



The Parish of Saint Theresa

VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT & CODE OF CONDUCT

The Parish of Saint Theresa expects that all those who volunteer with youth, either directly or as a support, should possess the following qualities: a personal commitment to Jesus Christ, a love for the Catholic Church, regular participation in Sunday worship, a personal prayer life, and openness to using the gifts of the Holy Spirit! Volunteers with in direct contact with youth also must be able to complete the required VIRTUS training and background checks set forth by the Diocese of Trenton.

All volunteers recognize and support the mission of youth ministry, which is to empower youth to:

- Develop a meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Foster responsible participation into the life, work, and mission of the Catholic faith community.
- Integrate Catholic values and apply Catholic faith into daily life.
- Participate in the Sacraments and develop a personal spirituality and prayer life.
- Work for justice, defend human dignity, and serve those in need.
- Develop respect for differences, and act as healers, reconcilers and peacemakers.

All volunteers agree to the code of conduct stated here.

The Role of a Volunteer in Youth Ministry:

- Assist in providing a safe environment of faith and fun throughout all gatherings, youth group activities, programs and events.
- Continue to grow in your own personal faith through reception of the Sacraments, reading of Scripture, or other faith based programs, conferences and prayers.
- Ensure acceptance of all youth and volunteers involved in the parish ministry. There is a zero tolerance for bullying, or any form of put downs or discrimination.
- Communicate well with Youth Minister and core team members. Respond to emails and texts promptly if you are able. Be positive, if you do not agree with someone; seek a solution, instead of making a harsh or negative comment. Reach out the Youth Minister if you need assistance.
- Make your best effort to attend scheduled planning meetings pertaining to your role. These are vital to the success of the programs and provide time for brainstorming, planning, education as well as prayer together and discussions about the past and future of the youth group that are important.
- Follow all guidelines given regarding social media, communication and interaction with youth.
- While you are acting as a volunteer, there is a zero tolerance policy for use of alcohol, drugs or other illegal substances when you will be in contact with youth and responsible for their health and safety.
- Don't try to fix everyone and everything...let the Youth Minister deal with problems as they arise. Your role is to be an active witness of faith to the youth, a part of an important team, not to solve issues on your own.
- Be a positive support of the youth ministry to other parishioners, neighbors, friends and family!

With my signature below, I agree to uphold the role of youth ministry volunteer at The Parish of Saint Theresa to the best of my ability starting now, and will review and renew my commitment annually.

I understand at any time the Youth Minister has the authority to ask me take a break, or step down from the ministry for the good of myself or the group.

In addition to this commitment, I agree to complete a full volunteer application, and if needed as well, a complete VIRTUS training and background check which all will be kept on file at The Parish of Saint Theresa.

Role in Ministry : _____

Print Full Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Youth Minister: _____ Date: _____