

## FAQ's

**Where do the seminars take place?** Currently, CALL offers seminars at two locations in the Phoenix area, in the East Valley and at the Diocesan Pastoral Center.

**What if my teen misses a seminar?** Teens who cannot make either of the dates may make up the seminar in the following year of the program. DVDs of filmed presentations are available on a limited basis by emailing CALL.

**My teen is older, a junior in high school. Can they still participate?** Please email or call us about your situation. Generally, if a teen would like to find a way to attend any or all of the seminars, we will work with your teen.

**Who are the speakers and how do I know who will present to my child?** Please see the Speakers Page on the website and the impressive list of speakers for CALL. They bring expertise and knowledge with the ability to speak effectively to teens. All are faithful to the Magisterium of the Catholic Church. See the downloads section of the website for a list of the speakers for that year.

**What if finances keep my teen from attending?** There are hard costs involved in maintaining the CALL program. However, it is very important to us that your teen receives leadership formation in his or her faith, so please contact us if finances are preventing your teen from attending.

**What is the refund policy?** In accord with the Diocesan Finance Department Refund Policy, a fee of \$25 is charged for all refunds requested if a teen withdraws before attending any of the seminars.

### CONTACT INFO:

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Board President,  
Cindy Leonard  
602-684-5364

CALL Administrative Asst:  
[call@dphx.org](mailto:call@dphx.org)  
602-354-2122



## Parent Handbook



## Who We Are

**Catholic Academy for Life Leadership (CALL)** is a 3-year High School program that meets four times a year offering in-depth formation on the topics of authentic life and love: Theology of the Body, relationships, marriage, sexuality, the cultural minefield, pro-life defense and bio-ethics. Teens are also offered leadership and mentoring opportunities.

## Contact Us

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Phoenix, AZ 85004  
Phone: 602-354-2122  
Email: [call@dphx.org](mailto:call@dphx.org)

Web: [www.catholicacademyforlifeleadership.org](http://www.catholicacademyforlifeleadership.org)

*Free underground parking at the Diocesan Pastoral Center;  
enter on 5<sup>th</sup> Street, just North of Monroe Street.*



Granted Imprimatur by Bishop Thomas Olmsted who was instrumental in the development of CALL.

“I urge you to visit [www.catholicacademyforlifeleadership.org](http://www.catholicacademyforlifeleadership.org) and then register for this diocesan program.”

Sincerely yours in Christ, +Thomas J. Olmsted, Bishop of Phoenix

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

CALL has plenty of opportunities for parents to help out and be involved!

### ⇒ Join the CALL Advisory Board:

In 2014, CALL development moved to a new phase to reformat CALL and allow the program to advance and grow in many areas. The need for further assistance arose and the CALL Advisory Board was established. Five committees were established to oversee the broad tasks of CALL. These include:

- ◆ **Marketing and Promotions**
- ◆ **Mentor Formation**
- ◆ **Professional Connections**
- ◆ **Parent Liaison/Volunteers**
- ◆ **Service Opportunities**
- ◆ **Additional Formation**

YOU can help by joining a committee or applying to chair any of these committees! You will be rewarded knowing you are part of your teen's program that is forming future leaders in a Catholic Culture of Life. The time commitment is minimal; the rewards are endless.

### ⇒ SignUp Genius is used to request snacks and volunteers at seminar presentations.

### ⇒ Consider making a tax deductible donation to Diocese of Phoenix on behalf of CALL to provide scholarships for tuition and retreats for those who face financial need!

**To find out more specifically how you can help,  
contact the CALL office today at 602-354-2122 or email  
[call@dphx.org](mailto:call@dphx.org)!**

## Benefits of CALL Membership

- ♦ Helps teens prepare for happy, healthy, and holy futures—Getting relationships right!
- ♦ Provides a Catholic Worldview as youth grapple with current cultural topics.
- ♦ Supports parents in guiding teens through today's cultural minefield.
- ♦ Provides leadership/networking opportunities.
- ♦ Teens develop valley-wide friendships.
- ♦ Leadership Certificate awarded at graduation of 3-year program, with opportunity for mentoring in the 4<sup>th</sup> year.
- ♦ Mentors receive an opportunity to compete for \$1000 college scholarship.
- ♦ Completion of leadership program enhances college and scholarship applications.

*Our teens can lead the way in building the Culture of Life, preparing to live chastely in healthy, holy marriages or as priests/religious or single lay persons with happy futures.*

## More about CALL

- ♦ Excellent and engaging Catholic speakers!
- ♦ Complements but does not replace parish youth groups.
- ♦ \$75/yr. membership fee (discounted for parish youth group participants & for siblings).
- ♦ Partial scholarships available.
- ♦ CALL is open to all teens of any faith.
- ♦ **Professional Connections** event is hosted after the 3rd seminar in early spring to help teens see Catholicism lived in various career settings and to connect them to potential internships and part time jobs.

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## Welcome to CALL!

