



Vocation Office

TOTUS TUUS

SUMMER YOUTH CATECHETICAL PROGRAM

Parish Program Guide 2024

“Totus Tuus ego sum et omnia mea tua sunt. Accipio te in mea omnia. Proaebe mihi cor tuum, Maria.”

“I belong entirely to you, and all that I have is yours. I take you for my all. O Mary, give me your heart.”

—St. John Paul II

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Program Explanation	1
Mission	
Totus Tuus – Totally Yours	
Method	
Five Pillars of Totus Tuus	
This Year’s Curriculum	2
Missionary Team Daily Schedule	2
Weekly Schedule	3
Grade School Program	3
Daily Mass and Confession	
Facilities	
Supplies	
Snacks and Recess	
Friday Afternoon	
Junior High/High School Program	6
2024 Junior High/High School Curriculum	
Adoration and Confession (Tuesday Evening)	
Facilities	
Supplies	
Snacks	
Social (Thursday Evening)	
Your Totus Tuus Team	7
Initial Contact	
Arrival and Set-up	
Host Families	
Meals	
Departure	
Parish Involvement	8
Parish Potluck Dinner	
Daily Mass	
Intercession	
Volunteers and VIRTUS Training	9
Financial Considerations	10
Parish Coordinator’s Responsibilities	10
Bringing Totus Tuus to Your Parish	11
Best Practices for a Successful Totus Tuus	11
Contact Us	12

PROGRAM EXPLANATION

Totus Tuus is a summer, week-long Catholic youth program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic faith through evangelization, catechesis, apologetics, Christian witness, the sacraments, Marian devotion and Eucharistic worship for students entering grades one through 12. We strive to help young people understand their faith through catechesis, so they may live in today's world through a "parish mission" for the young students of the parish, all with a strong emphasis on fun.



Totus Tuus is concerned not only with teaching the faith, but also igniting the hearts of its team members and young people. Totus Tuus seeks to assist and supplement the work of parents and parishes toward a deeper understanding of their faith and the Person of Christ.

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.

Totus Tuus – Totally Yours

Totus Tuus, a Latin phrase meaning *totally yours*, is the shortened version of Blessed Pope John Paul II's motto, "Totus Tuus ergo sum et omnia mea tua sunt." Originally 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 during this summer mission work.

Method

Totus Tuus calls upon college students and seminarians from Chicago and across the United States to carry out its mission. These missionaries are hired for their love of the faith, energy, enthusiasm, ability to work as a team, commitment to spiritual growth and desire to work with youth. Those hired are extensively trained, put on teams of four (two men and two women) and sent out to a different parish every week for six weeks. Within the parish, they conduct a week-long "parish mission," teaching and inspiring the parish's youth.

In these teams, Christ's love is made manifest. The love shared by these team members is the example of authentic Christian living, and their lives for the summer are centered on prayer and the sacraments. It is through this supernatural life that they work to serve and be a witness. **"Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses"** (*Evangelii Nuntiandi*, 41). Youth see these teachers are joyful and on fire with the Catholic faith, and they long for the same thing in their lives.

The daily schedule for Totus Tuus teachers revolves around Mass, Sacrament and prayer – a summer entrusted fully to the Lord, and a heart devoted to youth and parishes of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Five Pillars of Totus Tuus

1. The Eucharist
2. Marian Devotion
3. Catechetical Instruction
4. Vocational Discernment
5. FUN

The Eucharist is held in the highest esteem in the Totus Tuus program. The celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of Mass is understood to be the "source and summit of the Christian life" (*Lumen Gentium*, 11).

Totus Tuus teachers will lead young people to Jesus for a week; however, Mary will lead them to Jesus for a lifetime. Mary is a living catechism, and the mother and model of catechists. Therefore, Totus Tuus promotes Marian devotion. By meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary, we come to see how Mary always leads us to her Son.



Authentic catechesis provides the foundation for the program's teaching. Totus Tuus instructs young people in the basic tenets of the Catholic faith to cultivate both a solid intellectual foundation and an intimate relationship with Jesus. All our teaching aims to help young people grow in an understanding of the Catholic faith, strengthen their faith life and, most importantly, develop a friendship with Jesus Christ.

