



Parish Information

Summer 2019

Our Focus

1. The Eucharist
2. Marian Devotion
3. Catechetical Instruction
4. Vocational Discernment
5. Parish Support & Training
6. Fun!



Our Motivation

Totus Tuus is Latin for “Totally Yours” and the motto of the late Pope John Paul II. Taken from St. Louis de Monfort’s great work, True Devotion to Mary, it represents our desire to give ourselves entirely to Jesus Christ through the hands of His Immaculate Mother. Totus Tuus, then, reminds us of the tremendous and sometimes difficult call to spend ourselves for Christ while relying on the intercession of His Mother, and to preach the gospel to all those that we meet.

This challenge to be Totus Tuus is accepted with great joy! The teams come to know and love the vitality, faith, and courage of all they encounter. The youth are seeking to be not just role models, but heroes who are striving to live and proclaim, “Lord, I will be totally yours”. With joy and honor, Totus Tuus serves each parish and shares with them the blessings that God has given them. Therefore, the teachers dedicate their summers entirely to the parishes in our Diocese. By living out the call of the New Evangelization, these young men and women are sent out to cry out to all they encounter a message of conversion, a message of love, and a message of hope. We are motivated by the love and hope that comes in Christ and our desire is only to leave each parish motivated with the same.

Five Marks of Totus Tuus

- Proclamation of the Gospel ... to arouse the faith.
- Apologetics . . . examination of the reasons for our beliefs.
- Christian Witness ... an experience of Christian living.
- Celebration of the Sacraments ... especially Holy Eucharist and Confession.
- Active witness of the missionary nature of the Catholic Church

Catechetical Instruction



The basis of what is taught is formed by an authentic catechesis. This catechesis is rooted in an orderly and systematic initiation into, and explanation of God's revelation of Himself through the person of Jesus Christ. This revelation, stored in the depths of the Catholic Church's Sacred Tradition and in Sacred Scripture, is constantly communicated from one generation to the next by a living, active faith.

The methodology, structure and content of Totus Tuus are concerned not only with teaching the faith, but also with

setting on fire the hearts and lives of our teachers. The result of this has been the formation of young adults within the Church who are continuing to uphold and defend our Catholic faith.

Mass and Penance

Understanding that all we do is intrinsically linked with the whole of liturgical and sacramental life of the Church, Totus Tuus encourages the celebration of Holy Mass at 11:15am every day. Please note that the schedule may be adapted to meet the needs and special circumstances of your parish. We ask, however, that it be consistent throughout the week as much as possible. It is in the Sacraments, especially in the Eucharist, that Jesus Christ works most fully for the transformation of all mankind. Children will participate in serving, bring up the offertory gifts, and proclaiming the readings and petitions.

If the parish priest is unable to preside at Mass at any point during the week, the team will bring the children to the church to pray the Rosary, Liturgy of the Word, Divine Mercy Chaplet, or the Stations of the Cross.

Furthermore, within the daily schedule, we ask that the Sacrament of Reconciliation be offered everyday at 10:45am. The oldest class will be sent first on Monday, then the lower grades as the week progresses. If your parish has numerous youth, the pastor may want to invite a fellow priest to assist.

We realize that this can be a lot to ask our priests who are already so busy. However, we have found over the years that celebrating and participating in the Sacraments on such an intimate level has a tremendous effect on the children. We strive to help the children to participate fully and actively in the liturgy and consider this an integral part of our program. It is the responsibility of the parish contact to arrange the liturgical and sacramental events with the priest.



Grade School Program

The Grade School Program that Totus Tuus provides is designed for children who are going into first through sixth grades in the school year. During the week, the children will participate in four classes each day, attend daily Mass, learn the Mass parts and liturgical songs, and participate in games, icebreakers, skits, songs, recess, and prayer. The grade school program runs from 9:00am to 2:30pm each day.

The children are encouraged to be clear and consistent in their faith. They are shown how to view God as a Father. This personal relationship gives them the confidence to be Christ's witnesses in the world around them. Finally, Totus Tuus shows the children that the humble yet courageous desire to know God must be based upon a steadfast and disciplined prayer life.

