

St. Leo Parish Youth Fundraiser Policy:

St. Leo's Parish sponsors youth fundraisers in order to help youth take part in church-sponsored activities which enrich their Catholic faith.

Because our youth minister's time is limited, our policy is that parent volunteers are needed to be in charge of the fundraisers. The youth minister will oversee contacting the participants and will be available to answer any questions. Those in charge will be given all information needed to make the fundraiser a success, including notes from previous years, people to contact, what to do, etc.

The proceeds from these events are deposited into the St. Leo's *Youth Fundraiser* account. Funds from each individual fundraiser are divided among the youth who participated according to the number of hours worked. Parents and/or older siblings can also get 'credit' for their child/children or to accompany their children by working these events when needed. Each youth and / or parent must sign in at every fundraiser and note the "time arrived" and "time departed" to be given proper credit (times are calculated to the nearest quarter hour).

Individuals do not "own" this money, but it is kept in their name while they are a member of the St. Leo's youth ministry group. There is a \$500 limit to the amount a youth is allowed to have credited to their name. Once you reach this limit, you may work fundraisers if desired, but only for service hours (Fundraisers worked by youth are not considered service hours when the funds are attributed to their name). The funds earned may only be used for St. Leo's Parish sponsored activities (Young Neighbors in Action) or Diocesan sponsored events (e.g. National Catholic Youth Conference, Going Bananas For Jesus, Higher Ground, Steubenville Conferences or Teens Encounter Christ). In order to use funds earned, you must inform the youth ministry director that you wish to use your fundraising funds for a specific event.

Youth are considered members of the St. Leo's youth ministry group through the summer after their high school graduation. Money not used by a member after this time may be credited to a younger sibling or will be put into the general fundraising account and is split among the present youth ministry participants (it cannot be credited to a specific friend unless extenuating circumstances arise). Any extra money that is donated to the general fundraising account is used for equipment and start-up supplies for the fundraisers and other expenses, as well as retreat scholarships.

Fundraising scholarships shall be awarded to applicants when there are extra donations made to the youth ministry fundraising account. Scholarship amounts are based on the donations that have accumulated in the fundraiser account. Recipients are awarded based on their willingness to participate in events and their openness to the empowerment an event will have in their lives. Recipients may be asked to write a short essay on why they want to attend an event and how they see this event benefiting their faith. Decisions on scholarship recipients are at the discretion of the Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry and the Pastor of St. Leo's Parish Community.