Youth Leadership Team Application



*For:*

St. Augustine

&

St. Edward

Catholic Parishes

Austin, Minnesota

**2020-2021**

**St. Augustine & St. Edward’s**

**Application Process**

The Ministry and Catechesis Office of St. Augustine and St. Edward Catholic Church invites you to grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ. The Youth Leadership Team (YLT) offers you the opportunity to deepen your spirituality with other committed High School students. As a Youth Leader, you will have the opportunity to be an active part of the parish community by being a witness to your peers as well as adults.

The selection process begins with you prayerfully considering how you can share your faith journey with other teens.

This is a detailed application process so please read the entire packet thoroughly before proceeding. Contained within this packet you will find the following:

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Applications will not be accepted after **August 15th.**

No exceptions except for mid-year open application time in January 2021.

(Shadowing/mentoring with a current member of the team to see if it is a good fit).

Interviews will take place **August 17th - 30th.** *An email will be sent out after turning in your application to sign up for an interview time.*

**Youth Leadership Team FAQ**

**Please review these questions with your parents, so both you and them know what it means to be part of the Youth Leadership Team**

**What is YLT?**

The youth leadership team (YLT) is a team of high school youth that are learning to grow in their faith and learn how to be a disciple of Christ. The team is expected to help each other grow in holiness and hold one another accountable. This team also focuses on evangelization (spreading the faith to others) and learning how to be a role model of the faith to our peers (Middle School peers, High School peers, and fellow parishioners) to help bring them to Christ.

**How many people are on YLT?**

There is no limit on the amount of people who can be on the team. YLT is open to all high school students that want to commit to growing in their faith and learning how to be a peer minister.

**Are there requirements/expectations to join YLT?**

In order to be on YLT you have to have a sincere desire and willingness to grow as a person in Christ and share where you are at on your faith journey. This team, like a church, is made up of individuals at different stages in their faith journey, but are willing to grow. It will also take sacrifice not only of your time and other activities, but it will also require you to time manage and communicate effectively.

As a member you will be expected to have a desire to grow in your faith life, share the faith, journey with others and strive to live a life in accordance with the Gospel message of Jesus Christ, while focusing on evangelization and spreading the Gospel message. You will be expected to be at meetings every Sunday (except the 3rd Sunday of the month) which will focus on Ministry details, faith formation, discipleship, and leadership. As a member you are also expected to be at youth group at least every other month.

**How much time do I have to give up? What if I want to be involved outside of the Ministry?**

**STOP. If you feel as though you have to give up your time, please decide if YLT is really where you want to be.**  Peer Ministry is about *wanting* to give your time to grow in your faith. With the various responsibilities, you will be able to choose a time commitment that is right for you. We take into account the other things you are involved in, especially your studies at school, your obligations at home and the demands of a job. For those who are involved in seasonal activities, we will attempt to work with you while a particular sport or other activity is on your schedule. Team will require you to sacrifice things as you are expected to be there every Sunday and materials will be sent home with you to prepare yourself for the next meeting and to help you grow in your faith.

**When does YLT officially start?**

YLT for 2020-21 will start with a training day on Saturday, September 27, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at St. Augustine Church starting with Mass, where we will focus on building a team atmosphere and training. This is capped off with a parent meeting on Sunday, October 4, from 6:00 - 8:00 PM.

**What if I am so involved that I just can’t make meetings, etc.?**

As much as we would like every interested teen to be a member of the youth leadership team, we do realize that everyone has to choose his or her priorities. For those who are unable to consistently put in the time to be a productive member of the team, speak with Kayla Burck, so she can find another area where you can grow and share in your faith.

**Is there a Dress Code for YLT?**

Yes, there is a dress code. When we are present at events, including Youth Group, our goal is to dress modestly. Below is our general dress code, but please remember that the final call for inappropriate dress will be the Youth Minister/Director of Catechesis.

* No showing any bra straps or boxers
* No leggings as pants (this includes jeggings, yoga pants, etc.)
* Skirts should be knee length
* No ripped clothing or muscle shirts
* Clothes should not be too tight or falling off.
* No clothes that have references to profanity, sex, drug, etc.
* No sleeveless or cut off shirts for guys.
* No showing of your midriff.

*If you do not follow these expectations then you will be asked to go home and change or be given something to be put over it. Repeated incidents will lead to a team member being placed on probation. If incidents continue the team member may be dismissed from the team.*

**What happens if I don’t follow expectations?**

You may be dismissed from YLT if you refuse to commit yourself to be “present” – physically, mentally and spiritually to the team. This includes continuous absences from meetings and events. You may also be dismissed if you engage in any issue regarding the Covenant/Lifestyle Agreement, such as violence, alcohol or drug use/abuse, sexual relationships or brutal gossip against teammates. Major issues may be discussed with Kayla Burck or will be brought to the team for peer mediation.