Facilities

In order for the Grade School Program to run smoothly, the team needs one large hall or room for the main assemblies (this same room can be used as a lunchroom or classroom if necessary). If the group is large, it is helpful to provide a microphone for the main speaker. The size of the student body and number of teachers assigned to each will determine additional rooms. For one team this will usually mean having three or four classrooms available for use. For two teams this will mean seven or eight classrooms. The junior and senior high school program will be using either the large hall or room and one of the classrooms. As our program is centered on the Eucharist, the use of the church will also be necessary for Mass and other prayer activities.

Drinks/Lunch/Recess

We ask the parish to provide drinks throughout the day. Water is a necessity but we also encourage other drinks such as lemonade or kool-aid. The children will need drinks set out for them at three points during the day: at the 9:55am break, at 12:00 lunch and after recess at 1:00pm. We also ask that snacks be provided for the 9:55 break, or have the children bring them to share.

For lunch, the children are asked to bring their own sack lunches, but an assistant(s) is necessary to get drinks ready. At recess team sports are encouraged, so please inform the children and ask them to bring their gloves, bats, balls, and/or other playground equipment. The 2:00pm break is not a snack break, and will not require volunteers.



Volunteers

It is recommended to have a few high school students and/or adults to assist in supervising the children during classes, bathroom breaks, recess, and for those who may become ill. **There must be at least one adult from the parish present in the building at all times during the Totus Tuus programming.** All volunteers aged 18 or older assisting at the parish are required to have completed all of Safe Environment requirements of the Diocese.

Wednesday - Parish Potluck Dinner

The Totus Tuus emphasis on the family becomes more apparent during the Parish Potluck dinner. On Wednesday evening Totus Tuus asks that the parish sponsor a potluck dinner for the children, their families and parishioners. The potluck dinner will begin at 6:00pm and will wrap up around 7:15pm so as to allow the team time to prepare for the high school session.

Totus Tuus encourages this to be a parish-wide event. This dinner gives the team another opportunity to meet with families and other parish members. At about 6:45pm, or when it appears that many of the families have finished eating, the team leader will introduce the team and explain a little about the history and mission of Totus Tuus through a short program. To close the night, the team will lead the children in a song or two for the parents.

Water Fight and Ice cream Social

On the final day, the daily schedule will be altered. The team will follow a regular schedule through lunch. Students can still bring their lunches, or some parishes like to take this opportunity to have a cook-out, or pizza party. After lunch there will be no classes.

After lunch there will be a water balloon toss, and water fight for which students are asked to bring water guns, squirt bottles, or buckets. The parish is asked to provide water hoses and wading pools, empty trash cans, or a stock tank for re-filling. Sometimes as a reward for good participation and behavior during Mass, the teachers allow themselves to be turned into “human sundaes.” This is an entirely optional part of the program. By about 2:10pm., the water fight ends and students help the team clean up the area. Some parishes have provided popsicles or ice cream after the water fight, but this is completely optional. The day is closed with songs and a prayer.



Curriculum

(Subject to revision and specification)

A more complete and detailed schedule is available by request after May 1st.

Theme: The Sacraments

Mysteries: The Sorrowful Mysteries

MONDAY

- Class # 1 The Agony in the Garden
- # 2 Sacraments 101
- # 3 Laying the Foundation: The Sacraments of Initiation
- # 4 Out with the Old – In with the New: Baptism

TUESDAY

- Class # 1 The Scourging at the Pillar
- # 2 Sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit: Confirmation
- # 3 Eucharist: “The Sacramental Sacrifice”
- # 4 Thanksgiving, Memorial, and Real Presence

WEDNESDAY

- Class # 1 The Crowning of Thorns
- # 2 The Physician of our soul: Jesus, M.D.: Sacraments of Healing
- # 3 “Whatever you bind...” Who is the minister of the Sacrament of Confession?
- # 4 “Welcome Back...” The Effects of the Sacrament of Confession

THURSDAY

- Class # 1 The Carrying of the Cross
- # 2 “Christ’s Touch of Compassion” The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick
- # 3 Marriage “Mirror of the Holy Trinity”
- # 4 Holy Orders “In Persona Christi Capitis”

FRIDAY

- Class # 1 The Crucifixion
- # 2 Our Mission to Serve: Stewardship and Vocations

