

2019 – 2020

# TEEN COUNCIL APPLICATION

**Eligibility:** 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade (2019-2020) teens registered at Sacred Heart

Please read the letter found on the back of this page.

# SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH YOUTH MINISTRY

Thank you for your interest in serving your parish by representing the “voice” of our youth! Your willingness to be a part of the life of the Church and your commitment to improving Youth Ministry at our parish is commendable. Please read through this letter prior to filling out the application to understand more about the **role and responsibilities** of serving on the **Teen Council**.

Being a part of the **2019-2020 Teen Council** involves a year commitment to sharing your voice on Youth Ministry matters as well as a commitment to leading your peers at annual youth events. All teens on the council need to attend the **Teen Council Camp (tentatively set for Fri-Sun, Aug 16-17)**. The Training Camp will be held at the Kimbell Ranch near the Wichita Mountains in Oklahoma. During the retreat, council members will have the opportunity to build their Christian Leadership Skills as well as grow in fellowship and learn to work as a team alongside the rest of the 2019-2020 Teen Council. Council members also required to be certified in the **Teen Volunteer Training** (next training offered **Wed, June 19 @ 6:30pm**). Teens selected for the council will make a commitment to attend and participate in monthly Teen Council Meetings (dates set by team during Training Camp), serve on parish retreat leadership teams, and stay active in our Youth Ministry program through August of 2020.

Serving on our Teen Council will bring you deeper into your relationship with Christ, allow you to influence Youth Ministry opportunities at our parish, help you form strong friendships with your Catholic peers on the team, increase your leadership skills, and give you memories that will last a lifetime. Serving on this team is also an “honor” and “leadership development” you will want to list on your resume for college.

Please look over the “Expectations & Covenant” page while discerning whether to apply. Most importantly, pray to the Lord for guidance in the decision. While your character may make you an excellent candidate for the council, you may find that you are not able to make the commitments necessary (like full attendance of monthly meetings) in order to serve on the council this year. If this is the case, please understand that you can still use your God-given leadership skills within Youth Ministry by volunteering to serve on a retreat team or helping in Youth Ministry in various ways as a leader.

Teen Council is not our parish’s “leadership team”. We emphasize that Teen Council is primarily an advisory panel which influences Youth Ministry programming decisions (with members who also use their leadership skills to assist with Youth Ministry programs). In order to ensure the productivity of the team and our ability to set monthly meetings where all members can attend, we only accept a limited number of youth onto the Teen Council each year. We strive to select teens from *varying grades, economic backgrounds, schools, and with different family structures* so that our council’s **collective voice can best represent all the teens which it serves**. We also try to select mostly “new” council members each year so, if you are not selected this year, please apply again next year!

To apply for the 2019-2020 Teen Council, turn in your “Personal Info”, “Application Letter”, and “Expectations & Covenant” to the Pastoral Center **by or before Tues, July 2**. A crucial part of the application process is an **interview** with each potential council member. Please EMAIL Cassie to set your interview asap (see “Application Letter” page for times available).

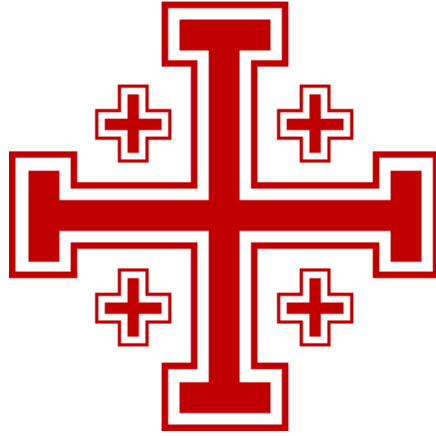
We thank you for your willingness to share your voice to make a positive impact at our parish! I look forward to meeting with you soon during your interview.

If you have any questions regarding the role or responsibilities of the Teen Council, you can either email me or discuss them with me during your interview. Peace & blessings,

Cassie H. Erazo – Coordinator of Youth Ministry & Adolescent Catechesis [cerazo@sacredheartwvf.org](mailto:cerazo@sacredheartwvf.org)

2019-2020 TEEN COUNCIL

# APPLICANT PERSONAL INFO:



Name (First, Middle, & Last): \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Texting capable: Y / N

Teen Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Adult Tshirt Size: (CIRCLE ONE)      S      M      L      XL      2XL      3XL      4XL

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_ School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade ('19-'20): \_\_\_\_\_

Special Dietary Needs or Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother Cell Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_ Father Cell Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Because communication with Teen Council is done primarily through email using Flocknote, it is mandatory for all council members to have **their own** email account that they **check regularly**. Parents can be added to email list if requested, **but checking & responding to team correspondence is the responsibility of the Teen Council member**. Text reminders & updates are also periodically sent.

