

IMPLEMENTING
**YOUTH FORMATION
IN YOUR PARISH**

A Practical Guide

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This practical guide is meant to help you consider how to take the key concepts of the vision and tailor them to the unique circumstances of your parish.

[INTRO]

The Vision of Youth Formation

ENTRUSTED

Perhaps the most fundamental place for us to begin is with the acknowledgment two foundational realities:

[1] **God has entrusted us with the precious gift of our young people.**

If you are reading this document, no doubt you understand this. Whether you have been committed to journeying with the young people at your parish for the past 20 years or you have recently responded to the Lord's call, I trust you have responded in part because you know and believe each and every young person is a precious gift that has been entrusted to us.

[2] **God has entrusted us with a mission.**

In our parishes, we are serving a person, Jesus Christ. Jesus founded the Church. And, Jesus founded the Church for a purpose. It is Jesus who has entrusted us with the mission. Our Lord made the mission clear when He commanded us, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" Matthew 28: 19-20.

Jesus has **entrusted us** with a mission to the young people he has **entrusted us** with. And, we are all stewards of that which has been entrusted to us.

Consider how much the Lord desired in His heart when He gave us this command and entrusted us with this mission!

AN HONEST LOOK

It was important for us to take an honest look at 'how we are doing' with the mission entrusted to us. While, beyond a doubt we have very good people who have tirelessly given of themselves, it was time that we take an honest look and ask some important questions. Has the circumstances of the secular culture impacted our young people? Are they responding to what we are offering? Is what we are doing working? Is it bearing fruit?

Can we honestly say that there is evident fruitfulness confirming that what we are currently doing in our parishes is consistently helping our young people encounter the person of Jesus Christ and grow to be missionary disciples? This means not just a few but, most? Do we believe this is possible? The Diocesan Strategic Planning process has allowed us to take an honest look at how we are doing as a diocese in the formation of our youth. It is important for all of us to take an honest look.

URGENCY

In his Address to DREs, Catechists, and Youth Ministers given on Thursday, November 2, 2017, Bishop Shelton J. Fabre said: "A recent CARA study surveyed U.S. participants ages 15 to 25 who were raised Catholic but who no longer identify as such, as well as another group of self-identified U.S. Catholic adults 18 and older. Nearly two-thirds of participants in the youth and young adult study reported 'losing the faith' between the ages of 10 and 17. A startling number – 23% – stated that they had ceased believing the Catholic faith before the age of 10. Half of the surveyed group now self-identify as atheist, agnostic, or without any religious affiliation."

He continued: “There is an urgency. The situation we are facing with our young people demands that we produce an appropriate response. We must look for new ways to engage our young people. We must find new opportunities that allow them to encounter the love of Jesus personally. We must be ever more creative so that they take steps forward and grow in that relationship. In short our efforts to reach young people in the area of catechesis must be renewed and adapted. The days of us speculating whether things should change have passed us by. The days of us merely complaining about ‘the culture’ or ‘how hard things are’ are gone.” Understanding the urgency is essential to understanding why we must take on a new approach.

THE VISION

Bishop Fabre has outlined his vision for youth formation for the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux. It is essential that you take time to understand the vision and to learn more, so that you can begin to implement it in your own parish. Yes, there will be unique ways this will look in every parish however the key concepts remain consistent for all.

At the heart of the vision is re-orienting our **focus** to the Lord’s commission to “**Make Disciples**”.

This will require:

- Understanding **what we are ‘making’** | If we have been entrusted with the mission to ‘make disciples’ we must first agree upon what a disciple actually looks like? This is what we refer to as the 9 Characteristics of a Missionary Disciple or “the 9”. “The 9” outlines the characteristics we hope to see in a graduating senior....characteristics that would indicate growth in becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ.
- Understanding **‘how to make’** a disciple | Once we understand what we are making, we need to understand how to make it. How exactly do we “make disciples”? Learning about the process of spiritual formation and what a ‘discipleship process’ for a young person looks like is essential to the new vision. While we know that it is God who is the one who transforms, forms and teaches us, we can learn about the dynamics that can assist the process of spiritual formation with intentionality. A key component of this is what we refer to as the Formation Life Cycle or “the 5”: Connect, Encounter, Conversion, Grow, Mission.
- Forming the whole person | We can no longer focus solely on intellectual formation. We must focus on forming the young person in the areas of : human formation, spiritual formation, intellectual formation and equipping them for mission.
- Updating Pastoral Practices | We must learn new methods of presenting the timeless truths of the Gospel, we must update pastoral practices in order provide an environment conducive for our young people to encounter the person of Jesus Christ; to grow as His disciples and to be equipped for mission.
- Mentoring and Accompaniment | We must move from a model of mere ‘teaching’ to a model of ‘mentoring’ that allows us to meet every young person exactly where they are and then, in patience and love, accompanying them towards a person, Jesus Christ. This will require first that all adults are focused on growing as a disciple. After all, it takes a disciple to disciple.

It is strongly encouraged that before you read any further into this practical guide, that you have taken time to read, meditate on, and understand Sections 1, 2, & 3 of the Youth Formation Binder (Chapter 12: pages 1-23)

This document can be found on our Office of Parish Support webpage at htdiocese.org/ops > Youth Formation Team > Youth Formation Resources
The password for the Youth Formation Team webpage is **hope**.

[1] Leadership

WHY TRANSITION TO “COORDINATOR OF YOUTH FORMATION”?

As we transition to a new model it will require a new approach to leadership. Understanding and discerning how to establish a new model for leadership will be the first foundational step to moving forward.

Why transition to “Coordinator of Youth Formation”?

With the previous CCD model, “DRE” or “CRE” was the most appropriate title for what was. As we transition to a more holistic approach to youth formation, language is something that can help us understand the new role.

The term “Youth Formation” implies more holistic formation.. While intellectual formation is essential, it’s not the only emphasis. The role of “DRE” or “CRE” is changing because the approach to “CCD” is changing.