Totus Tuus strives to foster Christian vocations by encouraging young people to begin discerning God's call in their life to marriage, the priesthood, the religious life or being a consecrated single. Because the team members are striving to live an authentic Christian life and are actively discerning their vocation, they can better help youth to do the same. Historically, those team members who enter seminary or religious life find that the seeds of their vocation were planted during Totus Tuus.

Since 2007, when Totus Tuus first began in Chicago, 11 Totus Tuus teachers have become priests and are now serving in the Archdiocese of Chicago, and 16 current seminarians served in the program. Throughout the 15 years of Totus Tuus, we have also had many women discern religious life, with a handful entering an order for further discernment.

Finally, Totus Tuus demonstrates one can be a faithful Catholic and still have fun. Morning pump up skits, along with songs, recesses, games and a water fight in the parishes are all manifestations of fun built into the program.

THIS YEAR'S CURRICULUM

The Sacred Scriptures and the Catechism of the Catholic Church provide the foundation for the catechetical instruction of the Totus Tuus summer program. Thus, Totus Tuus divides the four pillars of the Catechism into a six-year teaching cycle. The 2024 Totus Tuus curriculum is indicated in bold print:

2022: Prayer and the Our Father

2023: The Mystery of Salvation

2024: The Apostles Creed

2025: The Sacraments

2026: The 10 Commandments

2027: The Virtues

To parallel this six-year cycle, Totus Tuus follows a four-year cycle dedicated to the mysteries of the Rosary:

- The Joyful Mysteries
- The Luminous Mysteries
- The Sorrowful Mysteries
- **The Glorious Mysteries**

MISSIONARY TEAM DAILY SCHEDULE

The team adheres to this rigorous schedule throughout the summer. Although not recommended, it can be adapted to meet the needs of your parish. If you would like to adjust the schedule to accommodate any special circumstances in your parish, please coordinate this with Katie Hazen at least one month in advance of your assigned week.

DAILY TEAM SCHEDULE

6:30 a.m.	Rise
7 a.m.	Breakfast
7:30 a.m.	Arrival at Parish for Morning Prayer (Lauds), Rosary and Prayer
9 a.m.	Day Program begins
2:30 p.m.	Clean-up/Set up for Next Day/Team Meeting
3 p.m.	Evening Prayer (Vespers) and Chaplet of Divine Mercy
3:30 p.m.	Team Recreation
5:15 p.m.	Team Dinner

GRADES 1-6 PROGRAM

8:40 a.m.	Set-up
9 a.m.	Introduction
9:15 a.m.	Warm-up/Songs
9:25 a.m.	CLASS PERIOD 1
9:50 a.m.	Snack Break

10:05 a.m. Music Preparation for Mass
 10:20 a.m. CLASS PERIOD 2
 10:45 a.m. Mass Preparation/Confessions
 11:15 a.m. Mass
 Noon Lunch/Recess
 12:55 p.m. Cool Down-Water Break/Decade of the Rosary with Mystery
 1:15 p.m. CLASS PERIOD 3
 1:40 p.m. Skit Break
 1:50 p.m. CLASS PERIOD 4
 2:15 p.m. Gather, Review and Closing Prayer
 2:30 p.m. Dismissal

JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM (SAMPLE)

6:15 p.m. Arrival/Set-up
 6:30 p.m. Introduction/Activity
 7 p.m. SESSION 1 TALK
 7:15 p.m. Small Group 1
 7:30 p.m. Break
 7:35 p.m. SESSION 2 TALKS
 7:50 p.m. Small Group 2
 8 p.m. Night Prayer (Compline)
 8:15 p.m. Dismissal

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Day to day during the week, there are slight deviations to the typical schedule that are intentionally built into the program.

SATURDAY

- Team arrives late afternoon.
- Team meets with parish contact and/or pastor.
- Tour of parish facilities.
- Team speaks at Vigil Mass.
- Team meets with host families providing housing for the week.
- Optional potluck dinner

SUNDAY

- Team speaks at all Masses the families present.
- Team leader contacts parish contact for the next week.
- Set up of the parish facilities.
- Junior high and high school program begins.

