

# *Holy Family Parish*

## *2011 – 2012 Peer Ministry Application*

The Peer Ministry program at Holy Family Parish was established in 2010 to provide leadership opportunities for high school students, who have been confirmed, to be servant leaders to their peers. How our community prepares Confirmation candidates is vitally important to the candidates and to our Church.

Please fill out the information below. *Fields in italics are optional.* Parents are asked to sign this application as a sign of their support of the applicant's involvement in Peer Ministry.

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size (circle): S M L XL 2XL

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ *Birthday:* \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

*Applicant Phone:* \_\_\_\_\_ *Applicant E-mail:* \_\_\_\_\_

Please answer the following on a scale of one to five, with one being low and five being high:

- |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Your comfort with leading a discussion in a small group.      | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Your comfort discussing topics of spirituality.               | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| How well do you feel you know the Catholic faith?             | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Your openness towards learning more about the Catholic faith. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

Place a star on the line below where you think an ideal Small Group leader partnership would be:

Primarily led by Youth Leader -----Primarily led by Adult Leader

Please explain why you are interested in being a Peer Minister, including what gifts and talents that you will bring to the team. How would you "set an example for those who believe, in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity" (1 Tim 4:12)?

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Peer Ministers are high school student leaders who serve the students enrolled in our High School Religious Education (Confirmation) program. They co-facilitate small groups at the religious education classes and are the retreat team for our high school retreats. Many Peer Ministers also speak about their own faith being nourished and strengthened through their role as a Peer Minister. Being a Peer Minister is a privilege and an honor, and comes with expectations:

- Peer Ministers can expect to have support and encouragement from Jackie and Tony while serving as a Peer Minister. They can expect to grow in their faith and have an experience of being in a friendly, supportive community. They can expect that Tony and Jackie will be role models of spiritual maturity.
- All Peer Ministers are expected to be role models and in our community. St. Paul advised Timothy to “set an example for those who believe, in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity” (1 Tim. 4:12). By being a Peer Minister, the Peer Minister realizes that he/she represents Holy Family Parish and its High School Ministry community, and that all actions (both positive and negative) reflect his/her role as a leader, whether at church or a church activity, as well as times away from church and church activities.
- Peer Ministers will co-lead the discussion groups at High School Religious Education (Confirmation). Tony will take care of all the logistics necessary for successful coordination of this program, including communication with the small groups. Please communicate any questions or concerns about High School Religious Education to Tony.
- Peer Ministers are expected to be on the retreat team for at least one retreat (though ideally will be on all retreats). Jackie and Tony will work with each retreat team and will coordinate all the logistics necessary for successful retreat experiences. Please communicate any questions or concerns about the retreats to Jackie or Tony.
- Peer Ministers are expected to attend the Peer Ministry Training Retreat on Sunday, September 11, 2011, starting at 9:00am and concluding with the high school classes ending at 6:00pm. This training retreat is essential for being a Peer Minister.
- Peer Ministers are expected to be committed to the program and attend all Peer Ministry meetings (Sundays 3:00-4:00pm) and all class gatherings (Sundays 4:00-6:00pm). If the candidates see that the leaders are committed, then they are more likely to be committed as well. It is expected that Peer Ministers will check their e-mail accounts at least twice a week.
- Since Peer Ministers can be seen as being in a sort of teaching role, they are expected to adhere to the teachings of the Catholic Church. Peer Ministers are not expected to be theologians, and can direct any questions they are unable (or uncomfortable / unwilling due to a differing view) to Tony, Jackie, or any adult leader.

Peer Ministers are a vital part of our parish’s High School Ministry community. Thank you for applying to be a Peer Minister. We will communicate with you soon about this application and your being a part of the Peer Ministry community. –Jackie & Tony

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Peer Minister Applicant

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Date

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Parent/Guardian Signature

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Date