Daily Schedule

Typical Daily Schedule

7:00am	Rise
7:30	Breakfast
8:00	Morning Prayer & Rosary
9:00	Grade School Program Begins
9:15	Icebreaker
9:25	Class period #1
9:50	Snack/Game
10:10	Music Preparation for Mass
10:20	Class period #2
10:45	Mass preparation/Confessions
11:00	Rosary
11:15	Mass
12:00pm	LUNCH - RECESS
1:00	Water Break
1:10	Class period #3
1:35	Skit
1:50	Class period #4
2:15	Gather, Review, & Closing prayer
2:30	Dismissal of Elementary Program
	Clean-Up / Set-up for next day/ Team meeting
3:00	Team Time
5:00	Evening Prayer & Chaplet of Divine Mercy
5:30	Supper
7:30	Jr. and Sr. High Program
10:00	Back to Host Family to Sleep



Team may or may not choose to stay after Night Prayer. The parish is asked to find an adult from the parish to lock up and stay with any youth that are waiting for rides.

Junior and Senior High School Program

Totus Tuus offers evening instruction for junior and senior high school youth (grades 7-12) during the week in the evenings. We have found that vibrant, faithful, college-aged teachers can effectively impact the junior and senior high school youth. The Totus

Tuus High School Program includes instruction, small group discussions, quiet meditation, prayer, and fellowship. The team teaches in such a way as to continually offer a dialogue - in which each person feels respected in his or her most basic dignity. The junior high students will join the senior high students for the evening program. Depending on the size of the group, the team leader may require separate classrooms for junior high and high school.

Volunteers

We require that the parish provide 1 volunteer adult for every 8 expected youth for the evening program. These adults will participate along with the youth and assist the team in leading small group discussions. This is in place so that our youth may be connected to caring adults in the parish that can continue these relationships after the week has ended. When possible, it is most effective if adults can commit to the entire week instead of having different adults each evening.

Curriculum



The curriculum for the junior high and high school program is a combination of talks mixed in with small groups discussions, apologetics, and discipleship. Each evening session runs from 7:30pm until 9:30pm with a 15-minute refreshment break (times vary). We ask the parish to supply the refreshments each evening.

On **Tuesday evening**, the youth experience adoring Christ face to face during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. During the same time, each youth is afforded the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Penance. Thus a priest (or priests) will be needed from 8:30-9:30pm. It would be helpful to have the

following supplies for the high school sessions: a chalkboard/dry-erase board, CD player, and bibles. Many teams may be prepared to use video as a teaching aid if the parish has a projector and sound system available to do so.

The final evening, the team will spend time in fellowship with the youth. Teams are given some freedom and flexibility to plan a special evening for each parish and can include anything from a fun night of games and fellowship to a scavenger hunt, to a big food fight, etc. This evening will be planned with the parish contact. The team may be given a small budget to buy supplies for these evenings, otherwise costs must go to the parish (can be directly to parish or parish contact may ask youth to bring some money to help cover costs).

Options For Programs and Retreats

Since the Summer of 2015 we have begun to offer different options to parishes. As one might guess, having options creates several new layers of complexity in scheduling, communication, etc. For 2019 we are offering two options for parishes to choose from.

The Five Day Program

This includes a five day grade school program (Monday-Friday) and a five day evening program (Sunday-Thursday).

The Four Day Program

This is a shortened version of the five day program. The grade school program runs Monday-Thursday and the evening program runs Sunday-Wednesday. All of the regularly scheduled activities remain with the four day program (Tuesday - Adoration, Wednesday - Potluck, Final Day - Water Fight, Final Evening - Fun Night).

VERY IMPORTANT!!!! - When teams do a four day program, the parish is still responsible for providing housing and meals through Saturday lunch unless we send you something different. These teams will either be helping out with one of the three Diocesan Confirmation Retreats or will be taking a day of silence and prayer with their team (typically at your parish).

When Do Teams Arrive & Leave?

Arrival

In most cases your team will arrive Saturday mid-afternoon and would like to have Supper with the family that is hosting them if possible. The only exception is when the teams are coming from helping with a Confirmation Retreat or are coming from helping with a Discipleship Camp. In some cases, the teams will arrive later on Saturday evening or even Sunday morning.

Departure

In most cases your team will be staying with their host families and will need to be provided meals until Saturday lunch (depending on where they are going). Teams LOVE to spend time with families from your parish. Many parishes invite the teams to go to the lake, go horseback riding, do chores on the farm, or spend some time at a community event. Do not be afraid to invite the team to join you or others to attend these sorts of things.