MONDAY

- Grade school program begins.

TUESDAY

- Adoration and confession night at junior high/high school program.
- No-host family dinner: Provide dinner for Team as an “off-night” to allow for team meeting and fellowship.

WEDNESDAY

- Optional parish potluck dinner.

THURSDAY

- Social night at junior high/high school program.
- Junior high/high school program ends.

FRIDAY

- Friday fun activities for grade school program (no afternoon classes).
- Grade school program ends.
- Team departs.

GRADE SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Totus Tuus Grade School Program is designed for children **first through sixth grades** in the 2024/25 school year.



The grade school program runs **Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** The suggested cost of the grade school program is **\$50/camper**.

The grade school program is very structured with the high point of each day being Mass. This allows us to center everything we do around Christ present to us in the Eucharist. The largest portion of each day is spent on catechesis of the youth in a classroom setting.

Children are typically split into age groups, by grade, so instruction and questions can be directed appropriately.

While classes comprise a large part of the day, Totus Tuus makes sure that the kids have fun, too. We have a “pump up” to start each day, snack break in the morning, recess and “cool down” after lunch, as well as a skit break in the afternoon.

Daily Mass and Confession

Understanding all we do is intrinsically linked with the whole liturgical and sacramental life of the Church, Totus Tuus encourages the celebration of Mass every day. Totus Tuus asks a lot of our already busy priests, but their presence is crucial for the program. For their participation, and indeed for their entire vocation, we are forever grateful. We have found over the years that celebrating and participating in the sacraments on such an intimate level has a tremendous impact on the children.

Youth will participate at Mass by serving, bringing up the offertory gifts and proclaiming the readings. Totus Tuus missionaries will lead children in a few songs during Mass.

It is the responsibility of the parish coordinator to arrange the liturgical and sacramental events with the priests. The daily celebration of **Holy Mass at 11:15 a.m.** is an expectation for each parish. However, we understand things may arise unexpectedly, such as funerals. The Totus Tuus missionaries will work with you on that matter.

Additionally, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is to be made available every day before Mass, beginning at **10:45 a.m.** If your parish has a large number of students for the week, it is recommended additional priests assist with confessions.

If parish priests are unable to preside at Mass, please ask around in neighboring parishes to secure a replacement. The response from youth is extremely positive, seeing their parish priest(s) invest time in them through the sacraments. In the event that no priest is available for Mass at any point during the week, the team will take the children to the church to pray the Rosary, mid-day prayer or the Stations of the Cross.

Facilities

For the grade school program to run smoothly, the team requests **one large hall, gym or room for their main assemblies.** If necessary, this same room can be used as a lunchroom.

Since the students are split into age groups during the class periods of the day, **three to four classroom spaces** are needed. Each classroom should have a chalkboard or a dry-erase board and chalk or dry-erase markers. For grades 1–2 classrooms, it is ideal to have a large enough room for open space near the board for the children to gather on the floor, as well as tables set up with chairs for their activities. If possible, have one other room/space available as a **team room**, where the teachers can leave their own supplies for the week.



Team members will set up the rooms by arranging chairs, desks and/or tables for those registered for Totus Tuus upon arriving at the parish. Please make sure the church is available for Mass and confessions every day. Additionally, the church should be available on Wednesday or Thursday afternoon for a tour with first and second graders. Sometimes a priest or deacon wishes to be present and help lead the church tour; their presence is welcome but not necessary. As a special treat, sometimes the parish will allow children into the sacristy to see all the vestments and vessels used during Liturgy. The church tour can be adjusted to a different day to accommodate the needs of your parish; please inform the team what day the church will be available.

Supplies

The Totus Tuus team will bring the majority of the supplies necessary to run the program. But each parish is asked to obtain the following tentative supplies pertaining to the grade school program:

- Access to photocopier
- Dry erase markers or chalk
- White copy paper
- Items for both morning and afternoon skits (props)
- Recess equipment – balls, sidewalk chalk, etc.
- Tubs, wading/baby pools, clean/lined garbage cans (Friday only)
- Smaller tubs to store water balloons
- Water hoses (Friday only)
- Access to broom, mop, garbage bags and other cleaning supplies.

