

Holy Spirit Youth Ministry

"Take up the Shield of Faith"

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Dear Disciple,

Meet Vanessa! This beautiful soul is pictured with Father Carl while he blesses her bible. This heartfelt moment occurred right before Kiddie Pool Kickball at the Field of Dreams this past August. Yes, that is a fire truck in the background! And yes, there is a lot of energy, excitement and just a little bit of chaos occurring in other parts of the field!



Yet the Holy Spirit was at work in bringing this moment about, a moment of peace and joy, as Vanessa sought to activate her faith in a new way.

In Youth Ministry, we have a prayerful chant:

"Holy Spirit Activate! Activate! Activate!"

We believe that every invitation, prayer, social media post, game, meeting, speaker, bus trip and so on are moments for the Holy Spirit to activate the faith of our young people.

As we look at Vanessa's journey to that moment of blessing her bible, we know the Holy Spirit was with Vanessa. In this past year, through her family and her youth ministers, she was invited to say yes to Catholic Heart Workcamp, our summer mission trip. While on this trip, through self-giving service and moments of intentional prayer experiences, she felt the presence of Our Lord in her life. With the push of the Holy Spirit, when Vanessa returned home she began to seek more opportunities to connect deeply with her Catholic community through joining a parish choir and attending Wednesday night YM events at the Field of Dreams (and bringing her bible for a blessing!). Now Vanessa invites friends to Youth Ministry nights and to Mass and has stepped up to the call of leadership through joining the Chazoo Warriors Peer Ministry team.

Holy Spirit Youth Ministry provides our youth, like Vanessa, invitations to moments of fun and joy, opportunities for service and prayer, connections with their Catholic community, and calls to discipleship, leadership and vocation. Through these moments, we believe the Holy Spirit has the power to activate in new and exciting ways that wouldn't be possible without youth ministry in their lives.

HSP Family, would you consider joining our prayerful chant of "Holy Spirit Activate" by contributing to our *Take Stock in Our Youth Program*? It truly is an investment, a legacy you leave on the souls of our young people. Our budgeted goal is \$15,000. Each dollar will go directly towards programs that share God's grace with all who walk through our doors as well as on the streets of our community. Thank you for allowing us to walk with you, as we break open the Kingdom of God here on earth.

Sarah Elmer

Sarah Elmer
Director of Youth Ministry

Fr. Carl Schmitt

Fr. Carl Schmitt
Pastor