



**Diocese of Little Rock
Catholic Youth Ministry**

**2500 North Tyler Street • P.O. Box 7565 • Little Rock, Arkansas 72217
(501) 664-0340**

August 2, 2024

Dear Searcher,

How is your 4th Day going? Hopefully it is going great, and you have been recognizing the presence of God in ways that you have never noticed before!

The Search Staff is excited to begin preparations for **Search #155 (December 13-15, 2024)**. We are looking for those former Searchers who are interested in serving on one of the Search Teams. Here are some of the expectations of those who are on Search Team:

- 1) You must maintain a lifestyle consistent with that of a young person truly seeking Christ in your life.
- 2) Your actions and behavior must reflect what it means to be a Christian.
- 3) You must be willing to commit to the Search Covenant, which states:

"As a Christian and as a member of the Search Team of the Diocese of Little Rock, I understand that I am accepting God's call to be of service to others and that my behavior should reflect what it means to be a Christian. This would include respecting others as well as myself while also remembering that I am a role model to my peers. I will be careful in the words that I use, the judgments that I make and will not spread rumors about others. I will act out my sexuality in an appropriate manner; keep private things told to me in confidence and abstain from the illegal use of drugs and alcohol."

If you have these values and have been living them, we hope that you will consider serving God and your peers on the Search Team. Those who are on Search Team are dedicated to being of service to all who participate in Search. Planning and hosting a Search requires lots of time, effort, and prayer. We need people who are friendly, mature, and seeking God. We need young people who will be servants - not seeking a reward - only seeking to be of service to God and others. Most of all, we need people who love God and want to share that love with others. If this describes you, we hope you will apply for Search Team. The following is a description of the responsibilities for each team:

Outside Team - Our mission is to influence Searchers with the power of God. We influence the Searchers through prayer, skits, and Mass. We are physically present to Searchers only during welcoming, games/icebreakers, skits, meals, and Mass, and leading the group to each building. We are not physically present during talks or discussions.

Inside Team – We are responsible for leading, directing, and managing the tables during the weekend. We also help to develop a bond, especially among those at the table. We also prepare a talk on an assigned topic using Catholic teaching and personal experiences.

To be a part of either Search Team, you **must commit** to these meeting dates (in Little Rock):

September 28 - 29, 2024	Saturday from 1:00p.m. through Sunday 1:00pm (Team Retreat)
October 13, 2024	Sunday, 11:00a.m. – 3:00p.m.
October 27, 2024	Sunday, 11:00a.m. – 3:00p.m.
November 17, 2024	Sunday, 11:00a.m. - 3 :00pm
December 8, 2024 (Parent's Day)	Sunday, 10:00a.m. – 4:00p.m.
December 13 – 15, 2024	Search Weekend

We ask that you consider the commitment carefully. If you would like to apply, please fill out and return the enclosed Search Team application forms. All completed application forms must be received by the Catholic Youth Ministries office **by THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2024. IF YOU DESIRE TO SERVE BUT HAVE AN ISSUE WITH ONE OF THE TEAM MEETING DATES, PLEASE CALL LIZ TINGQUIST TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE.**

Please note that we require **TWO references** for your application to be complete. Additionally, one of the questions we ask your references is if you have explained what SEARCH is... be sure that your references are fully aware of what you are asking them. Finally, adults are busy, so be sure to check back with your references to ensure that they have completed and returned their references to our office. **Please don't forget to attach a photo to your application.**

Let us keep one another in prayer as we continue our Fourth Day. Remember that Christ is counting on you!

Blessings,

Liz Tingquist

Liz Tingquist
Director

Trish Gentry

Trish Gentry
Program Coordinator

Enclosures

Search Team Application Form

To apply:

First and foremost, you must have attended a Search.

Complete this form and return it.

YOU MUST Include a recent photograph of yourself (this will be returned to you if requested).