The term “Coordinator” implies a role within an overarching process for the formation of our young people. While in the past the focus was on what happened in the classroom, now we are looking at what is happening in the big picture of the young person’s formation. The language helps us move from a silo approach to formation to a more coordinated holistic approach.

A TEAM APPROACH

The Church’s vision for a more holistic youth formation will require a team approach. In the past, the role of the DRE was primarily centered around the coordination of volunteers, scheduling for the classroom and ensuring the catechetical materials were presented by those volunteers teaching each class. Furthermore, the role of the Youth Minister was often focused on coordinating and providing additional opportunities for our youth, such as relational ministry, retreats, social events and additional spiritual opportunities outside the classroom. These roles of a traditional “DRE/CRE” and “Youth Minister” did not necessarily overlap. As we transition to a new model for forming young disciples, it is imperative that everyone involved in the formation of our young people is working together as a team and with **a unified purpose and approach**. It will require time to learn about and know about the teens and their victories, struggles. It will take you asking important questions as a team: How are the teens responding? What do they need? Do we see fruit / growth? What adjustments do we need to make? How are our Mentors doing? What do they need?

Asking these questions requires discerning where God is leading. Parishes will be more successful if they have a team of core leadership supporting their newly named “Coordinator of Youth Formation”.

YOUTH FORMATION TEAM

The Office of Parish Support recommends establishing a Youth Formation Team, consisting of your Coordinator of Youth Formation and 2-3 other volunteers. They would have three primary roles. First, they assist with communal discernment. Second, they assist as needed with planning. Third, they assist as needed with implementation. The 2-4 people working with you Coordinator of Youth Formation should be adults who have the capacity to assist in the formation of the additional volunteers who will be small group mentors for the teens.

SMALL GROUP MENTORS | A 'Community of Disciples'

A team or 'community' approach will also be an important component amongst the adult volunteers who will be small group mentors for your teens. Nurturing your adult volunteers to truly live as a healthy Christian 'community' will not only help your adult volunteers to grow in their own personal journey of faith but, it will also be an essential component to discipleship of teens. The old African proverb says, "it takes a village to raise a child". Indeed this wisdom also applies to discipleship. The most effective discipleship happens in the context of healthy Christian **community**. This is why you'll want to nurture the adults involved to truly become a "community of disciples". Spending essential time at the beginning, establishing and maintaining this community aspect is imperative. When young people see and experience a group of adults who are authentic in their love for Christ and one another... it is attractive! It becomes a place the young people can be "at home".

PARENTS | A Fundamental Part of the Team

It is essential to consider parents as an irreplaceable component to any youth formation process in the parish. We should always strive to find ways to engage and support parents in their own faith formation and in their role of forming their children, as disciples of Jesus Christ. Just as we learn to meet our teenagers 'where they are'. We also will need to meet our parents 'where they are'... and with patience and love, accompany and encourage them both in their personal journey of faith as well in the often challenging journey of raising children.

Sharing the New Vision with parents is the number one place to begin! The number one thing we heard from parents across the diocese was the desire for parishes to do a better job with forming the youth. We've found that when parents hear the new vision for youth formation and they see there is a clear direction, they not only feel heard but most importantly it allows them the opportunity to participate in that vision. Parents need to feel supported and that we are working 'with them' and not 'against them'. You'll want to share with them what you are committed to. And, what you are asking them to commit to, as you partner together in the formation of their children.

The Office of Parish Support has resources available to help you share the Vision for Youth Formation with Parents.

RECRUITING NEW VOLUNTEERS

- Recruiting new people can be something we feel discouraged about before we even start!
- Perhaps it is because we have not found success in our past efforts.
- Perhaps it is because we have never really had to recruit volunteers before.
- So, let's take some time to offer you encouragement and help.

[1] PRAYER AND DISCERNMENT MATTERS

- We should ask God to send the right people to lead small groups.
- We need to ask Him to show us who we should invite to discern this endeavor.
- We would do well to pay attention to what He is telling us or who He may be pointing out to us.
- Over the first two years of strategic planning, we have seen fruit in intentionally asking God who He would like us to ask to be a part of the process.
- We saw even more fruit as many of our implementation teams prayed a discernment Rosary, pausing to ask God for specific names for PMD or other initiatives. Often those names were not on any initial list. Ask the Lord for help. Pay attention to who comes to mind. Pay attention to who starts to frequently cross your path. These are all ways we can allow the Lord to point out to us the people He has already chosen.

[2] THE ART OF LOOKING AGAIN

- It is important to recognize that sometimes we fail to look beyond the obvious. We often "see" the people who are already involved in the parish or people whom we are already quite acquainted with. Fruitful recruitment will require us to learn how to "look again". It will require us to look beyond those who are right in front of us.
- One consistent, common theme expressed across the diocese is that people want to be involved, but often don't know how to be involved. We have also heard that people don't feel informed about the needs of their parish. Every parish has people who are waiting to be invited! Every parish has people who have already begun to notice a call from the Lord. Many of them are ready for "something", but they aren't quite sure what that something is.

- We now have a multitude of resources at our disposal that can help us to recognize people that originally may not have been considered before. For example, you might consider using the parish picture directory and the parish Facebook page. Think about other resources that you also might access. An exercise your team might consider entails getting together to pray and ask God to reveal “who” should be considered. Afterwards look through these resources and see what names may surface.
- Additionally, if your team remains open to the idea of God revealing new people as potential volunteers, then things like parish listening sessions and Sunday Mass attendance become opportunities to recognize the people who might be the answer to your prayers.
- Consider putting into place a process for informing parishioners of the parish needs and make it easy for them to respond to you. Be sure to follow up quickly and personally, especially since they have taken that big step of expressing their interest in volunteering!

