

I would like to serve in . . .

### Athletics

- Youth Athletic Committee
- Coach (sport \_\_\_\_\_)
- Asst Coach (sport \_\_\_\_\_)
- Other ( \_\_\_\_\_)

### Scouting

- Cub Scouts
- Boy Scouts
- Girl Scouts

### Youth Ministry

- Jr High Activities Planning Team
- HS Activities Planning Team
- YM Commission
- Justice & Service Team
- Retreat Ministry and/or Team
  - Jr High
  - HS
- Catechist for Faith Formation
  - Jr High
  - HS
- Chaperone (various events)
  - Dances
  - Jr High Socials
  - HS Socials
  - Disciples in Mission
  - HS Faith Sharing Group
  - Service Projects

# St Jude Volunteer Policy for Ministry to Youth



*Developed by St Jude's  
Commission for Youth Ministry*

September 2005

## Nuts and Bolts of Volunteering

### Application Process

Sharing our gifts and talents with our parish community helps us to build the Kingdom of God. We are excited about your interest in wanting to minister to the youth of our parish. This brochure is our effort to inform you of the general requirements for volunteering in any aspect of ministry to youth here at St Jude. Efforts to protect our children are held to the highest degree on all levels—parish, archdiocesan and national. This policy is for St Jude Parish and meets the policies of the archdiocese which are in compliance with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishop's national charter - *Protecting God's Children*. The following three Processes need to be completed to be Approved for volunteering,

### Training & Certification

#### **Background Check**

In order to ensure a safe environment for our children, volunteers will be required to submit to a Background Check.

#### **Be Safe & Secure**

All volunteers will be required to read and sign this archdiocesan policy that addresses the procedures and standards of behavior for the protection of our youth from sexual misconduct.

#### **VIRTUS Training**

All volunteers will attend a VIRTUS Training Program. This program is designed educate volunteers to prevent wrongdoing and promote right doing.

### Expectations

In creating a healthful, pleasant and safe volunteering atmosphere, we expect our volunteers to:

- \* possess a strong moral character
- \* be actively living Catholic principles
- \* participating in the Sacramental life of our Church
- \* model a positive Christian attitude, in language and conduct
- \* enjoy interaction with young people through activities of a spiritual, catechetical, recreational, and athletic nature
- \* promote and nurture positive self-esteem in our youth

### Termination

St Jude as a faith-based community has the right to terminate a volunteer who has not completed the Training and Certification and/or has failed to meet the Expectations of Volunteering. The cause leading to the termination will always be considered and evaluated by the Administrative Staff and/or pastor.

## Vision of Ministering to Youth

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishop's affirmed in 1997 the framework to be used for Catholic Youth Ministry. This document is called Renewing the Vision and is the vision we minister out of here in St Jude Parish. It is our hope for all of our ministry to, by, for, and with young people to meet the following goals:

- To empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today
- To draw young people to responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the Catholic faith community
- To foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person

We strive to meet these goals through our CYO Athletic Ministry, Scouting Ministry, and Junior High and High School Youth Ministry. These ministries serve as the conduit to help young people discover and deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ and for that relationship to be nurtured in the Catholic faith community. This holistic approach to ministry entails the exploration, development and offering of ministry which encompasses the 8 components of youth ministry as articulated in the Renewing the Vision document—Advocacy, Catechesis, Community Life, Evangelization, Justice & Service, Leadership Development, Pastoral Care, and Prayer and Worship. It takes the whole church—Adults working within any of our ministry to youth strive to implement these components in ways that are developmentally appropriate, family friendly, intergenerational, and multi-cultural. All that we are about leads to nurturing the spirituality of our young people,

## Areas of Ministry

### Athletics

CYO Athletics has been an integral part of ministry to young people in grades 3-12 here at St Jude for many years. The athletic ministry is committed to providing young people a safe and healthy environment to develop their athletic skills, competitive spirit, and social interaction. Respect for one another, for the game and for competition is essential in creating a ministry filled with faith filled coaches and assistant coaches who, through athletics, help to deepen the faith lives of the youth playing on our teams.

### Scouting

The Scouting ministry helps develop youth to be a considerate member of society with respect for God, people, the outdoors, and all living things. This respect is taught through various activities including: rank advancement, religious awards, service, camping and crafts. Girl Scouting is for ages 5-17, Cub Scouting ages 6-11, and Boy Scouting for ages 11-17.

### Youth Ministry

Offered for young people in grades 7-12, youth ministry assists the youth of our parish in building a real and lasting relationship with Jesus Christ and to help them find their place in the Catholic faith community. Youth Ministry strives to educate, inspire, encourage and support all young people of St Jude Parish. The empowerment of adult leaders to take an active role in the spiritual formation and intellectual and social development of youth within the parish is key to fruitful and successful youth ministry.

## Ministry Committees

### Commission for Youth Ministry

- is responsible for overseeing the effective implementation of all areas of ministry to youth. This group of 8 adults and 2 youth who advocate for the needs of young people and are empowered to be the voice of youth in parish governance and decision making.

### Athletic Committee

- is responsible for the administration of all athletic ministry and programs offered by St Jude Parish. Their work includes: developing policies to ensure fair competition, competent coaching, and Christian participation. They oversee the recruitment and selection of coaches and teams; providing assistance and support to adults, youth and families.

### Jr High Planning Team

- a group of spirit filled adults and young adults who plan, implement, and evaluate all aspects of Jr High Ministry. This includes: South Deanery events, opportunities for community life, service, retreats, faith and bible sharing, religious education and a myriad of programs to help foster the faith in early adolescents.

### High School Planning Team

- is a group of adults and youth who plan, implement, and evaluate all aspects of High School Ministry. This includes: preparation for Confirmation, faith formation, retreats, justice & service, community life and a variety of other programs and events. Their efforts are to assist high school youth in connecting to their parish faith community and having a meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ.

### Justice & Service Team

- is a group of adults and youth who are responsible for planning, implementing, and evaluating the justice and service opportunities for our teenagers. This includes service projects and service learning.

## Youth Ministry Volunteer Application

Please complete and return the following application and additional information requested to the Youth Ministry Office

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

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

City/St/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Are You: Single \_\_\_\_\_ Married \_\_\_\_\_

Separated \_\_\_\_\_ Divorced \_\_\_\_\_

Widowed \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any children? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes: Names & Ages \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you a registered member of St Jude Parish? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have previous volunteering experience in working with adolescents? YES or NO

If yes, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please complete the other side of this form.



St Jude Youth Ministry Office  
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