Snacks and Recess

We ask the parish to provide drinks throughout the day. Water is a necessity for the children; other drinks such as lemonade or Gatorade are also options. The children will need drinks set out for them at three points during the day: at the morning snack break (**9:50 a.m.**), at lunch (**noon**), and after recess (**12:55 p.m.**). We ask your volunteers to have snacks and drinks ready five minutes before each break.

We also ask the parish to provide snacks (cookies, chips, crackers, etc.) at the morning break. To make it easier on parish resources, request all participating children to provide one box of cookies or crackers to share.

The children should be asked to bring sack lunches and a water bottle/drink. Some teams make it a point to eat alone during lunch to get a short break to re-group. If this is the case for the team coming to your parish, please have some of your volunteers watch over the children as they eat.

After lunch recess will take place. Team sports are encouraged; therefore, children are invited to bring Frisbees, jump ropes, balls, etc. The team will participate in recess with the children. Please make sure to have the area blocked off if recess is in a parking lot.

The 1:40 p.m. break is not a snack break, simply a skit time.

Friday Afternoon

On Fridays, the daily schedule will be altered. We will follow the schedule through lunch, but then it is modified to allow for fun time on Friday afternoon.

Friday afternoon's festivities are held in a large, open area on your parish's grounds – either a grassy area or the parking lot.

Recess is followed by a strict instruction period for the students and then a water balloon toss and “water fight,” for which students can bring water guns, squirt bottles, buckets, etc. By about 2:15 p.m., the water fight ends. We conclude the day with songs and prayer and then the students help the team clean up the area.



The parish is asked to provide water hoses and wading pools, stock tanks, lined garbage cans, etc. to hold water for the water fight. The team will set up for the water fight beginning at 9 a.m. on Friday. Please have access to all outdoor water faucets, wading pools, tubs, cans, etc. by that time. Also, it would be helpful to have a volunteer or two (especially teen volunteers) Friday morning.

The “Human Sundae” is an optional event to add into the Friday afternoon festivities but we ask the parish to provide the supplies. We highly encourage parishes to host an ice cream social for parents to attend before/after the water fight. This allows for fellowship not only for the children, but for parents, parish contacts and missionaries, which creates community for your parish. If you are unable to supply ice cream, please reach out to the coordinator of the program so you can brainstorm another activity or the Vocation Office can aid in supplying treats.

Tips for Friday Afternoon

Please recommend that students wear something that can get wet and dirty, but it is necessary that they wear shirts, shorts and shoes during the water fight. The team will talk to the children about Friday afternoon at the close of the day on Thursday, giving them the rules of the day, what to wear and what to bring for the water fight. Fliers with important information will also be handed out on Thursday. Parents are welcome to join Totus Tuus for Mass and afternoon fun.

JUNIOR HIGH/HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

Junior high youth are those entering the grades 7–8 for the 2024/25 school year. High School youth are those entering grade 9 for the 2024/25 school year through those who have just graduated high school.

The junior high and high school program meets **Sunday through Thursday from 6:30 to 8:15/8:45 p.m. The suggested registration cost is \$15/teen.**

While many summer programs limit themselves to grade 6 and below, Totus Tuus offers evening instruction for junior high and high school youth. College-aged missionaries can effectively impact high school youth through their witness. Two reasons have been noticed: the close proximity of age and ability to establish mentor relationships; i.e., big brother or big sister. The Totus Tuus High School Program includes instruction, small group discussions, quiet meditation, prayer and fellowship. Our high school program is different from normal parish-based youth ministry.

2024 Junior High/High School Curriculum



Just like the grade school program, Totus Tuus is also fun and entertaining for older students. Most evenings begin with an icebreaker activity or game. It is also a time for youth to bond and build relationships with the team and one another. Concluding the week, the team will spend Thursday night in fellowship with the youth, which may include a bonfire, shaving cream wiffleball, marshmallow dodgeball, etc.

