

“Whatever our situation we must pray for an openness of heart, for a willingness to take the next step, even if we are fearful of venturing too much further. If we take God’s hand, He will do the rest. Trust is the key. God will not fail us.” Cardinal Pell Homily at WYD08 Opening Mass

APPLICATION & COST

The course will cost \$AU495, which is inclusive of course fees, materials, accommodation, meals and course-related transport. This amount needs to be paid in total by Monday 16 November 2009 by cheque or electronic funds transfer.



Youth Leaders Formation Course



23 November to 19 December 2009



To apply you will need to submit:

1. A statement of personal motivation
2. A CV and if applicable please include pastoral experience
3. A letter of recommendation from your Bishop, parish priest or group leader who should have personal knowledge of the candidate
4. A recent passport sized photo

Applications must be received by **1 October 2009**.

Applicants will be interviewed and notified of the outcome of their application by **2 November 2009**.

All applications and enquiries should be directed to:

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Youth Leaders Formation Course
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The Youth Leaders Formation Course
is an initiative of the Archdiocese of Sydney

www.sydney.catholic.org.au/ylfc

“Today too there is a need for disciples of Christ who give unstintingly of their time and energy to serve the Gospel. There is a need for young people who will allow God’s love to burn within them and who will respond generously to his urgent call, just as many young blessed and saints did in the past and also in more recent times.

Pope Benedict XVI’s Message for WYD, 2008

Serve Christ... grow in faith... change the world!

This Youth Leaders Formation Course is designed to help those who desire to help the Church to grow in their knowledge, service and love of Christ, and to be formed in servant leadership.

Through the program each candidate will:

- Become a more enthusiastic witness to faith in Jesus Christ for youth, young adults and the wider Australian community
- Be ready to be an agent for the new evangelisation, a builder of a culture of life, and an architect of a new civilisation founded on love
- Increase their understanding of many aspects of the Catholic faith: beliefs, Sacraments, Christian life and prayer
- Develop skills in pastoral leadership particularly in the service of young people
- Be equipped to help young people to experience the power of the Holy Spirit especially in the Word of God and the Sacraments

The Youth Leaders Formation Course gave me a greater clarity and insight into a range of religious aspects which I will carry with me for the rest of my life. **Eric**

The Course allowed me to live the faith as the early Christians did, in a community. **Angelo**

I thought I knew everything about my faith and had experienced the depths of it - but in my time at YLFC I came to realise I had only just scratched the surface.

Our faith is a storehouse of treasures that I could spend my whole life discovering. **Sarah**

My advice to anyone taking the course? I prayed for an open heart and an open mind and as soon as I opened the door to Him, Christ burst into my life. **Jess**



Youth Leaders Formation Course

WHO?

30 - 40 young Australians aged between 18-30 years.

WHEN?

The course will commence on **Tuesday 23 November 2009** and conclude on **Saturday 19 December 2009**.

WHAT?

The formation program will be a rewarding period of intense learning and personal reflection during which participants will explore a range of key themes including:

- What is leadership
- This Faith of Ours
- Building a Culture of Life; a Civilisation of Love
- Witnesses to the World

This course has four pillars

Pastoral

Forming youth leaders with the heart of Christ and the mind of the Church. Evangelisation, service, youth leadership and being apostles in the 21st century.

Spiritual

Living a life in the Holy Spirit: daily prayer, regular celebration of the Sacraments, retreats and the inspiration of Mary & the Saints.

Intellectual

Faith foundations: to deepen knowledge and understanding of key aspects of the Church's teachings, to articulate them in the context of contemporary culture and to inspire others to live the Gospel.

Human Formation

Living the day to day life of charity as men and women of faith: relationships, work, offering talents and sharing all aspects of daily life.

WHERE?

The Course will be a live-in experience for **ALL** participants at Benedict XVI Retreat Centre, Grose Vale (90 min drive from Sydney CBD and 6km from Richmond).

The Youth Leaders Formation Course Team will accompany, plan and care for the candidates during the course, during the missions, retreats and other outside visits.

“To be truly alive is to be transformed from within, open to the energy of God’s love” Pope Benedict XVI