# 2019-2020 TEEN COUNCIL APPLICATION LETTER

\*Due on or before Tuesday, July 2, 2019\*

**Name** (First & Last): \_\_\_\_\_

List your **CURRENT** (within the last school year) & **PAST** (since 7<sup>th</sup> grade) **involvement at your parish** (giving dates when appropriate). This could include your attendance at youth events & religious formation, helping prepare & lead a retreat, serving as an Altar Server or Eucharistic Minister, or being involved with/volunteering for another parish organization or ministry, etc.

**Each applicant needs to set an interview with Cassie.** The following are an example of some of the questions you might be asked:

1. Why do you think it is important to have a Teen Council at our parish?
2. Why are you interested in serving on the Teen Council?
3. What are some of the gifts/charisms you feel the Lord blessed you with? And how do you plan to use those gifts on Teen Council to benefit Sacred Heart Youth Ministry?
4. Serving on the Teen Council is fun, but it also involves commitment & responsibility. Describe your current time commitments and responsibilities to other organizations, teams, & jobs and how you currently balance your time. Are you confident you will manage your time so that you can be punctual and prepared for Crusader meetings?

**Please email me now to request an interview appointment time soon.**

I have interview appointment availability on the following dates:

## **JUNE**

**Mon 17:** 10am & 11am & 1pm & 2pm

**Tues 18:** 10am & 11am & 1pm & 2pm & 6:30pm

**Weds 19:** 10am & 11am & 1pm & 2pm & 3pm

**Weds 26:** 1pm & 2pm & 6:30pm

## **JULY**

**Mon 1:** 10am & 11am & 1pm & 2pm & 3pm

**Tues 2:** 10am & 11am & 1pm & 2pm

**Weds 3:** 1:30pm & 2:30pm & 3:30pm

**Thurs 5:** 10am & 11am & 1pm & 2pm

Interviews will last between 45min – 1 hr. Additional appointment times can be arranged if necessary.

# 2019-2020 TEEN COUNCIL EXPECTATIONS & COVENANT

\*Due on or before Tuesday, July 2, 2019\*

The following expectations are focused on encouraging and developing the best possible Christian leadership qualities in the members of the 2019-2020 Teen Council:

- ✘ Attending Mass weekly, as well as any and all other Holy Days of obligation. Special attention should be taken towards supporting Deanery Youth Masses when able.
- ✘ Have (or are in the process of actively preparing to receive) all applicable Sacraments.
- ✘ Attending punctually & participating fully in all Teen Council meetings (once a month or as scheduled).
- ✘ Bringing Teen Council Binder as well as family/school/extracurricular calendars & schedules to each meeting.
- ✘ Checking email regularly for Teen Council updates, meeting minutes & notes and responding promptly via email.
- ✘ Actively continuing personal faith formation, affording the best possible effort in attending weekly Wednesday night Religious Formation gatherings.
- ✘ Affording the best possible effort in attending planning meetings & workdays as well as serving on the leadership teams fully for the 2019-2020 Sacred Heart Youth Ministry Retreats.
- ✘ Actively participating and shaping the Youth Ministry program for the Honor and Glory of God!

I, \_\_\_\_\_, as a member of the Teen Council, hereby state and commit to the following purity testaments of mind, body, and soul, not only for myself, but for the love of my family and friends, as well:

- ✚ I will not use tobacco products of any type or encourage their use by any means.
- ✚ I will not drink or consume alcohol of any type or encourage its use by any means.
- ✚ I will not use illegal drugs of any type or encourage their use by any means.
- ✚ I will not take part in any kind of sexual act that violates or degrades my or another person's body or encourage this behavior by any means.
- ✚ I will actively work towards the protection and preservation of any and all of God's creations.
- ✚ Finally, I will not behave in any way (be it by word or by action) that would disrespect my parish or dishonor the Council. I will strive at all times to walk the path the Lord has for me, using Him and my faith in the Catholic Church as guide.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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

Witnessed by God, the Father

Date \_\_\_\_\_