Our office will be in touch with you about two weeks prior to your team's arrival to finalize arrival and departure times. In the past we have left this up to the teams but have learned that it has caused major inconveniences to parish coordinators and host families to wait until it works for the teams to figure things out.

The Totus Tuus Team

Each Totus Tuus team consists of four members: two men and two women. The teachers are chosen based upon their desire to teach the faith, their love of children, energy, and enthusiasm, and for their individual leadership abilities. In order to run a week of Totus Tuus Summer Program smoothly, the teachers adhere to a well-defined schedule, which has as its foundation and backbone through a structured prayer life. All of the teachers have had background checks and have completed the Diocesan Safe Environment Requirements.

Housing/Host Families

Because the teachers are “out on the road” we ask that the parishes find host families to provide sleeping arrangements, a morning continental breakfast and possibly snacks to refuel. The team needs two "host homes," one for the men and one for the women. Men and women are to be housed separately. We require that host homes (for sleep or meals) not be more than 10 miles away from the parish. It is easier for the team and the parish if the host homes are close to the parish and close to each other, as the team has only one car. The interaction at host homes is very valuable for both the teachers and the families.

Meals

Plan to provide all of the team’s meals while the team is in your parish from the time of their arrival to their departure:

- The host family provides breakfast at 7:30am each day the team is there. Please inform the host family that cereal, fruit, or toast is sufficient.
- Lunches during the programs will need to be brought in so the team can grab food and eat with the participants. If there is a lunch time when a team is NOT doing a program (Sunday lunch), you can find a family to host, take the team out, or have food brought in for them to the parish.
- Evening meal is provided at 5:30pm. As we are on a tight schedule, please do not schedule dinner any earlier or later than 5:30pm. Please find families (different families for each evening if possible) in the parish who would like to invite the team to supper in their homes. This allows for more families to be involved in the hosting of the team and provides an excellent opportunity for the team to interact with families of the parish. A family may prepare and serve the meal (recommended) or take the team out to eat, whichever they prefer. The team will leave the host family's home no later than 7:00pm. Wednesday night is the parish potluck which starts at 6:00pm so there is no need to host a Supper meal that evening.
- Please **DO NOT** simply provide teams with restaurant gift cards or have them go out to eat on their own. One of the greatest opportunities for our teams to grow and give witness to the faith is through



their time with adults and families. Many of the best memories a team member has is through these meals and experiences of the family.

Arrival and Set-Up

In the past, the team has made themselves available to speak at Masses on the weekend. Because of the changes, teams will no longer be available to speak at all Masses. **If you would like, you may request the team to speak at a single Mass on Sunday.**

The team should meet with the parish contact and pastor (if available) for a formal meeting and touring of the facilities on the evening of their arrival. The team will set up the facilities on Sunday afternoon. Due to the early morning and late night scheduling of events, parishes have found it more convenient to provide the team leader with a copy of the facility keys. If this is convenient, please make arrangements with the team leader.

Parish Program Coordinator

The responsibilities of the parish coordinator for the program are as follows:

- Finding separate host families for men and women
- Providing host families and volunteers to feed the team during the week (different families than those providing housing)
- Scheduling a priest(s) for daily Mass and Confession
- Scheduling a priest for adoration and Confession Tuesday night
- Providing snacks for the day and evening program
- Finding volunteers to help during both the day and evening programs
- Organizing and promoting the potluck for Wednesday at 6:00pm.
- Reserving facilities for the team
- Promoting the program and collecting registrations and liability waivers

Totus Tuus is a Parish Program

It is important to understand that the Totus Tuus programs are considered a parish event. Please ensure there is a parish contact available (on-site) at all times and that all liability and Safe Environment details are handled appropriately. Our teams are not prepared to handle many of the details (registrations, food allergies, abuse situations, curfew, etc.). Please also remember that our teams consists of college students who have not gained as much wisdom and prudence as a parish staff or adult volunteer would in certain areas. **WE NEED YOUR HELP** in these areas. We are here to support your mission in the parish and to leave an impact as much as we are able. We do our best to hire great teachers, but it is impossible for us to give them everything they need to respond to the many circumstances that may arise in a parish.

If you have any questions please contact us.