



Totus Tuus 2026

Recruitment & talking points



WHAT IS TOTUS TUUS?

Totus Tuus is a traveling summer catechetical program with an emphasis on vocations. The phrase "totus tuus" means "I am all yours" and was the Marian motto of Pope Saint John Paul II.

WHY TOTUS TUUS?

Totus Tuus offers youth a summer program with a strong Catholic identity that will inspire them in their faith. It is a grand tour through all things Catholic, from the Rosary to the Saints to Adoration. It also has a strong focus on vocational discernment in which the team will encourage the youth to consider their vocation. There are many fun activities for the youth to have a good time at Totus Tuus. You name it, Totus Tuus has it.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The Totus Tuus team (consisting of four Catholic college students, two men and two women) spend a week in a parish teaching the youth. They arrive on a Saturday and speak at all the Masses promoting Totus Tuus. They would teach all age groups (from 1st grade to 12th grade) starting Sunday night and going until Friday morning. The ideal time range would be 9am-3pm for 1st-6th grade youth and 6:30pm-8:45pm for 7th-12th grade youth with flexibility to fit each parish's needs.

RECRUITMENT FAQ

Below is frequently asked questions from discerning Totus Tuus Team Members or Missionaries. We recommend beginning each recruitment conversation with "Hey! You'd make a great Totus Tuus Missionary!"

How do I know if I am called?

There is an application & interview process like any summer job, what makes this experience unique is the invitation to take the idea of being a Missionary to prayer. Missionaries are typically college age "young adults" but must be at least 18 years old by May 1st 2026

What if I don't know a lot or am nervous about teaching the faith?

Not to worry! You simply have to be open to the formation process which takes place in late May. Everything you need to be a successful Missionary is covered in training as well as continual support from the Diocesan Office of Faith Formation.

Is there compensation?

Missionaries expenses are covered over the summer such as travel, supplies, lodging, and a competitive weekly stipend.

What is a typical summer schedule like?

A typical summer schedule in general begins with training and formation in late May which generally takes two weeks. After that Missionaries will go from parish to parish each week putting on the weeklong program. The week of July 4th is always treated as a mid-summer break from Totus Tuus for the team to regroup and rest at home. Usually the program will run until the last week of July or the first week of August depending on interested parishes.

Wait... if housing is covered, are you saying I stay at someones house?

Oftentimes this is the first thing that makes Missionaries are at least a little nervous. Not to worry! Host parishes want nothing more than to make sure Missionaries are well taken care of. All Missionaries have been pleasantly surprised at the generosity of host families & host parishes.

HOW TO APPLY

Anyone who is discerning or praying about answering the call to be a Missionary should contact Trevor Pullinger who is the Diocese of Davenport Director of Faith Formation & Catechesis Coordinator (pullinger@davenportdiocese.org). Questions and concerns are certainly welcome! Applicants are also welcome to visit our webpage dedicated to Totus Tuus to learn more or can apply today! (www.davenportdiocese.org/totus-tuus)