The junior high students will join the senior high students for the evening program; however, when appropriate, grades 7, 8 and 9 will separate from the

older high school students to maintain an atmosphere and discussion level that is appropriate for both age groups and topics.

We encourage the youth minister of the parish to attend all or a portion of Totus Tuus' evening program. They can use this time to meet students who are not yet involved with youth ministry and share invitations to future events.

Adoration and Confession (Tuesday Evening)

The goal of Tuesday evening is to create a more prayerful retreat setting for the youth from the beginning of the evening. The students are led immediately into a talk to prepare them for the Holy Hour.

6:15 p.m.	Arrival/Set-up	6:30 p.m.	Greet Students
6:45 p.m.	TALK: Confession and Adoration		
7 p.m.	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament		
8 p.m.	Night Prayer/Benediction		
8:15 p.m.	Dismissal		

While it is preferred to keep Adoration and Confession on **Tuesday evening**, it can be changed to another day depending on the parish's schedule and priest(s) availability. If a change of date is required, Wednesday is preferred to maintain the flow of the talks. Solemn Exposition and Benediction should follow the liturgical norms of the Church. One of the seminarians or male team members will be available to serve during Benediction. Once the Blessed Sacrament has been exposed, the priest(s) should begin hearing confession. The majority of Adoration will be spent in silence, although a few songs may be played periodically by the team to help redirect the youth's attention. **We encourage you to have music playing in the background, either a CD or a team member who can play.** This is extremely effective in helping teens enter into the Sacrament and prayer.

Since the time allotted for confessions is limited to approximately 50 minutes, additional priests may be required to hear confessions depending on the number of youth attending. We suggest a ratio of one priest for every 15 students. Like the grade school program, it is recommended to begin by asking priests at the neighboring parishes and retired priests in the area to assist. Please have all priests arrive at 6:45 p.m. for last-minute instructions, location of confessionals, set-up for Adoration and vest.

Facilities

Like the grade school program, the team needs **one large hall or room** for their main assemblies. **Two classroom spaces** will be needed for the evening sessions/talks. **The church** also needs to be available for Adoration and Confession on Tuesday evening. It is best if you can have breakout rooms or class rooms for teaching. If you do not have classrooms available, then four designated spaces will be helpful.

Outdoor space such as the parish's parking lot or grass area may be utilized for some of the icebreaker activities and games.

Supplies

Each parish is asked to obtain the following tentative supplies pertaining to the junior high and high school program:

- Paper – white copy paper
- Pens or pencils
- Dry erase markers or chalk
- Bibles
- 5–7 votive candles
- Large crucifix, religious statute or image
- Decorative cloths
- Access to broom, mop, garbage bags and other cleaning supplies
- Whiteboard/chalkboard

Snacks

There is a 15-minute snack and refreshment break at 8 p.m. Refreshments/snacks will be on Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and possibly Thursday evenings. No snacks are needed Tuesday evening. All participants are asked to donate cookies/crackers; these donations can simply be rationed for the week.

Social (Thursday Evening)

On Thursday evening, the last night of retreat sessions, the team will spend time in fellowship with the youth. Activities for Thursday evening usually involve playing games, food, cookouts and bonfires; other games like shaving cream wiffleball or marshmallow dodgeball have also occurred.

YOUR TOTUS TUUS TEAM

Each Totus Tuus team consists of four young adults (two men and two women), a combination of college students and seminarians. The missionaries are hired based upon their commitment to the Catholic faith,

desire to teach, love of children, energy, enthusiasm and leadership abilities. Teams are chosen after the first week of training at the beginning of the summer. Upon selection of teams the archdiocese Totus Tuus coordinator will contact you with more information on the team serving your parish; i.e. allergies, bios, etc.

Initial Contact

The team leader will call the parish contact one week prior to the team's arrival, typically on Sunday afternoon. They will go through the checklist provided to you as well as other details necessary for their arrival. It is at this point that you can ask any questions.