[3] VISION IS IMPORTANT

- It is important that you clearly share the full vision when you invite someone to consider involvement in a ministry. For example, if you invite someone to discern becoming a small group leader, it is important that you share the vision for forming disciples in the parish. You could share what God is doing in the diocese and in your parish; this is so important! People want to know that what they are giving their time to is ‘going somewhere’. They need to be able to ‘see’ the big picture and the passion behind what they are being asked to do.
- You might want to practice sharing the vision with each other first. There are many videos on the diocesan website that can assist you in sharing the vision with others. You can share one of these videos, then offer your own personal input at the end. A ‘vision pitch meeting’ might be another useful approach. If your team discerns a list of names, have someone call each of them personally. Simply ask them to come to a meeting to, “allow us to share about an exciting opportunity.” At that meeting, with all those you are recruiting, share the vision with the group, and tell them what you are asking of them. Afterwards, invite them into a time of discernment.

[4] MAKE IT CLEAR WHAT YOU ARE ASKING

- Be sure to communicate clearly what you are asking them to commit to. Be clear with how you see their gift and contribution making an impact. Give them time to discern and set a date by which you would ask for a response one way or another.

[5] THOSE RECRUITED CAN BECOME YOUR BEST RECRUITERS

- It is important to cultivate the norm that we are ALL a part of inviting others to become more actively involved. If for example, someone is invited and discerns they want to become a small group host... then you may encourage them to help find one more host the next time you start recruitment. When they are able to share through the lens of their own experience, their witness is often very powerful for others.

[6] CONSIDER PRUNING NEEDS

- Unfortunately, there are some instances in which certain parishioners have done things a certain in the parish for many years or decades. And sometimes this can develop an attitude that makes new ideas and new people feel very unwelcome or as though there is not space for anyone else. We heard this described over and over again across the diocese, especially from young adults. Having tough conversations and facing the conflict that comes with these situations is difficult, but it is essential if we are to ‘make a space’ for more people to feel welcome and come on board. If you recognize this problem, with reverence, love and humility, pray about this and talk to your pastor to discern a way to move forward.

[7] CONSIDER ALL THE NEEDS IN THE PARISH

- It is important that as you are recruiting for one need, you are always considering ALL the needs within the parish. This is because we want to help people discern the best place for them to serve...and we want to allow them to be in places where their gifts and charisms could be maximally offered. So, for example if adult and youth formation is looking to recruit new volunteers; consider what qualities, attributes, and charisms you hope for in each of these ministries. Then, as names come forward, consider both ministries and decide who might be the best fit for each.

[8] A PLAN WILL BE HELPFUL

- Developing a recruitment plan and timeline will be very helpful. Putting all of this on the calendar, along with scheduled time for communal discernment, personal follow up, and clear deadlines, will definitely help to stay organize.

Please contact the Office of Parish Support if you desire additional resources or support for recruiting new volunteers.

[2] Building Blocks

BUILDING BLOCK #1 | PEOPLE

Coordinator of Youth Formation. Youth Formation Team. Small Group Mentors.

- Starting with the DRE. Are you / they ready to transition into Bishop Fabre's vision?
- Build your Youth Formation Team.
- Assess which of your current volunteers are staying with you.
- Recruit more volunteers.
- Form your Small Group Mentors.

BUILDING BLOCK #2 | LITURGY

Homilies. Hospitality.

- Ask yourself about the day and time for youth formation. What is the Lord saying about Sunday? Sunday night? Is there a Mass?
- Start with preaching. Do priests and deacons have adequate time to prepare? Do they need help making preaching more relevant?
- Evaluate hospitality. Consider having your Adult Youth Mentors as ministers of hospitality so that they are able to "see" and greet teens as they come to Mass. You want to create a culture of hospitality in which everyone is seen and welcomed "as they are".

BUILDING BLOCK #3 | CALENDAR

Phase things in gradually.

- Start with forming your team of Small Group Mentors. Use the "regular" time slot and invest in their formation before you start working with the teens.
- Next, introduce large group Life Nights.
- Finally, introduce small groups as replacing the classroom setting.

[See Appendix A: 'Building Block Steps' for more details.]

[3] Curriculum & Method

PHASING IN NEW CURRICULUM

Just as you want to phase in a new approach to youth formation, beginning with new building blocks, you may also want to phase in new curriculum.

WHY & WHAT SHOULD YOU CONSIDER?

You'll want your Mentors to grow in their ability to shift from approaching curriculum material as a 'teacher' to approaching the material as a 'mentor'. This is a fundamental shift! And, it will demand more time for other areas of intentional formation such as:

- developing trusting authentic relationship with the teens
- offering the young people needed human formation
- nurturing healthy community amongst the group
- accompanying the teens wherever they are in their spiritual journey
- helping young people learn to recognize and share their spiritual experience
- helping the teens to recognize and develop their spiritual gifts

In a sense, you need to look at these additional intentional efforts as part of the 'curriculum'. And, you'll want to consider when it is most important to offer new curriculum material and when there are opportunities to keep what you are currently using. Remember, the focus is on the shift of how the material is presented as well as adding in other formational components that accompany the material.

LARGE GROUP CURRICULUM

As you shift to a new model for youth formation, the large group setting is the primary place you'll want to focus on new material or new 'curriculum'.

Remember that these gatherings include ALL your teens, 9th-12th grade. This is a great opportunity to address areas of focus that will affect the entire group. Main topics for these gatherings could include: Essentials in spiritual formation and discipleship; establishing an authentic Christian Community; a social issue that affects most teens.

When considering a format for your large groups, we recommend using LIFE TEEN's model for a LIFE NIGHT. The model or pattern for a LIFE NIGHT divides the time up into 4 sections modeled off the Mass:

GATHER | PROCLAIM | BREAK | SEND

The Office of Parish Support has written a Year 1 Large Group Curriculum, the topics are based on the Formation Life Cycle or 'the '5' while utilizing the Life Night format.

SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM

You may consider using your current curriculum in your small groups, at least for the first year or even the second year. However, if keeping current curriculum for small groups, be sure to focus on using it with a new delivery approach and new methods for helping the teens receive and integrate the material. For example, you could use the same curriculum resource, however use it in the small group setting with space for an opening activity and some time for discussion.

Again, keeping some of your current curriculum for the first year would allow your Mentors the opportunity to utilize materials they are already familiar with while focusing on shifting to new approaches and methods which lend more towards becoming a mentor rather than a teacher and builds upon other areas of holistic formation.

