

# 2016-17 Youth Leadership Academy (YLA)

## Application Instructions

### Your Parish. Your World. Your Leadership:

This is a program for rising high school student in grades 9 or 10 who want to take on a leadership role in their parish community through a self-initiated project (don't worry, you'll have help identifying your community's needs, your personal gifts, and developing project ideas). You will learn how to create teams and partnerships, how to use mentorship relationships, and how to tell stories like a community organizer, about yourself and your vision for the world – all in service of Church as you grow in relationship with God!

The YLA application is done through an online form. To continue discerning your participation in this program, and preparing your application, the following information is provided for you to read **before starting** your application!

### Talk to Your Parents/Guardians

Discuss your ability to faithfully attend the scheduled 2016-2017 YLA events and their availability to support you in this year of learning and service. Ask about their own hopes and vision for the church.

### Talk to Your Parish Priest

Discuss the YLA commitment with your priest or other member of church leadership. Talk about ways your YLA participation could support the life and ministry of your parish. Are they willing to support you, brainstorm with you, and meet with you regularly throughout the year. Can they help spread word of your mission trip fundraising effort in the winter and spring?

### Prepare Your Essays

Applicants are asked to respond to several questions. See the questions:

<http://goo.gl/AJ5Jxo>

### You Need To Know:

- Your e-mail and home address
- Your cell phone number
- Parent/guardian name and email
- Home phone number
- Parish name and town
- Priest name and e-mail

## Calendar of YLA Events 2016-2017:

*Specific locations of events to be announced*

- **Orientation Meeting with Parents:** September 25, 2016 (3 to 6pm)
- **Overnight Working Sessions:**
  - #1: October 21-22, 2016
  - #2: December 2-3, 2016
  - #3: March 31-April 1, 2017
  - #4: May 12-13, 2017

(\*All overnights begin at 6pm on Friday and end at 2pm on Saturday. They will include dinner Friday and breakfast and lunch on Saturday).

- **High School Retreat Weekend at BCH:** February 3-5, 2017
- **Second Meeting with Parents:** March 5, 2017 (3 to 6pm)
- **Mission Trip to Arizona and Mexico:** August 2017 (dates to come)

There will also be two meetings of each small group in between the large group gatherings (most likely Nov and Jan), as well as some check-in calls to individuals, to help keep their momentum going.

**Complete Your Application At: <https://goo.gl/sDXQ6E>**

**2016-2017 YLA  
APPLICATION DUE:**

***SEPTEMBER 7th,  
2016 by 5:00 P.M.***

**About the Youth  
Leadership Academy  
(YLA):**

a yearlong program of faith formation, leadership development, and service. Throughout the year, each YLA participant creates and leads a self-chosen project in their home parish connecting the church with the surrounding community.

As the culmination of the experience, each participant fundraises to participate in the group's mission trip to Arizona and Mexico. On the mission trip we dedicate our time to building relationships with people there, and learning how we can bring lessons from the borderlands back to Massachusetts to better the world.

### **QUESTIONS?**

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**YOUTH MINISTRY**