As Catholic parents of high school youth, we know you want the best for your sons and daughters. As you prepare them for a life journey towards heaven, you want them to excel in high school and college, find their vocation and live it out as happy, holy, and healthy adults. We want to support your efforts as first teachers of the faith. We wish to engage your children's minds and hearts by providing them with a Catholic Worldview that seeks to shed light and truth in a culture that is increasingly dark. And, we, like you, want your children to be leaders in the faith, both now with their peers, and long into the future, bringing about a Culture of Life in our world.

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*“Why didn’t they teach me this when I was younger?  
This could have saved me so much heartache!”*

~CALL Parent

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### Our 3-Year Program

CALL is a speaker-based program for busy teens. Meeting only 4 times a year, CALL provides engaging and deep seminars given by dynamic, qualified presenters in a 3-year format, grouped into these primary themes:

**Year 1: Theology of the Body**

**Year 2: The Beauty of the Body**

**Year 3: Bioethics and College Preparedness**

Students can enter at any grade of high school, or opt for an 8<sup>th</sup> grade start date. Most begin as high school freshman and graduate at the end of their junior year.

After CALL Graduation, students can apply to become CALL Mentors, immediately living out their CALL formation, helping to lead the program and acting as peer mentors to younger students, while receiving deeper formation in the Gospel of Life.

## Requirements for Graduation

All CALL Graduates receive a Catholic Academy for Life Leadership certificate at the Graduation Mass honoring each of the CALL graduates in late spring of their third year, after completion of the following requirements have been met. This can then be listed on college and scholarship applications.

1. Attend and receive credit for all 12 seminars
2. Attend two (2) spiritual retreats.
3. Perform 15 service hours per year. All 15 hours must be turned in by April 1 of each year, for a total of 45 by graduation year.





## MODESTY

Modesty is a controversial topic in today's culture. While our culture encourages immodest dress and behavior, CALL supports the practice of modesty at all times, in order to live out the teachings of CALL and the Catholic Church. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, modesty protects the mystery of persons and their love. Modesty is decency. Modesty inspires a way of life which makes it possible to resist the allurements of fashion and the pressures of prevailing ideologies. Modesty is also an integral part of the cardinal virtue of temperance, the habitual and holy practice of self-control.

See CCC 2521-2523

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***Being part of a Catholic leadership program is a privilege. We desire for all high school teens to learn these beautiful teachings! We are encouraged by our youth and hope that their everyday choices both match and encourage conversion of others toward these teachings!***

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## SOCIAL MEDIA

1. CALL encourages proper use of all forms of social media, within reason, for enjoyment and the purpose of spreading the Gospel. Focus on self-serving posts, designed to garner attention, fostering the typical "likes" within the social media world can contradict and further compromise self-dignity.
2. CALL discourages teens, particularly those who are members of CALL, from posting inappropriate photos of any kind. An example of this includes but is not limited to flirty poses with swim suits, or any photos giving the appearance of an inappropriate party setting.

*CALL offers special events for parents throughout the year including an internet safety talk, outlining the ever changing potential dangers associated with social media use and proper guidelines.*

## Our Mission



The Catholic Academy for Life Leadership complements catechetical efforts in the Diocese by providing systematic formation, leadership, and service opportunities for teens in pro-life and chaste living topics such as Theology of the Body, Catholic teachings on human sexuality, and bioethics. CALL supports parents in their aim to offer their teens a truthful and faithful Catholic Worldview with the hope of happy, healthy, and holy relationships and a vibrant faith throughout their college years.



# Overview of CALL Program

## Year 1



### Theology of the Body

CALL introduces St. John Paul II's teaching on Theology of the Body, providing the framework for authentic life and love. CALL teens are formed to recognize Truth in God's design for all of mankind. CALL teens attend the Year 1 Retreat, "Encounter", or a substitute retreat with their parish youth.

## Year 2



### Wonderfully Created in a Broken World

Building upon the foundations from Year 1, CALL continues by addressing the dignity of the human person through biology, the realities of abortion, and by identifying and discussing the many "normalized" cultural

## Year 3



### Bioethics/College Preparedness

In Year 3, CALL unpacks and addresses the hot topic of Bioethics, educating the teens through the Catholic moral lens in such areas as biotechnology, stem cell research, euthanasia and end-of-life issues. CALL wraps up the year by preparing teens for life in college. CALL teens attend the Year 3 Retreat, "Called and Chosen", or a substitute retreat with their parish youth.

## Behavior Guidelines

CALL knows how challenging it is to raise holy, healthy and happy teens in today's culture. In times past, the prevailing culture supported the same values as our Catholic faith. However, times have changed and it has become harder for parents to feel supported in their parenting choices. To that end, ***CALL encourages a truly Catholic culture, and provides an environment where modesty is both desired and expected to be the norm.***

All CALL events require that teens follow these guidelines for attendance. CALL also encourages parents and teens to acknowledge these norms for everyday living, as members of the Catholic Academy for Life Leadership.