Some examples of suggested resources to keep Year 1:

- 9th Grade: T3: The Teen Timeline (Bible Study by Mark Hart)
- 10th Grade: YOU (Theology of the Body for Teens)
- 11th Grade: Chosen, Decision Point, etc. (Confirmation Prep Resources)
- 12th Grade: Y-Disciple or SUMMIT Life Teen Discipleship Resource
OR integrate your seniors into a support role for a 9th grade small group

ADDITIONAL CONTENT BASED ON ‘THE 9’ & ‘THE 5’

As you consider curriculum, it is important to also consider both the Characteristics of a Young Missionary Disciple (“the 9”) and the Formation Life Cycle (“the 5”). Both of these should inform both your calendar and your curriculum.

[4] The Office of Parish Support

A NEW OFFICE TO ACCOMPANY YOU

The Office of Parish Support (OPS) exists to serve, resource, and accompany pastors, parish staffs, and pastoral leadership teams in the work of parish renewal. We work to support and accompany each parish as they implement their own strategic plan.

In the effort to support parishes at this stage of the process, The Office of Parish Support has added a library of new resources to the diocesan website. Pastors, parish leadership teams, and parish staff can find everything from informational videos about the vision formation to the big picture of our diocesan strategic planning process. There are written and video resources to help with the training of Implementation Teams, Adult and Youth Formation Teams and more. Even though these webpages primarily exist to support pastors, parish leadership, and staff, there are a number of resources on these pages that can serve to inform parishioners about the vision and implementation of renewal in our parishes. You can access the homepage of the Office of Parish Support by visiting htdiocese.org/ops. There is a button on the OPS homepage specifically for Youth Formation Teams. There you will find a number of resources for your team.

[5] Practical First Steps & The Calendar

STEP 1 | BUILD YOUR YOUTH FORMATION TEAM

- The Youth Formation Team consists of 3-5 key people who will help with discernment, planning and coordinating efforts for all aspects of Youth Formation in the parish: this may be the DRE, CYF, YM and a few others.
- They could be current volunteers, but they must desire to implement Bishop Fabre's vision. You can work with your Implementation team to help you discern new people. Look around you for people you have not thought of before but who would be great for such a team.

STEP 2 | BUILD YOUR TEAM OF SMALL GROUP MENTORS

- You'll want to assess your current volunteers and assist them in discerning if they feel called to transition to new model. Some may decide to move elsewhere and others will want to be involved with the new mentorship model.
- You will also likely need to consider new people to recruit. God knows who they are, we just have to ask Him. Your Parish Implementation Team can help with this.

STEP 3 | CAST THE NEW VISION TO PARENTS & ALL ADULT VOLUNTEERS (PREVIOUS & NEW)

- Consider hosting 2 separate meetings (One for parents and one for volunteers)
- A PowerPoint is available to guide you through the meeting

STEP 4 | BUILD YOUR CALENDAR

- Consider the calendar in light of next year's building blocks (see Appendix A: '*Building Block Steps*')
- Consider how the Liturgy will play in the flow
- Consider ways of easing into the transition

[See Appendix B: '*Sample Calendars*' for examples of transition.]

[APPENDIX A] Building Block Steps

BUILDING BLOCK #1 | PEOPLE

Forming Your New Youth Mentors | Once your new team of adult volunteers is established, you will want to consider a plan for their formation. Formation of this team is absolutely fundamental to a new model of youth formation.

Why is This Important?

It takes a disciple to disciple and it is essential to successful discipleship that those disciples are part of a community of disciples.

Calendar 2019

Now - June Assess your team of current volunteers; recruit new members
Get everyone on board with the new vision for youth formation

Summer Engage your Youth Formation Team of 3-4 people in training by the Office of Parish Support.

Sept - October Focus on forming your team; have them come at the normal time but,
For these months – Youth Mentor Team ONLY

Consider time to visit a parish already doing large group nights or Life
Nights well (OPS can offer recommendations)

Consider a retreat for your Youth Mentor Team

BUILDING BLOCK # 2

BUILDING BLOCK #2 | LITURGY

The Mass is central to all youth formation...everything we do should flow into and out of the Eucharist. Taking time to intentionally plan the Liturgy is essential.

Ideally, if your large and small group times are able to come either before or after the Mass, that is ideal. Your pastor may want to discern having a Mass that is intentional in quality and hospitality for the teens.

You'll want to concentrate on:

Hospitality | Having your Adult Youth Mentors and others focused on truly 'seeing' and greeting the teens (and others) as they come to the Church is absolutely essential. You want to create a culture of hospitality in which everyone is seen and welcomed 'as they are'.

Homilies | Taking careful time with homily preparations, including stories and relating the gospel message in a way that teens are able to apply it to their lives and see the relevancy is very important. And, above all, authentically loving them speaks volumes!

Hymns | The important thing with music is the quality and that it serves the liturgy, helping everyone enter into a space of prayer and worship of God. Teenagers more than anyone are tuned into good quality music...they recognize it and it speaks relevancy to them. It's worth assessing and possibly recruiting musicians who are prayerful and who not only have a heart for the young people but also who might be able to take the quality of music to the next level.

BUILDING BLOCK #3 | THE CALENDAR

Phase One: Adding In Large Groups

The next building block would be adding in a once a month Large Group Night. These nights include all high school students, grades 9-12. We would recommend using the Life Teen format of: Gather, Proclaim, Break and Send. The OPS has the first year of these Large Group Nights written for you to use if you choose.

Beginning in the mid-fall with 2 Large Groups allows time to be well prepared and ease the kids and adult volunteers into a new approach while allowing ample formation for your adults in between the nights.

| | |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| November 2019 | 1st Large Group Night |
| December 2019 | 2nd Large Group Night |
| January 2020 | 3rd Large Group Night |
| February 2020 | 4th Large Group Night |
| March 2020 | Day Retreat |
| April 2020 | 5th Large Group Night |
| May 2020 | 6th Large Group Night |

Phase Two: Adding In Small Groups

Small groups will be essential in really building trust and accompanying the teens. You may want to consider starting with small groups on campus, at least for the first year. Then, you may consider/discern moving those to in-home small groups. A small group ideally would be around 8 teens to every 1-2 adults.