**When and what are the Team meetings and Youth Group?**

YLT meetings will be every Sunday (except for the 3rd Sunday of each month) from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. Youth Group will take place on the 3rd Sunday of each month from 6:00 - 8:00. *Youth Group may be held on a different Sunday during a month because of breaks. If this occurs there will not be a team meeting but only Youth Group.*

**How will being a Youth Leader help me now and later in life?**

As a Youth Leader you will be with fellow students who are seeking, just like you, a way to grow in their relationship with God. You will have the opportunity to meet people from different high schools, have an escape from negative peer pressure, many have seen a greater confidence boost in the classroom and even better organizational skills. In the long run you will develop friendships that will last a lifetime, grow in your leadership skills that will help you all throughout life and by sharing your faith journey and your knowledge you will be planting seeds in people that they will rely on throughout their lives. All of this that benefits the leader and community but most of all benefits God and His kingdom. Your work, your hands, your time and your commitment brings joy to God and the community.

**However**, the only way to gain these amazing gifts is by being willing to learn and grow from the knowledge of others on the team. You also have to be able to work with others as a team because no one person can do what we do alone, (trust us, we know). Lastly, in order to gain the beautiful gifts of this Ministry you have to remember there is no room for hate, jealousy, gossip, or anything else that will harm this team's mission. It is up to you if you want to grow and become the best that you can be, please keep that in mind.

**Team Expectations**

**Please review these expectations with your parents, so both you and they know what is expected of YLT.**

Maturity and responsibility are essential. Members must have the ability to work through **team** **issues** and work with all members of the team as necessary. In this regard, **team members** are expected to communicate with each other *first* and *then* with their Youth Minister/Director of Catechesis, Kayla Burck, about differences or difficulties they are experiencing. Therefore, **all issues** will be heard and resolved **only** between *these* parties.

*The role of YLT parents is to encourage their teens to be responsible in regard to the time commitment their teen agreed to, as well as encourage their teen to personally resolve any issues they have within the context of the team.*

 **Team Members are expected to:**

1. Make every effort toward attending all YLT Meetings every Sunday.
2. Attend Youth Group, to support other leaders, but it is expected that you attend Youth Group at least once every other month. *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(initial for acknowledgement)*
3. Have their Social Media reflect the moral teachings and values of the Church, but we also would like you to help us promote Youth Ministry activities as well.
4. Follow the Covenant/Lifestyle and Youth Leader agreement contracts (See attached forms).
5. Refrain from going to third parties to help solve problems. For example: If you have an issue with something said or done here at Youth Ministry be brave enough to talk to Kayla herself. Remember that there is a spoken rule about Confidentiality in the Youth Ministry.
6. Be an example to others based on the teaching of the Catholic Church, which includes, but is not limited to, attendance at weekly Mass and Holy Days of Obligation.
7. Keep up a prayer life by setting time aside each day to pray for all families of the parish, other team members, your own struggles, and others in the Parish.
8. Act as a Youth Leader at school, work, sports or any other activities. *You are the example and leader of today’s Catholic Youth.*
9. Be open to new ways of looking and doing things in your faith, in the church, and in your relationships and responsibilities.
10. Promote events put on by the Youth Ministry by acting as a leader, having knowledge of the agenda, the purpose of the event, and coming in with a plan while simultaneously willing to adapt.
11. Assist in other areas of Parish Life as requested by the Youth Minister and other Adults Volunteers. For Example: Helping a fellow parishioner with babysitting.
12. Honestly and truthfully work through issues that are or may be blocking the progress of YLT.

***\*Failure to follow through with these expectations will result in a leader being placed before a peer review board to discuss further actions.***

 **How Do You Spend Your Time Each Week?**

Every person has 168 hours to use each week. No one gets more time or less time, so it is important that we know how we are currently using our time to know where our priorities lie. Also, seeing how we use our time gives us the ability to change our behavior, and make better use of our time.

**Step 1:**

List the amount of time on average you spend on each activity per week. *Please be honest and think about how your week goes when school is in session.*

Class Time/School: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Job/Work: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Studying/Homework: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Athletics: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Extracurricular Activities: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Family Responsibilities: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Sleeping: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Eating: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Personal Hygiene: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Prayer/Mass: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

YLT: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Step 2:**

Add together all the hours you spend on each activity. Then subtract your total from 168 to get the total hours of how you spend your week.