We request **2** reference forms to be submitted on your behalf. Put your name on the top of the Search Reference Forms so that we can identify whom the reference form is for. A staff person at your church must complete one form, this would be your pastor, youth minister, DRE/Sunday school teacher, etc. (No recommendations will be accepted from applicants.)

Your other reference form can be from some other responsible adult (not a relative) who knows how you live your faith. S/he **MUST** return the completed form to the Youth Office.

Name: _____ Telephone: (H) _____ (C) _____

Address: _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

Email Address: _____ Attended Search # _____

Parent's Names: _____ Email Address: _____

School you are attending: _____ Grade: _____

What church do you attend? _____

What retreats and youth activities have you participated in? _____

Why do you want to be on Search Team? _____

What gifts and talents would you share? _____

How are you living your faith? _____

Are you presently living and are you willing to keep the Search Covenant and serve as a role model for other teens while you are on the team? _____

Are you Search grouping on a regular basis? _____ If not, why? _____

If you are selected, which team (Outside or Inside) would you prefer and WHY? _____

If you are selected for **the Inside Team**, which **two** talks would you prefer to give and why? (Search 101; Who Am I? Who Is Jesus?; Talking with Jesus; Jesus, My Family and Me; Jesus, My Friends & Me; Healthy and Holy Dating; Reconciliation; Living the Faith).

Which talk would you **NOT** be able to present and why? _____

If you are selected for the **Outside Team**, do you feel called to perform any role in any of the skits presented during the weekend?

If so, why: _____

Please make any other comments you think will help us determine whether you should be selected as a member of the Search Team: _____

By my signature, I am confirming that I will attend all Search meetings. _____
(Signature)

Please return this form along with a picture to:
Catholic Youth Ministries
PO Box 7565
Little Rock, AR 72217-7565
Due by THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

(Completed forms may be faxed to 501-664-0119)
Applicant photos may be emailed in .jpeg format to Trish Gentry at tgentry@dolr.org

REFERENCE FOR SEARCH TEAM (2 References Needed)

Name of Applicant: _____

The above-named person has applied to be a member of the SEARCH Team and requests that you complete this reference form as part of the application process. SEARCH (short for Search for Christian Maturity) is an intense spiritual retreat for high school juniors and seniors. It is planned and led by teens who have already made their SEARCH, under the guidance of an adult team of youth ministers. Sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Little Rock, SEARCH is a Catholic retreat that is open to young people of all faiths.

In addition to planning and conducting the retreat, **applicants must be living and able to affirm the following:**

"I affirm that I am continuing to accept God's call to be of service to others, and that my behavior reflects what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ. I show respect to others as well as myself. I choose to be a positive role model. I keep private things told to me in confidence. I also respect myself enough that I will refrain from harming myself by the illegal use of alcohol, drugs, and inappropriate sexual behavior. I pray daily to God for protection and strength."

Your honest and candid response about the applicant will be greatly appreciated and treated confidentially.

How long have you known the applicant? _____

In what capacity do you know the applicant? _____

How has the team applicant explained to you the SEARCH program? _____

Has the applicant expressed to you why he/she is interested in applying for the SEARCH team and if so, what reasons did they give?

What are the applicant's strengths? _____

Are there any reasons known to you why this applicant should NOT be considered for team?

The SEARCH team has two specific roles: Inside Team and Outside Team.

- Inside team prepares witness talks and leads table discussions.
- Outside team prepares prayer services and produces dramatic skits.

Which team do you feel best suits this applicant and why? _____

Being on SEARCH Team requires 100% participation in the planning and execution of the SEARCH weekend. Do you feel that this applicant can handle this responsibility and why?

Signature _____ Date _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Daytime Phone (____) _____

***After completing, DO NOT return to applicant.
Return this directly to:***

**Catholic Youth Ministries
Diocese of Little Rock
2500 N. Tyler St.
P.O. Box 7565
Little Rock, AR 72217-7565
Fax #: (501) 664-0119**

Or scan and email to: tgentry@dolr.org

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