

First off, thank you for considering helping with Our Lady of Victory's Youth Ministry. Our ministry cannot be effective without teens 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 who Christ is and how He can be part of your life and your friends' 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 peers 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
- Be patient

Commitments:

1. Monthly planning meeting
2. Small group specific meetings
3. Large group nights with your small group.

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**

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.

Opportunities:

Everyone is 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 a 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 nights 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 Application¹

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 _____.
- Other than in school, I attended religious education classes in grades _____.
- As a high school student I attend Catholic youth ministry.
- I am/have considered a vocation to the religious life.
- Other religious formation (RENEW, RCIA, Bible studies, fellowship groups):

¹ 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 Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors to lead small groups and be peer mentors and disciples

Middle School

We also have an opportunity to work with JFK 7th and 8th graders, especially for our rising 9th graders who want to help mentor and disciple their old classmates.

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 _____