

2838 East Burnside Street Portland, Oregon 97214 www.archdpdx.org | 503-233-8345

January 31, 2018

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon is pleased to announce a new partnership with *Totus Tuus*, which would bring Vacation Bible School (VBS) and Youth Ministry Missions to parishes this summer. *Totus Tuus* is a ministry model that has been implemented in different parts of the country with great success. TOTUS TUUS (Latin for *Totally Yours*) is named after St. John Paul II's papal motto and provides an engaging and energetic parish based summer catechetical program for grade school age children as well as middle and high school youth. *Totus Tuus* gathers together college students into teaching teams of four in order to train them and send them out to evangelize in parishes. Parishes will provide volunteers to assist the missionaries. These *Totus Tuus* programs can be great for igniting a new spirit of evangelization in the life of a parish. This will take place over the course of eight weeks at six different parishes. The missionary team will begin their week-long training at the Father Bernard Youth Center in Mount Angel in June.

I officially welcome this ministry and I am grateful to the young men and women who will serve as missionaries in the Archdiocese. Please join with me in prayer for this apostolate that will reach out to many. If you have any questions about the specifics, please reach out to Mark Dol at the Father Bernard Youth Center, who is coordinating this effort in collaboration with the Office of Catechesis and Faith Formation and the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

Thank you and God bless,

Most Rev. Alexander K. Sample Archbishop of Portland in Oregon