Notice how small groups are added into the calendar; see bold text

| | |
|---------------|--|
| January 2020 | 3rd Large Group Night: 1st Sunday of the month Small Group - 2nd Sunday Small Group - 3rd Sunday Youth Mentor Team Formation - 4th Sunday |
| February 2020 | 4th Large Group Night Small Group - 2nd Sunday Small Group - 3rd Sunday Youth Mentor Team Formation - 4th Sunday |
| March 2020 | Day Retreat Small Group - 2nd Sunday Small Group - 3rd Sunday Youth Mentor Team Formation - 4th Sunday |
| April 2020 | 5th Large Group Night Small Group - 2nd Sunday Small Group - 3rd Sunday Youth Mentor Team Formation - 4th Sunday |
| May 2020 | 6th Large Group Night |

Combinded Calendar Example for Year 1

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Now- June 2019 | Assess your team of current volunteers; recruit new members Get everyone on board with the new vision for youth formation |
| Summer 2019 | Engage your Youth Formation Team of 3-4 people in training by OPS |
| Sept.-Oct. 2019 | Focus on forming your team; have them come at the normal time but, for these months – Youth Mentor Team ONLY Consider time to visit a parish already doing large group nights or Life Nights well (OPS can offer recommendations) Consider a retreat for your Youth Mentor Team |
| November 2019 December 2019 | 1st Large Group Night 2nd Large Group Night |
| January 2020 | 3rd Large Group Night: 1st Sunday of the month Small Group - 2nd Sunday Small Group – 3rd Sunday Youth Mentor Team Formation – 4th Sunday |
| February 2020 | 4th Large Group Night Small Group - 2nd Sunday Small Group – 3rd Sunday Youth Mentor Team Formation – 4th Sunday |
| March 2020 | Day Retreat Small Group - 2nd Sunday Small Group – 3rd Sunday Youth Mentor Team Formation – 4th Sunday |
| April 2020 | 5th Large Group Night Small Group - 2nd Sunday Small Group – 3rd Sunday Youth Mentor Team Formation – 4th Sunday |
| May 2020 | 6th Large Group Night |

2019-2020

TRANSITION YEAR EXAMPLE

YOUR FOCUS DURING 2019-2020

INTRODUCE SMALL GROUPS
INTRODUCE LIFE NIGHTS

REGARDING PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION

TRANSITION YEAR

PLAN MUST BE TAILORED TO YOUR DATE OF CONFIRMATION
OFFICE OF PARISH SUPPORT TO WORK INDIVIDUALLY WITH EACH PARISH

CURRICULUM

9TH GRADERS: USE 2018-2019 CURRICULUM

10TH GRADERS: YOU (OR USE 2018-2019 CURRICULUM)

11TH GRADERS: USE 2018-2019 CURRICULUM, TO YOUR DATE OF CONFIRMATION

PRIOR TO THE 2019 FALL SEMESTER

- MAY 2019** Finalize Youth Formation Team. 3-5 person Leadership Team. Includes DRE/CYF for 2019-2020. Assess how many adult mentors **you will need for small groups**. 2 adults per every 8 teens, 9-10 grade. Assess who's staying with you. Which current teachers (2018-2019) are capable of leading small groups?
- JUNE 2019** Confirm who's staying with you. Confirm which current teachers (2018-2019) will lead small groups. Recruit more volunteers. How many more will you need for 2:8 ratio? Pray the Discernment Rosary.
- JULY 2019** Train Youth Formation Team. Office of Parish Support Training. July 17-24. Lumen Christi Retreat Center. Confirm new volunteers. Confirm commitment from new adults who will lead small groups.

2019 FALL SEMESTER

- WEEKEND, AUGUST 24-25, 2019** Small Group Mentors retreat. Team-building, spiritual formation, Rule of Life, etc.
- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2019** Off. Labor Day weekend.
- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2019** Small Group Mentors training no. 1. Topic: The reality of today's teenager, part 1.
- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2019** Small Group Mentors training no. 2. Topic: The reality of today's teenager, part 2.
- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2019** Small Group Mentors training no. 3. Topic: The reality of today's teenager, part 3.
- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2019** Small Group Mentors training no. 4. Topic: The reality of today's teenager, part 4.
- SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2019** Off site. Visit a parish and "see" a Life Night.
- SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2019** Small Group Mentors training no. 5. Topic: The reality of today's youth ministry, part 1.
- SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2019** Small Group Mentors training no. 6. Topic: The reality of today's youth ministry, part 2.
- SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2019** Small Group Mentors training no. 7. Topic: The architecture of a Life Night: What? Why? How?
- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2019** Off site. Visit a parish and "see" a Life Night.
- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2019** Small Group Mentors training no. 8. Topic: Small group facilitation, part 1.
- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2019** Small Group Mentors training no. 9. Topic: Small group facilitation, part 2.
- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2019** Off. Thanksgiving week.
- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2019** Life Night no. 1. 1st Sunday of Advent. Focus: Connect.
- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2019** Small Group Mentors training no. 10. Topic: What did we learn from our first Life Night?
- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2019** Small Group Mentors training no. 11. Topic: Looking at the Spring and our current resources.

