilgrimages, movie nights, etc.

**Availability:**

- Please mark down the days and times of the week that work best for you:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning							
Afternoon							
Evening							

# Core Team Application<sup>1</sup>

Please fill out each section honestly and completely. Turn it into the Youth Ministry office and we'll contact you via e-mail or phone to set up a time that we can talk further and pray together.

## Section 1: Parish Involvement

Please check all that apply:

- I have been a member of OLV for \_\_\_\_ years.
- I have taught religious education at OLV or my previous parish \_\_\_\_\_.
- I have assisted in Youth Ministry at OLV or my previous parish \_\_\_\_\_.
- I am/have been a lector, Eucharistic minister, altar server, and/or choir member.
- Other parish or diocesan involvement:

I attend Mass:

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Rarely
- Never

## Section 2: Catholic/Spiritual Formation

Please check all that apply:

- I am baptized.
- I was confirmed in the Catholic Church at the age of \_\_\_\_\_. ( I will be Confirmed in \_\_\_\_\_)
- For the past 12 months, I have met my obligation of attending Sunday liturgy and Holy days of obligation.
- I converted to Catholicism at the age of \_\_\_\_ from the \_\_\_\_\_ faith.
- I attended a Catholic school in grades \_\_\_\_\_.
- I attended a Catholic college for \_\_\_\_\_ years.
- Other than in school, I attended religious education classes in grades \_\_\_\_\_.
- As a high school student I attended Catholic youth ministry.
- I am/have considered a vocation to the religious life.
- Other religious formation (RENEW, RCIA, Bible studies, fellowship groups):

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<sup>1</sup> Adapted from Life Teen Startup Kit

Please check whether you accept and actively seek to live or do not accept/actively seek to live each of the following teachings of the Catholic Church:

A. Do you accept the Church's teaching on the Holy Eucharist?

The Holy Eucharist is the real Presence (Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity) of Jesus Christ and that when one receives Holy Communion, Jesus comes into the heart to dwell.

Yes, I accept and actively seek to live this teaching.

No, I do not accept/actively seek to live this teaching.

B. Do you accept the Church's teaching on contraception?

God designed conjugal love between a husband and wife to be a beautiful, selfless, total giving of one to the other, and is open to the transmission of life. Since acts of contraception are not selfless, not a total giving of one to the other and are not open to the transmission of life, contraception, which actually means "against conception" is inherently wrong.

Yes, I accept and actively seek to live this teaching.

No, I do not accept/actively seek to live this teaching.

C. Do you accept the Church's teaching on the sanctity of life?

All life is sacred from conception to natural death. Each life from the moment of conception has a right to life, therefore abortion, or any other method of barring a new life from implanting in its mother's womb or terminating a pregnancy is inherently wrong.

Yes, I accept and actively seek to live this teaching.

No, I do not accept/actively seek to live this teaching.

D. Do you accept the Church's teaching on papal infallibility?

The Pope holds the keys of Saint Peter and Christ endowed the Church's shepherds with the charism of infallibility in matters of faith and morals. When the Church through its supreme Magisterium proposes a doctrine "for belief as being divinely revealed, and as the teaching of Christ, the doctrine must be adhered to with the obedience of faith."

Yes, I accept and actively seek to live this teaching.

No, I do not accept/actively seek to live this teaching.

E. Do you accept the Church's teaching on pre-marital sex?

God has exclusively given the gift of intercourse to a man and woman who have pledged their lives to one another in marriage as a way of fully giving oneself to the other, being fully open to the transmission of life should God choose to bestow this blessing.

Yes, I accept and actively seek to live this teaching.

No, I do not accept/actively seek to live this teaching.

F. Do you accept the Church's teaching on the Immaculate Conception?

The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin.

Yes, I accept and actively seek to live this teaching.

No, I do not accept/actively seek to live this teaching.

### **Section 3: Personal and Spiritual History**

Please write a brief testimony about how you have come into a relationship with Jesus Christ.

How would you describe your spiritual journey right now? What spiritual gifts do you have and how would you like to use them in Youth Ministry?

Are there any special issues or concerns happening in your life right now that would have an impact on your commitment and involvement in Youth Ministry?

Why do you want to be involved in Youth Ministry?

What are some of your expectations of the Youth Ministry staff?

**Section 4: What are you interested in?**

**High School**

*We need adults, especially parents, to be faith witnesses, small group facilitators, and chaperones for youth events for the high school youth ministry program.*

**Middle School**

*We also have the opportunity to work with JFK 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders, especially for their parents who want to be involved in their spiritual growth and formation as they prepare to receive the Holy Spirit at Confirmation.*

**Section 5:**

- The information on this application is correct to the best of my knowledge.
- I understand that any personal information in this application will be held confidential by the Youth Ministry staff and their spiritual director.
- I understand that as a potential Core team member I should: have a personal commitment to Jesus Christ, an unconditional love for teens, a love for the Catholic Church, regular participation in Sunday worship, a personal prayer life, freedom from serious sin, regular reading of Scripture and openness to using the gifts of the Holy Spirit. I must continue to possess the above-mentioned qualities throughout my commitment.
- I understand that Core Team members will be asked to step out of this ministry if it becomes clear to the Youth Ministry staff that the Lord is not calling him/her to this specific ministry, or if mitigating circumstances make it unwise for him/her to continue in this ministry.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_