

# Peer Leadership Application

## Packet Contents:

- Welcome Letter
- The Seven Leadership Values
- Application for Peer Ministry
- Peer Leaders Commitment and Expectations to Ministry

Dear Leadership Applicant,

We're glad that you have shown an interest in serving in our ministry! We are always looking for talented people to serve in our program. We believe that solid ministry is built on relationships. Relationships are critical to people feeling loved and accepted so that they can understand the love of God in practical ways. This is when real spiritual growth takes place in a young person's life.

A youth ministry like ours requires a substantial team of volunteers working at all levels. The challenge is to access the wealth and diversity of resources within and around the area so as to provide a meaningful and effective faith formation program for younger and older adolescents which engages their energy, imagination, curiosity, compassion and playful spirit in an exploration and engagement of our Catholic faith.

Thus, the quality of applicants is very important. With the teen leadership ministry, we are looking for high school guys and girls, who have made a commitment to Christ and a desire to share their love for Him with their peers. With the aid of prayer and consideration, read the enclosed materials. We encourage you to spend some time praying and discerning if you are called to Peer Leadership and how you can be effective in this ministry.

Once we have your application, we will schedule an appointment. All of the information will be kept strictly confidential.

Peer Leadership is great way to give your time and serve the Lord and His church. We're looking forward to meeting with you and spending some time talking about your hopes and desires for Peer Leadership. If you have any questions, please feel free to call.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Ray Perkins, III". The signature is stylized with a large initial "J" and "P".

John Ray Perkins, III  
337.654.9480

Our ministry exists to **REFLECT** Christ to un-churched teens, to **PLUG** them into a community that will **ROOT** them in their faith and challenge them to **SPREAD** that faith as they **GLORIFY** God with their lives.

# 7 Leadership Values

## **Love**

“We love because He loved us first...” – 1 John 4:19. We must strive in all moments and circumstances to love others as Christ loved. This foundation, simple in premise and command, serves as the basics for our ministry.

## **Evangelization**

We speak in truth to God’s people, inviting them to know Him more deeply. Driven by the desire for all to know the mercy and love of God the Father.

## **Joy**

We live by an unrelenting belief in the goodness of God, and His desire not for our momentary happiness, but our everlasting life. The spirit of our Youth and Worship ministries is one of pure joy, keeping life in perspective and allowing the peace of God to reign in our hearts, regardless of what the world might bring at any given moment.

## **Vocation**

We maintain openness to the call of God in our lives and a willingness to discern, respond and prioritize our lives according to that call. Your primary vocation right now is to be obedient to parents. You must ensure that remains primary, not allowing God’s work in ministry to overtake God’s call to holiness.

## **Affirmation**

We refuse to be overwhelmed by the negativity pervading our culture. Words and actions are designed by the Creator to bring life to the creation, not death. We make every effort and take every opportunity to build up the kingdom on Earth, rather than tear it down.

## **Authenticity**

We live authentically, not denying our human weakness or shying away from the need of personal improvement, but working toward holiness, with resolve. The world needs quality examples of catholic men and women who live out their faith. As leaders in ministry, we live our faith authentically, providing the living example of a Christian and giving hope that others, too, can follow Christ.

## **A Eucharistic Spirituality**

We seek to become one with Christ in all ways. Through a strong devotion to the Blessed Mother, we develop a more profound understanding of Jesus Christ. Through the Holy Scriptures, we grow in sanctity through the Incarnate Word. Through openness to the Charisms of the Holy Spirit, we allow God’s love to permeate this world. Through adherence to the Church that our Lord established, we act in obedience and humility. Through our frequenting the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist in most Holy Communion, we become one with the living God. These intimate experiences with Christ are unmistakable signs of His love.

**Basic Information:**

**Instructions:** (Note: Illegible answers cannot be considered)

1. Read through all the questions before you begin your answers.
2. Answer all the questions
3. Please clearly TYPE or PRINT each answer. Use separate paper when necessary.
4. Very important: When answering these questions, be yourself. There are no right or wrong answers. These questions are simply vehicles for us to learn who you are.
5. Also Very Important: Rest assured that information will be held in strict confidence by the staff of our Ministry.