2020 SPRING SEMESTER

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| SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2020 | Life Night no. 2. Focus: Connect. |
| SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2020 | Small Groups Grades 9-10, Night 1. |
| SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2020 | Small Groups Grades 9-10, Night 2. |
| SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2020 | Small Groups Grades 9-10, Night 3. |
| SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2020 | Off. Super Bowl Sunday. |
| SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2020 | Small Groups Grades 9-10, Night 4. |
| SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2020 | Small Groups Grades 9-10, Night 5. |
| SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020 | Off. Mardi Gras weekend. |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2020 | Small Groups Grades 9-10, One-Day Retreat. On campus. Focus: Encounter. Topic: Who is Jesus? |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2020 | Small Groups Grades 9-10, Night 6. |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2020 | Small Group Mentors training no. 12. Topic to be determined by Youth Formation Team. |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2020 | Small Groups Grades 9-10, Night 7. |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2020 | Small Groups Grades 9-10, Night 8. |
| SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2020 | Life Night no. 3. Palm Sunday. Focus: Conversion. Topic: Why did Jesus die? |
| SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2020 | Off. Easter Sunday. |
| SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2020 | Small Groups Grades 9-10, Night 9. |
| SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2020 | Small Groups Grades 9-10, Night 10. |
| SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2020 | Life Night no. 4. Focus: Grow. Topic: Prayer. |
| SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2020 | Small Group Mentors. Year end evaluation. |
| SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2020 | Small Group Mentors. Year end celebration and appreciation. |

2020-2021 **YEAR 1 EXAMPLE**

YOUR FOCUS DURING 2020-2021
ENCOUNTER CHRIST

CURRICULUM
ALPHA FOR TEENS

REGARDING PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION
NEW FORMAT
EIGHT (8) SESSIONS IN THE FALL
CONFIRMATION PREPARATION COMPLETE BY CHRISTMAS

WHAT ARE YOU FOCUSED ON DURING THE FALL?
CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

WHAT ARE YOU FOCUSED ON DURING THE SPRING?
MOVING ALL GRADES THRU ALPHA FOR TEENS

2020-2021
YEAR 1
FALL SEMESTER

YEAR 1 FOCUS: ENCOUNTER CHRIST
CONFIRMATION PREP IN THE FALL
1 TRACK OF SMALL GROUPS IN THE SPRING

PRIOR TO THE 2020 FALL SEMESTER

SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2020 Initial orientation meeting for Confirmation for candidates, sponsors, and parents. Cast vision, introduce new structure.

SUMMER 2020 Formation for all new small group mentors.

2020 FALL SEMESTER

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2020 Initial orientation meeting for Confirmation for candidates, sponsors, and parents. Review calendar, details, sponsor requirements, etc.

WEEKEND, AUGUST 8-9, 2020 Small Group Mentors retreat. Team-building, spiritual formation, Rule of Life, etc.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2020 Training for Confirmation sponsors

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2020 Small Group Mentors training no. 1. Overview of the year. Revisit Rule of Life, retreat, etc.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 2020 Life Night no. 1

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2020 Off. Labor Day weekend.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2020 Confirmation prep session no. 1. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "Why am I here?"

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2020 Small Group Mentors training no. 2. Topic to be determined by Youth Formation Team.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020 Confirmation prep session no. 2. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "How do I know God is real?"

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2020 Life Night no. 2

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2020 Confirmation prep session no. 3. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "Who is Jesus?"

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2020 Small Group Mentors training no. 3. Topic to be determined by Youth Formation Team.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2020 Confirmation prep session no. 4. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "Why be Catholic?"

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2020 Life Night no. 3

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2020 Confirmation prep session no. 5. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "Where am I going? How do I get there?"

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2020 Confirmation prep session no. 6. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "How do I get there?"

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2020 Small Group Mentors training no. 4. Topic to be determined by Youth Formation Team.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2020 Life Night no. 4. 1st Sunday of Advent. Topic: Advent.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020 Confirmation prep session no. 7. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "Who is the Holy Spirit?"

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020 Small Group Mentors training no. 5. Topic to be determined by Youth Formation Team.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2020 Confirmation prep session no. 8. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "What does the Holy Spirit do for me?"

2021 SPRING SEMESTER

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| SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2021 | Small Group Mentors training no. 6. Topic to be determined by Youth Formation Team. |
| SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2021 | Life Night no. 5 |
| SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2021 | Small Groups Track A, Night 1. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: “Is there more to life than this?” |
| SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2021 | Small Groups Track A, Night 2. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: “Jesus: Who is He?” |
| SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2021 | Off. Super Bowl Sunday. |
| SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2021 | Off. Mardi Gras weekend. |
| SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2021 | Life Night no. 6. 1st Sunday of Lent. 1st Sunday of Lent. Topic: Lent. |
| SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2021 | Small Groups Track A, Night 3. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: “Why did Jesus die?” |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 2021 | Small Groups Track A, Night 4. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: “Faith: What is it and how can I grow?” |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2021 | Small Groups Track A, Night 5. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: “How and why should I pray?” |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2021 | Small Groups Track A, Night 6. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: “How and why do I read the Bible?” |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2021 | Life Night no. 7. Palm Sunday. Topic: Palm Sunday. Holy Week. |
| SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 2021 | Off. Easter Sunday. |
| SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2021 | Small Group Mentors training no. 6. Topic: Prep for retreat. Teaching on the Holy Spirit. |
| SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 2021 | 1-day Retreat Track A. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Session 1: “Who is the Holy Spirit and what does it do?” Session 2: “How can I be filled with Holy Spirit?” Session 3: “How can I make the most of my life?” |
| SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2021 | Small Groups Track A, Night 7. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: “How can I resist evil?” |
| SUNDAY, MAY 2, 2021 | Life Night no. 8 |
| SUNDAY, MAY 9, 2021 | Small Groups Track A, Night 8. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: “How and why should I tell others?” |
| SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2021 | Small Group Mentors. Year end evaluation. |
| SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2021 | Small Group Mentors. Year end celebration and appreciation. |

2021-2022 **YEAR 2 EXAMPLE**

YOUR FOCUS DURING 2021-2022

GROW IN CHRIST

CURRICULUM

ALTARATION
ALPHA FOR TEENS

REGARDING PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION

NEW FORMAT
EIGHT (8) SESSIONS IN THE FALL
CONFIRMATION PREPARATION COMPLETE BY CHRISTMAS

WHAT ARE YOU FOCUSED ON DURING THE FALL?

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION
ASSESSMENT OF WHERE YOUR TEENS ARE

WHAT ARE YOU FOCUSED ON DURING THE SPRING?