Total hours a week 168

 Subtotal of activities -\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Total = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Step 3:**

1. Is your total greater or less than 168? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. If your total is greater than 168, what changes will you make to correct that as you are overly committing yourself to things? If your total is less than 168, what are things you can do to fill that extra time (sleep more, spend more time in prayer, spend more time working on homework/studying, etc.)?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Student Application**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**City: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**High School:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade in 2020-21:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**T-Shirt Size: S M L XL**

**Parents Names:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Please complete the following questions as completely and thoroughly as possible. (You may email Kayla Burck at kburck.ae@gmail.com for an online application if you would like to work on it and return it typed via email)

1. What activities are you involved in outside of YLT? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. What are you spending most of your time on now? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. In making decisions regarding your ability to attend events, what activities would you place in higher priority to YLT? For example, would sports or theater have a higher priority than YLT? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	1. Why? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Please type. Use additional paper.***

1. Youth Leadership Team is a Church community and faith-based team. Why do you want to be a part of it?
2. A Prayer life means having a relationship with God, one that is continuing to grow and increase. As you reflect on this please read 2 Peter: 5-7 then describe your prayer life.
3. Tell us two strengths you have and explain how they will help YLT.
4. Please explain two weaknesses you have that you need help working on. Explain how you would feel about bringing those weaknesses to this team and having people help you with them?
5. Tell us more about yourself. Who are you? When you don’t have anything going on what do you like to do with your time? What are some things you hope to accomplish this upcoming year? How are you going to achieve those? And anything else you would like to tell us.

**YOUTH LEADER AGREEMENT FOR ALL TEAM MEMBERS**

I agree to place team issues above my personal issues as necessary. I agree that as a team member, I am expected to communicate with the other team members and Kayla Burck, as the Youth Minister/Director of Catechesis, about differences or difficulties we as a team are experiencing. I agree that issues regarding the team will not be discussed between parents and the Youth Minister, Adult Peer Ministry Directors or other teens. Members of the Youth Leadership Team will communicate any concerns directly, not through third parties.

As a Youth Leader, I accept the fact that it is my responsibility to handle my own issues in a mature fashion. I further agree that it is my responsibility to resolve any issues I have within the context of the team and I will not take my grievances outside of team meetings.

As a Team Member, I Realize I am Expected To: (Please read again carefully)

1. *Make every effort to attend all YLT meetings on Sundays*
2. *Attend all Youth Groups, but am required to attend at least once every other month.(\_\_\_intial here)*
3. *Reflect the teachings and values of the Church when using all Social Media.*
4. *Assist in other areas of parish life as requested by the youth minister and team directors.*
5. *Follow the covenant/Lifestyle and Youth Leader agreement contracts.*
6. *Honestly and truthfully work through problems that may be blocking the progress of YLT.*
7. *To be responsible and mature enough to notify Kayla Burck of scheduling conflicts I may have ahead of time. Unless I am seriously ill, I will contact Kayla Burck directly when I am unable to attend a team meeting or other scheduled activity. I realize that I may do this by email at kburck.ae@gmail.com or by contacting her at anytime on her cell phone at 847-977-8600. (Texting is available).Also, as a team we communicate through an app called “Groupme” it allows us to have everyone communicated with at once, you may use this to discuss conflicts with the whole group.*

Dating another Youth Leader is not acceptable. Any form of relationship including friendships and romantic relationships outside of the team will be conducted in such a manner that is consistent with the Covenant/Lifestyle Agreement. Any violation of the agreement such as violence, alcohol or drug use/abuse, sexual relationships or brutal gossip against a teammate will be reviewed.

I agree with this Youth Leader Agreement, as it is my desire to be part of the Youth Leadership Team at St. Augustine & St. Edward in Austin, MN. I agree to support my team members by encouraging them to stick to their commitments and respecting the authority of the Youth Minister and adult directors/volunteers. I agree that Kayla Burck, as the Youth Minister/Director of Catechesis, is the final mediator and will accept her decision on any and all issues and disputes within the context of the team without interference.

Signature of Student:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**St. Augustine & St. Edward 2020-21**

**Covenant/Lifestyle Agreement**

Jesus, in His life and ministry showed us how to live in the world while remaining dedicated to God. YLT and Youth Ministry have chosen to use Jesus and His disciples as the team model which they will attempt to follow.

I will commit myself to respect and follow our adult and team leaders and to serve on the team in the manner they request of me.

I will help build our community by being consistent in attendance and by treating the other members with love, kindness and in a Christ-like manner.

I desire to follow Jesus. Therefore, I will commit myself to serving others, remembering that what I do should bring glory to God and not to myself.

I will do my best to share the good news of Jesus Christ through my words and prayers, and especially by my actions.

I will choose to follow the teachings of Jesus and His Church and to observe carefully the rules that the Catholic Church has established (including Mass attendance and Holy Days of Obligation).

I will commit myself to a lifestyle that will be a model to my peers. I will avoid the use of violence, drugs, alcohol, sex, profanity, negative talk and gossip.

I will be an example of modesty by following the dress code of the team. Please refer to the FAQ sheet to understand more about the dress code.

I will be an example of the faith and evangelize through social media. I will refrain from posting anything that is negative, derogatory, offensive, and/or anything against the Catholic Church and its teachings.

I will be open to learning more about my faith, exploring new ideas within my faith, and be willing to ask questions to better understand my faith.

I will commit myself to pray on a daily basis for myself and for the members of my team and will seek guidance from the Holy Spirit.

*My signature below indicates my commitment to this agreement.*

Signature of Student \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_