

## Writing Permission Slips for Youth Ministry Events

On the diocesan website, you will find two examples of permission slips that can be used for youth ministry activities that are off parish property. And here's some background from a book titled "A Primer on Law for DREs and Youth Ministers" written by Sr. Mary Angela Shaughnessy, SCN.

"Parent should sign permission slips for all trips off parish grounds. The first sentence of the slip should read, 'I, We, the parent(s) of \_\_\_\_\_, request that our child be allowed to participate in (NAME OF ACTIVITY).' The next sentence should give permission. Remaining sentences should release the parish and its staff from liability in the event of injury. The permission slip should also state the mode of transportation; whenever possible, buses should be used. If private cars are used, that fact should be noted on the permission slip." (p. 52-53)

Shaughnessy, Mary Andgela. *A Primer on Law for DREs and Youth Ministers*. Washington, DC: National Catholic Education Association, 1992.

There are copies of this book available from my office, or look up ISBN 1-55833-113-1 from your favorite resource for books.

Another excellent tool from Shaughnessy is a book titled, "Ministry and the Law: What You Need to Know." (New York: Paulist Press, 1998. ISBN 0-8091-3789-5)

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