### DRESS

1. Modest dress is required at all times, in order to proclaim the dignity of the human person.
2. Casual attire is fine for all CALL meetings.
3. No short shorts. Shorts deemed in the retail store as 3 inches or more are recommended; fingertips should rest no more than 2 inches below the bottom of the shorts.
4. Skirt lengths at no more than 2 inches above the knee are acceptable.
5. No leggings worn as pants, or with sweatshirts or sweaters tied around the waist. Leggings are acceptable when worn with a mid-thigh blouse or dress.
6. No low or cut-out tops or blouses. Tops worn should *not* be so tight, loose, or so low that when bending over, cleavage shows. The best guideline: tops should rest no lower than 4 fingers below the pit of the throat.
7. For any CALL events that offer swimming: tankini or one-piece swimsuits are suitable for girls, and full swim trunks for boys. No bikinis or two piece swimsuits for girls or speedos for boys.
8. No t-shirts with inappropriate slogans or logos.
9. No bra straps showing at any time.
10. Mass attire for CALL events and graduation includes proper dress, expressing self-dignity and gratitude to the Lord, with appropriate dress lengths defined above. No strappy dresses or bare shoulders. Business casual or dress pants and shirts for boys.

# CALL Mentor Program

CALL graduates who have the time and passion for the teachings of CALL are invited to apply for a CALL Mentor position. CALL Mentors make a year-long commitment to assist in the running of CALL seminars and act as role models for the younger CALL teens.

## WHO IS SELECTED AS A CALL MENTOR?

1. Typically, CALL mentors are seniors in high school, or those who now attend a local college or university.
2. Any graduate of the CALL program that best exemplifies all of the CALL teachings in his or her daily life is qualified to apply.
3. CALL Mentor applicants must complete a lengthy application that includes an essay and a willingness to commit to attending two mentor training meetings, and four or more CALL seminars during the year.
4. Those who are selected receive deeper catechetical formation and are also trained to help in a variety of ways. CALL Mentors have expressed how much they appreciate circling back to the teachings in the 12 seminars that they get to re-visit anew as older teens.
5. There is no cost to become a CALL Mentor, but college bound CALL Mentors are eligible to apply for one of two \$1000 college scholarships to be awarded each spring.

## CATHOLIC ACADEMY FOR LIFE LEADERSHIP:

*committed to forming life-long leaders, dedicated to the service of our brothers and sisters!*



# GETTING STARTED WITH CALL

## REGISTERING WITH CALL

1. Register your teen for CALL by visiting <https://catholicacademyforlifeleadership.org>
2. Save your password for easy reference and the emails you use for each of your teens in CALL.
3. Choose the CALL seminar location most convenient for you and register for each of the four seminars. If you need to change later, you will be able to do so online.
4. Attend each seminar and make sure your teen signs in. Parents are highly encouraged to stay for each seminar!
5. Consider discussing the seminar topics on the drive home or shortly after attendance of each seminar. Within a week, you'll receive an email with the teaching points covered. We encourage parents to read this email and use it to keep the conversation going at home.

## RENEWING FOR YEAR 2 OR YEAR 3

1. To renew your teen's account, visit <https://catholicacademyforlifeleadership.org> as if you are registering for the first time.
2. Log in using your teen's existing username and password and email. If you have forgotten the password, you can request them there. *If you have forgotten your teen's email address, please ask for help by emailing: [call@dphx.org](mailto:call@dphx.org)*
3. After paying your annual fee, make sure that you return to the CALL webpage and select all seminars and applicable retreats.



## CALL'S COMMITMENT: Assist in forming well-rounded

### VOLUNTEER SERVICE HOURS

1. Teens are required to complete 15 service hours each CALL seminar year. Various opportunities are emailed throughout the year, but it is the parent's responsibility to assist your son or daughter in finding other opportunities. A volunteer tracker sheet is provided at the start of each year so that you can record your teens service hours. Approved volunteer service opportunities are listed in the downloads section of the website.
2. Turn in the service hours via email by April 1 of each year: Parents should send one email to [call@dphx.org](mailto:call@dphx.org) listing all of the volunteer hours recorded on the tracker. List each service agency, hours served and dates of service. We use an honor system so no signature from the agency is required. If your teen attends a Catholic High School and performs service hours already, these hours can also be reported as CALL hours.

CALL Teens working

backstage at  
the annual comedy  
fundraiser, Laugh4Hope



CALL teens serving at St.  
Vincent De Paul

## Retreats

Retreats are an integral part of the formation of the human person. As knowledge of the Lord and his teachings draws us deeper into our faith, we are also drawn into an intimate and personal friendship with Christ. It is within this friendship that all of the teachings begin to make sense, and allows us to fully own and live out our faith.

### CALL REQUIRES TEENS TO ATTEND TWO RETREATS WITHIN THE THREE YEARS OF CALL

Most parishes and Catholic schools provide overnight retreats for your teens to attend. Every retreat is a chance to spend time alone with Jesus in quiet prayer, confession and Adoration, while at the same time bringing like-minded peers together in a fun, safe place to share the faith!

CALL teens are highly encouraged to attend retreats through their parish or Catholic school. Other conferences and pilgrimages fulfill the requirement, including attendance at the summer Steubenville West Conference or the annual March for Life in Washington DC and San Francisco.

