

Quest Youth Ministry

St. Francis Xavier Parish
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Dear Parents and Teens,

As graduation approaches, I want to share some information with you about our parish Quest program. Primarily, Quest supports teens in living their faith through the high school years. In freshman year, participants also are preparing to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. I ask each teen eligible to receive Confirmation to discern whether you intend to participate in the final year of preparation to receive the sacrament of Confirmation next spring.

The “teaching” preparation for Confirmation was the primary focus of your participation in the eighth grade day school or religious education program. This is the first year of the two-year Confirmation preparation program that the Archdiocese requires. The focus of your second year will expand from catechesis into involvement in parish life, especially ministries of service. Small discipleship groups of 12-14 teens with at least two adult leaders (Quest groups) will facilitate this experience.

Here are some important tentative dates:

- **September 9th – Quest/Confirmation Registration Period Ends**
- **September 10th – 6:00 Sunday Mass Resumes with Ice Cream Social**
- **September 17th – Parent/Teen Meeting – 4:30-5:30pm in the Church**
- **April, 2018 – Confirmation Celebrations**

The volunteer parents and other caring adults who facilitate the Quest groups are integral to the Quest process. If you are a parent who might be willing to serve on a Quest leader team, please contact me. These small discipleship groups are the primary means of supporting and encouraging teens in living their faith throughout high school. Quest leaders will be asked to attend one training session in late August (date TBD).

At the Parent/Teen Meeting on September 17th, we will review the vision for Quest and Youth Ministry, and the calendar for the year. I hope to see you there!

In the meantime, if you have any questions I am happy to answer them. Our new youth minister, Olivia Hollman, will join us on July 1 and can assist you after that date. We all look forward to walking this journey with you.

Peace,
Fr. Bill Tkachuk
Interim Coordinator of Youth Ministries
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