Arrival and Set-up

The team arrives on the **Saturday afternoon or evening prior to the week**. The Totus Tuus team will attend and make an announcement regarding Totus Tuus at all Masses. Often this presentation will help bring in more youth to participate in the week's program. The team should meet with the parish contact and pastor (if available) for a formal meeting and tour of the facilities on Saturday evening, either before or after Vigil Mass. The team will set up the facilities on Sunday afternoon. Due to the early-morning and late-night scheduling of events, some parishes have found it convenient to provide the team leader with a key to the facilities. If you choose not to do this, then please make sure the team leader knows who will have facility keys for the week.



Host Families

We ask that the parishes find host families to provide sleeping arrangements, a morning continental breakfast and possibly the use of laundry facilities at some point over the course of the week. The team needs two "host homes," one for men and one for women. It is easier for the team and the parish if

the host homes are close to each other and to the parish, because there is only one car between the four team members, but the team will be grateful for any housing. If there is difficulty securing two host families, rectories can be utilized to house the male team members only. No missionary should be housed alone. At the home, teachers are required to have separate sleeping quarters from the family. The missionaries can be paired in one room together, two bedrooms are not needed. We do ask that separate beds, air mattresses, etc. be provided for each team member. We ask that a private bathroom be made available during the missionaries' stay.



Housing of team members takes place from their arrival **Saturday evening** until their departure the following **Friday morning**. Each team will provide their own transportation to and from the parish. It is helpful to give the team driver a detailed description or map to the location of the families who will be hosting the team, as well as those who will be providing the evening meals.

The interaction at host homes is valuable for both the team members and the families. However, because of the team's schedule, it is important to stress that the team may occasionally be late getting home due to team meetings.

Meals

Dinner on Saturday: Should follow the conclusion of the Vigil Mass. It would be ideal if the parish coordinator could host dinner on Saturday evening, as that would give everyone a chance to meet. Another good idea is inviting the pastor and other priests of the parish to the dinner as well, or hosting a parish potluck.

Lunch for Sunday: Can be at the host families' homes or at the parish. Please ask the host families not to plan any additional activities for the team on Sunday after Mass and/or lunch.

Breakfast for Sunday through Friday: The host family, parish or parishioner provides a continental style breakfast at 7 a.m. Breakfast need not be anything requiring effort – coffee, cereal, fruit or toast is sufficient.

Lunch for Monday through Friday: Should be provided by the parish or a parish family at 12 p.m. Volunteers assisting in the kitchen can prepare lunch, or the team can fix sandwiches from food brought in.

Dinner on Sunday through Thursday (Wednesday optional potluck): Please arrange dinners to be provided by the parish for the team to eat alone unless they are eating with a host family only. Dinners also must be dropped off/provided by the parish or parishioners every evening.

Dinner on Wednesday: The team will not need dinner on Wednesday, or another communicated day, if the parish is hosting the potluck. If there will not be a potluck, regular parish- or parishioner-provided dinner is great.

Departure

Typically, teams from the archdiocese leave quickly from the parish after the close of the day program and the cleaning up of the parish and make their way back to St. Edward Parish Convent. The team leader will communicate the departure schedule to the coordinator by Wednesday.

PARISH INVOLVEMENT

The focus of the Totus Tuus program is on the youth of your parish; however, the entire parish can be involved. Already mentioned is the need for host families to house the team during the week. There are other ways that the larger parish can be involved.

Parish Potluck Dinner

This is an optional event, but some parishes want to hold a potluck dinner for the children, their families and all parishioners on Saturday or Wednesday evening. It is an excellent way to gather the whole community. We encourage this to be a parish-wide event. This gathering gives the team an opportunity to meet families and other parish members. It is also

an excellent opportunity for parents to meet and get to know the missionaries. Again, the day can be adapted to meet the needs of each individual parish.

The potluck should begin at 4:15 p.m. and finish around 5:30 p.m. to allow the team to set up for the night program.

During the evening, the team will introduce themselves and explain a little about the history and mission of Totus Tuus. To close the night, the team will lead the children in some songs and a Q&A session with the kids to show the parish what the youth in grades 1 through 6 have been learning through the week.

Daily Mass

Every day at 11:15 a.m. is Mass. This is a great event to invite all of the parish to attend. As the week progresses, first through sixth graders typically become more invested in what is happening at the Mass. Also, to hear all their voices singing and responding is refreshing to witness.