TRACK A: FOR NEW TEENS OR TEENS WHO DON'T KNOW JESUS
TRACK B: TEENS READY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MASS AND THE CHURCH

2021-2022
YEAR 2
FALL SEMESTER

YEAR 2 FOCUS: GROW IN CHRIST
CONFIRMATION PREP IN THE FALL
2 TRACKS OF SMALL GROUPS IN THE SPRING

PRIOR TO THE 2021 FALL SEMESTER

SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2021 Initial orientation meeting for Confirmation for candidates, sponsors, and parents. Cast vision, introduce new structure.

SUMMER 2021 Formation for all new small group mentors.

2021 FALL SEMESTER

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, 2021 Initial orientation meeting for Confirmation for candidates, sponsors, and parents. Review calendar, details, sponsor requirements, etc.

WEEKEND, AUGUST 7-8, 2021 Small Group Mentors retreat. Team-building, spiritual formation, Rule of Life, etc.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15, 2021 Training for Confirmation sponsors

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, 2021 Small Group Mentors training no. 1. Overview of the year. Revisit Rule of Life, retreat, etc.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2021 Life Night no. 1

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2021 Off. Labor Day weekend.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021 Confirmation prep session no. 1. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "Why am I here?"

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2021 Small Group Mentors training no. 2. Topic to be determined by Youth Formation Team.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2021 Confirmation prep session no. 2. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "How do I know God is real?"

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2021 Life Night no. 2

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2021 Confirmation prep session no. 3. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "Who is Jesus?"

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2021 Small Group Mentors training no. 3. Topic to be determined by Youth Formation Team.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2021 Confirmation prep session no. 4. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "Why be Catholic?"

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2021 Life Night no. 3

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2021 Confirmation prep session no. 5. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "Where am I going? How do I get there?"

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2021 Confirmation prep session no. 6. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "How do I get there?"

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2021 Off. Thanksgiving week.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2021 Small Group Mentors training no. 4. Topic to be determined by Youth Formation Team.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2021 Life Night no. 4. 1st Sunday of Advent. Topic: Advent.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2021 Confirmation prep session no. 7. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "Who is the Holy Spirit?"

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2021 Confirmation prep session no. 8. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "What does the Holy Spirit do for me?"

2022 SPRING SEMESTER

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| SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2022 | Small Group Mentors training no. 5. Topic to be determined by Youth Formation Team. |
| SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 2022 | Life Night no. 5 |
| SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2022 | Small Groups Track A, Night 1. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: "Is there more to life than this?" Small Groups Track B, Night 1. Resource: Office of Parish Support. Topic: "Where are you as we begin?" |
| SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 2022 | Small Groups Track A, Night 2. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: "Jesus: Who is He?" Small Groups Track B, Night 2. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "Why do I have to go to Mass?" |
| SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2022 | Off. Super Bowl Sunday. |
| SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2022 | Small Groups Track A, Night 3. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: "Why did Jesus die?" Small Groups Track B, Night 3. Resource: Altaration. Topic: "The Mass: More than meets the eye." |
| SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2022 | Small Groups Track A, Night 4. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: "Faith: What is it and how can I grow?" Small Groups Track B, Night 4. Resource: Altaration. Topic: "The Mass: Our Father's plan." |
| SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2022 | Off. Mardi Gras weekend. |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2022 | Life Night no. 6. 1st Sunday of Lent. Topic: Lent. |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 2022 | Small Groups Track A, Night 5. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: "How and why should I pray?" Small Groups Track B, Night 5. Resource: Altaration. Topic: "The Mass: The Mystery revealed." |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 20, 2022 | Small Group Mentors training no. 6. Topic to be determined by Youth Formation Team. |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 2022 | Small Groups Track A, Night 6. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: "How and why do I read the Bible?" Small Groups Track B, Night 6. Resource: Altaration. Topic: "The Mass: What is our response?" |
| SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2022 | Small Groups Track A, Night 7. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: "How can I resist evil?" Small Groups Track B, Night 7. Resource: Altaration. Topic: "The Mass: They 'Whys' behind the 'Whats'" |
| SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 2022 | Life Night no. 7. Palm Sunday. Topic: Palm Sunday. Holy Week. |
| SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 2022 | Off. Easter Sunday. |
| SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2022 | 1-day Retreat Track A. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Session 1: "Who is the Holy Spirit and what does it do?" Session 2: "How can I be filled with Holy Spirit?" Session 3: "How can I make the most of my life?" |
| SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2022 | 1-day Retreat Track B. Resource: Chosen. Session 1: "Are you talking to me?" (Getting to Know God Through Prayer) Session 2: "Do I have what it takes?" (Building Virtue) Session 3: "How do I build the kingdom?" (Saying "Yes" to the Mission of Christ and His Church) |
| SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2022 | Life Night no. 8 |
| SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2022 | Small Groups Track A, Night 8. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: "How and why should I tell others?" Small Groups Track B, Night 8. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "Where do I go from here?" |
| SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2022 | Small Group Mentors. Year end evaluation. |
| SUNDAY, MAY 29, 2022 | Small Group Mentors. Year end celebration and appreciation. |

2022-2023 **YEAR 3 EXAMPLE**

YOUR FOCUS DURING 2022-2023

LIVE IN CHRIST

CURRICULUM

YOU

ALTARATION

ALPHA FOR TEENS

REGARDING PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION

NEW FORMAT

EIGHT (8) SESSIONS IN THE FALL

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION COMPLETE BY CHRISTMAS

WHAT ARE YOU FOCUSED ON DURING THE FALL?

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

ASSESSMENT OF WHERE YOUR TEENS ARE

WHAT ARE YOU FOCUSED ON DURING THE SPRING?

