

TOTUS TUUS: “TOTALLY YOURS”

Totus Tuus is a summer Catholic youth program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic faith through evangelization, catechesis, Christian witness, and Eucharistic worship. Our week-long Parish Summer Catechetical Program and Summer Camps assist parents and parishes in the evangelizing and catechizing of their youth by supplementing the work they are already doing. The methodology, structure, content, and enthusiasm of Totus Tuus is concerned not only with teaching the faith, but also igniting the hearts of the team members and young people. The result has been the formation of young adults who continue to dedicate themselves to the Church’s mission of evangelization.

Our Mission

The mission of Totus Tuus is to inspire in young people a true longing for holiness, a deep desire for daily conversion, and an openness to their vocation by constantly challenging them to give themselves entirely to Christ through Mary and by continually strengthening their prayer lives in imitation of Her.

Our Motivation

Totus Tuus, a Latin phrase meaning “totally yours,” was the motto of Pope Saint John Paul II. Taken from St. Louis de Montfort’s True Devotion to Mary, it signifies our desire to give ourselves entirely to Jesus Christ through Mary. It also expresses our effort to give our all to every young person we encounter. Through the teams’ example of joy and service, the youth see that these men and women are ON FIRE with the Catholic faith and long for the same thing in their lives.

Our Method

Totus Tuus calls upon college students and seminarians from the Catholic Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph and across the United States to carry this mission to every young person they encounter in the parish. Students are hired for their energy, enthusiasm, love for the faith, commitment to spiritual growth, ability to work with a team, and desire to work with youth.

The Five Marks of Totus Tuus

1. Proclamation of the Gospel...to arouse faith.
2. Explanation...examination of the reasons for our beliefs.
3. Christian Witness...an experience of Christian living.
4. Celebration of the Sacraments...especially Holy Eucharist and Confession.
5. Active witness of the Missionary Nature of the Catholic Church.

Totus Tuus joins the Church in her proclamation of the Gospel to arouse faith in the youth. Ready with “an explanation...for the reason for your hope” (1 Peter 3:15), Totus Tuus catechists expound upon the reasons for our beliefs and share their personal testimonies with the young people.