Intercession

We highly recommend recruiting intercessors to pray for and provide spiritual assistance to the team, the youth, the coordinators and volunteers, and the pastor of your parish. This is a great way to involve parishioners who don't have school-aged children attending Totus Tuus.

Ask the regular adorers, daily Mass attendees, members of the Knights of Columbus, Rosary or prayer groups – indeed, anyone you can think of – to commit to daily or weekly prayer for the team, the participants and the program.

Prayer is the heart of the mission of evangelization and the core of the Totus Tuus program.

VOLUNTEERS AND VIRTUS TRAINING

As this is a big job for one person, we ask each host parish to provide volunteers to assist throughout the week. Volunteers can consist of adults, junior high and high school students.

VIRTUS Training

Totus Tuus takes the safety of children very seriously. All Totus Tuus team members will have attended a VIRTUS training session, completed a CANTS background check and the online eApps requirement,

completed the Mandated Reporter Training and signed a Code of Conduct.

All volunteers must be approved according to diocesan standards, and it is the parish's responsibility to confirm that their volunteers comply. It is a requirement of volunteers over the age of 18 in the Archdiocese of Chicago to have attended a VIRTUS training session prior to working with children. This requirement is not necessary for families volunteering to provide food, dinners or those providing housing for missionaries.

Volunteers Who are Minors

At the pastor's discretion, teens may earn credit hours for volunteering. A firm rule with Totus Tuus is that if teens want to help during the day, they are highly encouraged to attend the evening program. **We also highly recommend that student volunteers partake in the parish/school's Save Environment Training.** Teens that volunteer during the day program are able to attend the evening program for free and receive their camp shirt. Encourage them to attend one night at least or attend Tuesday night for Adoration and Confession. If teens have work or something they cannot get out of for the evening, please work with their schedules. There should also be an adult present with volunteers who are under 18; volunteers who are minors should not be left alone.

We ask that high school volunteers dress appropriately and in line with Totus Tuus guidelines and Christian modesty. This will also ensure that they dress appropriately for the Celebration of the Eucharist.

- **Men:** A clean shirt. Shorts and pants must fit; therefore, no baggy pants.
- **Ladies:** Shorts, skirts or dresses must be at or below the knee. Shirts must cover the shoulders; therefore, tank tops or short shorts are inappropriate.

Responsibilities for Volunteers During the Grade School Program

It is helpful if the parish coordinator divides up volunteers and responsibilities prior to Totus Tuus.

- Registration and check in of participants each morning
- T-shirt organization and distribution
- Setting up drinks and snacks for 9:50 a.m. break, and water break after recess
- Cleaning the kitchen and lunch area especially after snack break and lunch
- Lunch/Recess detail – helping to lead recess games

- Helping those who may become hurt or ill
- Classroom helpers
- Monitoring bathroom breaks
- Help set up for the water fight on Friday morning
- Anything else the parish coordinator requests help with.

Classroom Volunteers

Totus Tuus is unable to provide more than one team member in each classroom. Classroom volunteers will be employed as an extra set of hands. They are very helpful in the first and second grade classrooms.

Volunteers during Bathroom Breaks

Volunteers will be asked to help monitor bathroom breaks. Totus Tuus teachers typically will not enter bathrooms that the youth use. Also, volunteers should not be alone with youth in the bathroom. Monitoring from the bathroom doorway is perfectly acceptable as well as entering at the end to shuffle children out. If it is necessary to go into the bathroom with a child, there should be two volunteers present.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Below you can find an overview of logistics and financials for the Totus Tuus Program.

Program Fee

For one team (four persons) the maximum number of youth in the grade school program is 90. The maximum number is 50 for the evening teen program. The minimum for the day program is 20 youth, grades 1–6. The average day program is 40–45 campers. The evening teen program has seen success with 8+. The average teen night program is around 15 teens.

The cost for one week of Totus Tuus is on a tiered scale. You can contact the Totus Tuus coordinator, Katie Hazen, at khazen@archchicago.org with any questions regarding payments.

