

# The Catholic Community of St. Thomas More

# Youth Council 2010-2011

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Want to make a difference in our parish youth ministry? Interested in developing your leadership skills? Thanks for your interest in STM Youth Council. Please read the following vital information.

## **What is Youth Council?**

The Youth Council represents the interests of all youth at St. Thomas More. It also comprises the youth leadership and development of youth ministry. The length of office is one year, beginning in July 2009, and continuing through June 2010.

## **Responsibilities and Expectations**

### **Participation**

YC members should be able to attend all of the YC meetings during the year.

Each YC member is expected to actively participate in youth ministry events and activities at STM, as well as in other ministries/events of the parish. A YC member is expected to attend youth ministry sessions. It is also highly encouraged for YC members to participate in other activities such as service projects, social activities, and special events. Lead by example.

### **Youth Council Training**

Each YC member is expected to attend youth leadership development activities at STM:

YC Retreat – August 2010

YC Workshop – Spring 2011 (tentative)

Other Diocesan leadership events will be announced to YC, and participation is encouraged if possible. These include "how-to" seminars, and Faithful Servant, a week-long leadership camp in Summer 2009.

### **Hospitality**

Each YC member is a designated representative of Youth Ministry and the parish of STM. In this role, the YC member should be welcoming, friendly, and courteous to everyone, especially his/her peers. Occasionally, YC members will be called upon to be "ministers of hospitality" during youth ministry functions such as retreats, social activities, service projects, etc.

### **Administration**

1. Planning – suggesting ideas for diocesan, deanery, parish, and community activities; obtaining resources, researching expenses, locations, dates, times, etc. for such events
2. Coordinating – providing the support needed to host activities; calling youth to recruit their involvement; obtaining supplies; publicizing events.
3. Implementing – being present at activities; supervising and facilitating events

### **Leadership**

1. YC members will be given the opportunity to lead activities for large group sessions, including skits, small groups, and prayer services. Each activity must be rehearsed ahead of time, and presented to YC before presentation to a large group.
2. YC members will plan and lead prayer services during special youth ministry sessions.
3. Each YC member is expected to support the Director of Youth Ministry and all adult team members through leadership by example, leadership by suggestions, and servant leadership (following Jesus' example of leadership).

## **Guidelines of Appropriate Behavior**

Each YC member is expected to set an example of appropriate Christian behavior for other youth ministry peers. This includes all youth ministry activities, as well as parish functions, diocesan youth ministry events, and community/school settings. This includes

1. Weekly attendance at Mass and active sacramental life.
2. Living a life as a witness of Christian hospitality, love and care for all people.
3. Willing to share your faith through example of moral decision-making.
4. Developing a strong prayer life and commitment to live out our baptismal call.
5. No use of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs.
6. Careful discernment of relationships and friendships, using a Christian example for behavior
7. No use of profanity or inappropriate language
8. Respect for opinions, property, and time of others.

## **Meetings**

Regular YC meetings occur on Sundays (approximately every other week) during the school year. Meetings begin at 5:00pm with dinner/snacks and socializing, and continues with business and responsibilities. Meetings end at 6:15pm

Occasionally, outside work will be required to prepare for an upcoming event. Small groups may meet outside of regular times to accomplish the necessary project.

Also, social occasions are scheduled for YC members; attendance is certainly not required, but it's fun to socialize with your YC friends.

## **Appointment to YC**

Any high school youth (grades 9-12) may apply to be on YC by submitting the attached application to the Director of Youth Ministry by July 15, 2010. Please fill out the form thoroughly; incomplete forms will not be considered. After the application is reviewed, each applicant will be interviewed. The purpose of the interview is

1. To fully explain the responsibilities of YC membership
2. To assess the time and talents of each applicant
3. To give the applicant the opportunity to ask questions

The interview will be conducted by the Director of Youth Ministry and YC senior members. After the interview, youth will be selected for Youth Council. **There is a limit of 22 youth that may be appointed to YC.**

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## **For more information**

Please contact Georgie Clemens, Director of Youth Ministry, at 942-6240 (work),  
or by e-mail [gclemens@st-thomasmore.org](mailto:gclemens@st-thomasmore.org)

## **Deadline for Application: July 15, 2010**

No applications will be considered after that date, due to the great interest and limited space.

**Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith, and in purity.**

*1 Timothy 4:12*