



Middle School Youth Council Application for 2025-2026

What is Middle School Youth Council (MSYC)?

It is a group of youth in grades 6-8, representing the interests of all middle school youth at St. Thomas More. They help assist in planning, leading and carrying out youth ministry programs. The length of this office is one year, beginning in August 2025 and continuing through June 2026.

Responsibilities and Expectations

Participation:

MSYC members should:

- be able to attend a majority of MSYC meetings during the year (we will meet approximately 1 Sunday per month)—missing no more than 2 meetings a year. Regular MSYC meetings will begin at 4:30pm with a meeting and end around 5:45pm with dinner being served.
- actively participate in youth ministry events and activities at St. Thomas More.
- attend Mass and Middle School Youth Ministry (MSYM) sessions regularly on Sunday evenings.
- actively participate in other activities such as service projects, social activities, and special events and lead by example.

Youth Initials Parent Initials

Youth Council Mandatory Retreat:

- Each member is required to attend the **MSYC Retreat on August 23, 2025**

Youth Initials Parent Initials

Hospitality:

Each MSYC member is a designated representative of Youth Ministry and the parish of St. Thomas More (STM). In this role, members should be welcoming, friendly, and courteous to everyone, especially his/her peers. Occasionally, members will be called upon to be "ministers of hospitality" during youth ministry functions such as retreats, social activities, service projects, etc.

Youth Initials:

Leadership:

- Planning: Suggesting ideas for activities
- Supporting clergy, adult volunteers, their youth peers, and especially one another as MSYC members during any situation or gathering of STM Youth
- Being present at activities, assisting in facilitating events, and providing constructive feedback for improving programs, events & activities
- Volunteering: MSYC members should always be willing to read, pray, or assist where needed during events

Youth Initials:

Guidelines of Appropriate Behavior:

Being a member of MSYC does not mean you are perfect; it means that you are trying to do your best to follow God's plan for your life. Each member is expected to set an example of appropriate Christian behavior for peers at all youth ministry activities, as well as parish functions, diocesan events, and within your school community. These include:

- Weekly attendance at Mass and an active sacramental/prayer life.
- Living a life as a witness of Christian hospitality; love and care for all people.
- Willing to share your faith through moral decision-making.
- Developing a strong prayer life and commitment to live out your baptismal call.
- No use of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs
- Careful discernment of relationships and friendships, using a Christian example for behavior.
- No use of profanity or inappropriate language.
- Respect for opinions, property, and time of others.
- Responsible use of technology and social media

Youth initials: Parent initials:

Other details:

- Members of the youth council are required to be registered for Middle School Youth Ministry.
- Social events are scheduled for MSYC members; attendance is certainly not required, but it is fun to socialize with your MSYC friends.
- **A calendar will be handed out at the retreat—you are responsible for making sure you have all of the correct dates and times.**

Youth initials: Parent initials:

Family Support:

- MSYC will need your commitment to their continued growth in their faith. You are your child's first catechist and teacher. Families should attend Mass regularly and be an example for your child in how to continue practicing your faith in the hectic schedule many families face today.
- At times, we will need parent assistance and chaperones. **We suggest that all parents get certified as a Level-C volunteer at St. Thomas More.**

Parent Initials:

How to Apply:

Any middle school youth (rising 6th graders to rising 8th graders) that will be enrolled in youth ministry at St. Thomas More for the 2025-2026 school year may apply to be on MSYC by submitting the attached by **May 18, 2025**. Please be sure all forms are thoroughly completed, initialed and signed by youth and parents or guardians as indicated. Once applications have been reviewed, each applicant that is new to council will be contacted for a casual "Get to Know Me" interview.

Please fill out the form thoroughly; incomplete forms will not be considered.

Need More Information / Have Questions?

Contact: Emily Kremer, Director of Youth Ministry

Phone: (919) 942-6238 E-mail: ekremer@stmchapelhill.org

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith, and in purity."

1 Timothy 4:12

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Middle School Youth Council Application

Name: _____ Birthday _____ Shirt Size: _____

Do you have a nickname you prefer to be called? If yes, what? _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Youth Phone (____) _____ Youth E-Mail: _____

Parent Phone (____) _____ Parent E-Mail: _____

School: _____ Grade 2025-2026 _____

Did you serve on MSYC this past year? ☐ Yes ☐ No

- If yes, what was your favorite experience from serving on council this past year?

- If yes, what was your least favorite experience from serving on council this past year?

What gifts and talents would you like to develop or strengthen as a member of MSYC?

In what ways are you involved in parish life outside of youth ministry? _____

MSYC meets approximately one Sunday a month at 4:30pm. Do you have conflict with that meeting time? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please explain: _____

What other questions do you have? _____

Please read and complete the following:

Youth Applicant:

I have reviewed the expectations of the Middle School Youth Council and hereby submit my application. I understand the responsibilities and will fulfill these to the best of my ability. I also understand that if I am unable to do so, I may be asked to step down from my position, so that I do not jeopardize the efficiency and effectiveness of the Youth Council.

Youth Applicant Signature:

_____ Date: _____

Parent / Guardian

I have reviewed the expectations of Youth Council, including the "Family Support" section, and have discussed the importance of commitment with this youth. I realize my involvement may be required for MSYC events and activities throughout the year. I will assist in the MSYC faith journey as much as possible, and I support this youth's application.

Parent/Guardian Signature:

_____ Date: _____

Please return completed applications to:

Emily Kremer, Director of Youth Ministry

E-mail them to ekremer@stmchapelhill.org or mail to the parish office:

St. Thomas More Catholic Church

Attn: Emily Kremer

940 Carmichael Street

Chapel Hill, NC 27514