**Here are a few important facts about being on Peer Leadership Team:**

- Leaders must live a Sacramental Life (ie. Attend Sunday Mass, Receive the Eucharist and frequent the Sacrament of Reconciliation).
- Leaders should possess the following qualities: a personal commitment to Jesus Christ, an unconditional love for peers, regular participation in Sunday Liturgy and Eucharist, a personal prayer life, striving for freedom from serious sin, regular reading of Scripture, and an openness to using the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- Leaders must be open to training and positive criticism.
- Leaders must continue to possess the above mentioned qualities throughout the duration of their commitment. Leaders are free at any time to unconditionally terminate the relationship as a leader. At the same time, the ministry retains the option to ask you to step out of this ministry if it becomes clear to us that the Lord is not calling you to this specific ministry, or mitigating circumstances make it unwise for you to continue in this ministry.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name (Mom) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

(Dad) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: 9 10 11 12      Gender: M F      T-shirt: S M L XL 2XL      DOB \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Social Websites \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Website or Blog \_\_\_\_\_

**Just for Kicks:**

Favorite thing to do for fun: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite type of music: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite movie: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite Food: \_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYMENT (If you have a job)**

Please document where you work.

Business name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title \_\_\_\_\_

Your duties \_\_\_\_\_

Please document any other work related trades or talents. (i.e. construction, public speaking, street evangelist...)

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

**Your Relationship With God**

1. Please share when and how you developed a love for Jesus.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Please share what you are doing to continue growing in your faith in Jesus.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Why do you want to be in Peer Leadership?

4. How would you non-church friends describe your relationship with God?

5. How would your church friends describe your relationship with God?

6. How would your family describe your relationship with God?

**AVAILABILITY**

1. Please list any activities or commitments, which might prohibit you from being available for programs. Please list dates and times of these commitments.

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2. How would you feel if, after having completed the application form, interview, and/or training for the Life Teen Core Team you were not selected?

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3. When would you be available to meet for an interview?

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**CATHOLIC / SPIRITUAL FORMATION**

1. Please check all that apply to you and fill in the requested information. Leave blank those choices, which do not apply.

I am baptized

I was confirmed in the Catholic Church –or– I have not received Confirmation but will

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Other religious formation I received (i.e. RENEW, RCIA, a non-Catholic but Christian education, a non-Catholic but Christian youth ministry program, Campus Crusade, etc.)

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2. Have you participated in any bible studies, religious education classes, Christian fellowship groups, etc.? Please elaborate...

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3. Are you considering, or have you considered a Religious Vocation?

Yes

No

4. Please check whether you accept or do not accept 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 this teaching

No, I do not accept 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 this teaching

No, I do not accept this teaching

C. Do you accept the Church's teaching on the sanctity of life?

All life is sacred and 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 this teaching

No, I do not accept 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 this teaching
- No, I do not accept 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 so choose to bestow this blessing

- Yes, I accept this teaching
- No, I do not accept 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 this teaching
- No, I do not accept this teaching

**What are your talents? (circle)**

Environment	Evangelization	Prayer Ministry
Service Project	Web Development	Drama
Middle School	AV/Tech	Speaking
Contact Team	Hospitality	Other: _____

Are there any special issues or concerns happening in your life right now that would have an impact on your commitment and involvement in the youth ministry? (e.g., relationships, other commitments, etc.)

**My Commitment**

I will continue to develop my relationship with Jesus and obey all the teachings of the Catholic Church.

**I'm committed to:**

- Attending Sunday Mass and receiving the Eucharist
- Monthly reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (or whenever needed)
- High School Ministry Program attendance
- Personal Growth
- Meeting bi-monthly with an adult mentor
- Living a lifestyle befitting a role model and ambassador of Jesus (Romans 12)
- Being an example of proper behavior during Mass, Adoration, programs and activities
- "being a light" on my campus, in my neighborhood and in my home.

**I'm excited about the following duties:**

- Volunteering at least 2 hours per week, in addition to regular Mass Attendance and Youth Programs and Activities.
- Attending Peer Leadership meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month
- Attending the teens leadership retreat on \_\_\_\_\_ (date).
- Completing regular reading assignments.

I've read all of the above and accept the Peer Leadership Team Commitment.

Youth Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please provide 3 references (who are not parents & are out of High school) and one letter of recommendation.**

Name	Address	Phone #

*Before your application process is over, you will need to find an adult mentor, who you will meet with and pray with twice per month.*