



St Kateri
Tekakwitha
2016-2017

CORNERSTONES

OF Youth Ministry

Junior Youth Group (JYG)

6th-8th

Senior Youth Group (SYG)

9th-12th

Youth Ministry is designed using the framework from “Renewing the Vision”, a document written by the American Bishops as a blue print for Youth Ministry in the United States.

Goals of YM:

1. To empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today.
2. To draw young people to responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the Catholic faith community.
3. To foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person.

Components:

Ministry of Advocacy	Ministry of Justice & Service
Ministry of Catechesis	Ministry of Community
Ministry of Pastoral Care	Ministry of Evangelization
Ministry of Prayer and Worship	
Ministry of Leadership Development	

It Takes a Whole Church

HS Youth Leadership Team

Chair: Emma Madrigal

Vice-chair: Brody McDevitt

Vice-chair: Gabrielle Rosario

Secretary: Kira Opalka

Communication: Jenna Davidson

Committee's

***EVANGELIZATION: Chair - Mia Guajardo, Brenna Donahoe, Megan Malone,
Suzy Lynch***

PRAYER: Chair– Chris Oplaka, Nicholas Rany, Anna Yankoski, Jaxon Topp

***SERVICE: Chair– Lauren Bergstrom, Hannah Andersen, Anglea Stumpo,
Caroline Kasten***

***SOCIAL : Chair– Abell Haile, Sam Madrigal, Michael Richwine,
Patrick Donahoe***

College intern: Hunter Power

***Adult Members: Larry Kervella, Peggy Opalka, Eddie Opalka, Barry Yachem,
& Daniel Brookover, Debbie Gausmann (DRE/YM)***

YLT: The Youth Leadership Team consists of teens in the 9th –12th grades. In the late spring we invite all HS teens to discern the gift of leadership. They fill out an application form and the adult core team discerns those that are ready to take on this ministry.

In August the Newly formed Leadership Team gathers for a weekend retreat. At this retreat they lead leadership skills, about team work, they plan the upcoming years events, and elect officers.

The YLT meets monthly to discuss upcoming events. Each committee is responsible for making sure everything is ready for the event under their responsibility.

Ministry: All Confirmed teens are expected to be active in at least one (preferably more) ministries. They are encouraged to chose at least one liturgical and one non-liturgical ministry. Formation happens after Confirmation. Teens are taught that they are the Young Church of today and that they have responsibilities in the community.

All the teens (6-12th grade) are guided in recognizing the gifts that each bring to the community and finding ways to turn those gifts into ministry.

Community & Evangelization: We are always trying to create an atmosphere of friendship and diversity. All teens are welcome no matter what their feelings about church and/or faith are. We concentrate on learning to appreciate each other's gifts and to treat each other with kindness and respect in and out of church. We learn not to judge and to have the courage to let down masks to allow others to see who you really are and what you are dealing with in life. Church becomes a place to be yourself and to support each other.

This is done through catechesis, witnessing, retreat and many fun team building events

Catechesis (RE): Classes for 6th –12th grades are held on Sunday evenings.

Due to our limited gathering space, some classes take place in homes and the Poquoson Community Center as well as at the church and the annex..

Classes meet from September thru April.

Junior Youth Group:

Meet at the church from 6-8pm. This year 2016/2017:

6th & 7th grade will be exploring the **OT, the Trinity, and the Mission of Christ**

8th grade will be exploring **Encounter: Scripture Study and Christian Morality**

Senior Youth Group: Meets at various location;

9th grade meets at the McCormicks home (right behind the church property in Running Man) from 6-8pm. They will be studying the **CREED**

10th grade meets at the Poquoson Community Center, 6:15-8:15pm. We will be using the **CHOSEN** program for both RE classes and Confirmation Preparation.

11th & 12 grades will meet at the McDevitt's in Poquoson, 6:15-8:15pm. They will be studying the **HS Theology of the Body.**

HS Confirmation: Confirmation takes place no earlier than the spring of the 10th grade year of High School. The preparation Process is separate from the Religious Education Classes. This year Confirmation meets five Sunday afternoon through out the year, with the celebration of Confirmation sometime in the Easter season. All teens in the Confirmation process must be attending the Regular parish RE program or taking Religion classes at the Catholic School.

Retreats: Retreats are events that effect teens the most in coming to their faith and feeling connected to their faith community. We offer the JYG (6,7 &8th graders) an overnight retreat in the spring. The 9th graders a DATING and LOVE retreat in January. The 10th grade has the Confirmation Retreat in February, and the 11th & 12 graders serve as peer ministers on these retreats.

Prayer: Teen lead prayer is part of all events and large group gatherings. The Advent Evening of Reflection on December 4th gives us an opportunity to reflect on the advent season. The Youth Leaders will lead us in prayer and the Youth Choir will lead us in Praise and Worship. Through all our opportunities we introduce a diversity of prayer styles: meditation, music, litanies, lectico divina, reflections, etc. There are many ways to pray and each should find the one that is most comfortable. In the past years we have offered a Lenten Before -School Prayer Breakfast which has had a good attendance. We hope to be able to offer one this upcoming Lent.

Life Teen & Edge Camps: Summer Camp with Life Teen (Cove Crest) or Edge (Hidden Lake) is an opportunity for teens to embrace and incredible experience of life. These Summer Camps offer teens an opportunity when they are able to be free and confident in themselves, developing new friendships with teens from far and near, and encountering God working in their lives. Cove Crest (HS) and Hidden Lake (MS) are opportunities for our teens to experience a bigger and better life they ever thought possible.

Cove Crest is in Tiger Georgia and Hidden Lake in in Dahlogue, Georgia

Service: Jesus calls us to serve others. Pope Francis has been very vocal about our baptismal promise to serve those in need. At St Kateri, Service is a big part of what we do . We serve the needy through **Catholic Heart Work Camp. Service Saturday's, St Paul's Soup Kitchen, St Vincent Christmas Party, BINGO a the Nursing Homes, Spending time with the Adults with special needs** at Sarah Bonwell Center, Summer Service on the Eastern Shore (ministry to the migrant and immigrant workers).

Mission trips are especially important in teaching teens to look outside of themselves, the joy of serving, & gratitude for their own life situations.