TRACK A: FOR NEW TEENS OR TEENS WHO DON'T KNOW JESUS

TRACK B: TEENS READY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MASS AND THE CHURCH

TRACK C: TEENS READY FOR THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

OFFICE OF PARISH SUPPORT  **YOUTH FORMATION**

2022-2023
YEAR 3
FALL SEMESTER

YEAR 3 FOCUS: LIVE IN CHRIST
CONFIRMATION PREP IN THE FALL
3 TRACKS OF SMALL GROUPS IN THE SPRING

PRIOR TO THE 2022 FALL SEMESTER

SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2022 Initial orientation meeting for Confirmation for candidates, sponsors, and parents. Cast vision, introduce new structure.

SUMMER 2022 Formation for all new small group mentors.

2022 FALL SEMESTER

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, 2022 Initial orientation meeting for Confirmation for candidates, sponsors, and parents. Review calendar, details, sponsor requirements, etc.

WEEKEND, AUGUST 6-7, 2022 Small Group Mentors retreat. Team-building, spiritual formation, Rule of Life, etc.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14, 2022 Training for Confirmation sponsors

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 2022 Small Group Mentors training no. 1. Overview of the year. Revisit Rule of Life, retreat, etc.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 2022 Life Night no. 1

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2022 Off. Labor Day weekend.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2022 Confirmation prep session no. 1. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "Why am I here?"

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2022 Small Group Mentors training no. 2. Topic to be determined by Youth Formation Team.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2022 Confirmation prep session no. 2. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "How do I know God is real?"

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2022 Life Night no. 2

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2022 Confirmation prep session no. 3. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "Who is Jesus?"

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2022 Small Group Mentors training no. 3. Topic to be determined by Youth Formation Team.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2022 Confirmation prep session no. 4. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "Why be Catholic?"

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2022 Life Night no. 3

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2022 Confirmation prep session no. 5. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "Where am I going? How do I get there?"

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2022 Confirmation prep session no. 6. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "How do I get there?"

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2022 Off. Thanksgiving week.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2022 Life Night no. 4. 1st Sunday of Advent. Topic: Advent.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2022 Confirmation prep session no. 7. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "Who is the Holy Spirit?"

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022 Small Group Mentors training no. 4. Topic to be determined by Youth Formation Team.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2022 Confirmation prep session no. 8. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "What does the Holy Spirit do for me?"

2023 SPRING SEMESTER, PART 1

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| SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023 | Life Night no. 5 |
| SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023 | Small Groups Track A, Night 1. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: "Is there more to life than this?" Small Groups Track B, Night 1. Resource: Office of Parish Support. Topic: "Where are you as we begin?" Small Groups Track C, Night 1. Resource: Office of Parish Support. Topic: "Where are you as we begin?" |
| SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2023 | Small Groups Track A, Night 2. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: "Jesus: Who is He?" Small Groups Track B, Night 2. Resource: Chosen. Topic: "Why do I have to go to Mass?" Small Groups Track C, Night 2. Resource: YOU. Topic: "Created for love" |
| SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2023 | Small Groups Track A, Night 3. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: "Why did Jesus die?" Small Groups Track B, Night 3. Resource: Altaration. Topic: "The Mass: More than meets the eye." Small Groups Track C, Night 3. Resource: YOU. Topic: "Naked without shame" |
| SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2023 | Off. Super Bowl Sunday. |
| SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2023 | Small Groups Track A, Night 4. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: "Faith: What is it and how can I grow?" Small Groups Track B, Night 4. Resource: Altaration. Topic: "The Mass: Our Father's plan." Small Groups Track C, Night 4. Resource: YOU. Topic: "Love defined" |
| SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2023 | Off. Mardi Gras weekend. |
| SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2023 | Life Night no. 6. 1st Sunday of Lent. Topic: Lent. |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2023 | Small Groups Track A, Night 5. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: "How and why should I pray?" Small Groups Track B, Night 5. Resource: Altaration. Topic: "The Mass: The Mystery revealed." Small Groups Track C, Night 5. Resource: YOU. Topic: "Hope and redemption in Christ" |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2023 | Small Groups Track A, Night 6. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: "How and why do I read the Bible?" Small Groups Track B, Night 6. Resource: Altaration. Topic: "The Mass: What is our response?" Small Groups Track C, Night 6. Resource: YOU. Topic: "Truth and freedom" |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2023 | Small Group Mentors training no. 6. Topic to be determined by Youth Formation Team. |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2023 | Small Groups Track A, Night 7. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: "How can I resist evil?" Small Groups Track B, Night 7. Resource: Altaration. Topic: "The Mass: They 'Whys' behind the 'Whats'" Small Groups Track C, Night 7. Resource: YOU. Topic: "Free. Total. Faithful. Fruitful." |
| SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2023 | Life Night no. 7. Palm Sunday. Topic: Palm Sunday. Holy Week. |
| SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2023 | Off. Easter Sunday. |

2023 SPRING SEMESTER, PART 2

SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 2023

1-day Retreat | Track A. Resource: Alpha for Teens.
Session 1: “Who is the Holy Spirit and what does it do?”
Session 2: “How can I be filled with Holy Spirit?”
Session 3: “How can I make the most of my life?”

SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2023

1-day Retreat | Track B. Resource: Chosen.
Session 1: “Are you talking to me?” (Getting to Know God Through Prayer)
Session 2: “Do I have what it takes?” (Building Virtue)
Session 3: “How do I build the kingdom?” (Saying “Yes” to the Mission of Christ and His Church)

SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 2023

1-day Retreat | Track C.
Session 1. Resource: YOU. “Language of the body”
Session 2. Resource: Office of Parish Support. “Reclaiming a vision of purity.”
Session 3. Resource: Office of Parish Support. “Burn the ships. (Removing temptation)”

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2022

Life Night no. 8

SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2023

Small Groups | Track A, Night 8. Resource: Alpha for Teens. Topic: “How and why should I tell others?”
Small Groups | Track B, Night 8. Resource: Chosen. Topic: “Where do I go from here?”
Small Groups | Track C, Night 8. Resource: Office of Parish Support. Topic: “Living in purity.”

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023

Small Group Mentors. Year end evaluation.

SUNDAY, MAY 28, 2023

Small Group Mentors. Year end celebration and appreciation.



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