Program Cost

Max Youth Served*	Parish Fee
50	\$2,500
70	\$3,500
90	\$4,500
90+ (two teams)	\$6,500
OR booking two teams	

* Max youth served applies only to those served within the Grade School program (incoming 1st – incoming 6th grade). There is no max number of students for the evening Middle School/High School program.

If any parish needs to cancel hosting Totus Tuus for the summer of 2024, please do so before

May 1. After May 1, any parish cancellation will incur a \$1,500 fee.

Program Space and Personnel Needs

- Four classrooms, one indoor gathering area, one chapel/church for Mass at 11:15 a.m.
- Parish priest(s) to perform sacraments: Mass and Confession daily for grades 1–6 and Tuesday night Adoration, and Confession service for junior high and high school programs.
- Two host families to house the college-aged missionaries: one for boys; one for girls
- One parish volunteer per 15 students
- Missionary Meals: Breakfast (host homes or parish), lunch (parish coordinator), dinner (provided/dropped off by the parish each evening). Students bring own lunch.

Additional Expenses

On average, other potential costs to the parish will be approximately \$200. The majority will consist of drinks, food and plastic tableware, along with other potential printing, classroom, and recess supplies.

Mass Donations

If you take up a second collection, we ask that you consider donating to Totus Tuus as a whole. This year we will be giving out roughly \$5,000 in aid and will apply for grants. We do not intend to make money on this program as an office but want to ensure that cost doesn't prohibit a parish from experiencing the summer. So, please be mindful of how much you raise and what you can donate.

PARISH COORDINATOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of the parish coordinator for the program are a large commitment. We are very grateful for the effort you show to the program and the parish that you serve.

Ongoing Responsibilities

- Serve as contact for the parish with the diocesan office.
- Manage parish camper registration and report numbers to the archdiocese Totus Tuus coordinator.
- Serve as contact for the parish with the Totus Tuus team leader.
- Promote Totus Tuus at parish/school and other local parishes and Catholic schools.
- Promote the parish potluck on Wednesday evening (optional).

- We will confirm your reservation by December 1, 2023, at which time, the \$500 deposit will be due to hold your spot. Registration officially closes on January 15, 2024 for host parishes, or until we fill our host parish slots, whichever comes first.
- A waiting list will be started once all spots have been filled. If any parish were to back out of hosting, we will contact any parish added to our waiting list to fill the spot.

Prior to Totus Tuus

- Obtain permission for Totus Tuus team to speak at weekend Mass.
- Schedule priest(s) for liturgical schedule:
 - Confession: Monday to Friday 10:45 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.
 - Mass: Monday to Friday at 11:15 a.m.
 - Adoration and Confession: Tuesday 7 – 8 p.m.
- Reserve all facilities at the parish:*
 - One large hall, gym, or room
 - Three to four classrooms
 - Church
 - Outdoor space – either a blocked off area in the parking lot or grass area
 - Separate “teacher” bathroom available for the Totus Tuus team
 - Separate teacher room to store supplies.
- Coordinate housing for team members:
 - One for two men
 - One for two women
- Schedule all meals:
 - Six breakfasts: Sunday to Friday at the host family,
 - Six lunches: Sunday to Friday, and
 - Six dinners: Saturday to Thursday
- Obtain volunteers.
- Recruit intercessors.
- Speak with team leader a week before Totus Tuus on Sunday, one week prior.
- The Team should be aware of any allergies, medication or behavior issues from participants. A volunteer from the parish will be needed to assist those with physical or mental challenges.

*Some of the same facilities can be used for both the grade school and high school programs.

The Week of Totus Tuus

- Be available to assist team and answer questions throughout the week.
- Have addresses and print out directions from parish to host families (housing and all dinner families).
- Have table(s) available in the Narthex after weekend Masses for registration along with one to two computers or tablets to allow for a seamless registration process.

- Manage sign-in and -out sheet for the participants.
- Confirm photography consent
- All online registrants have to sign off on photo and/or videography of their child. If a parent refuses to allow child to be photographed or filmed, make note of child/ family and ensure they are removed from any potential group or individual shots.
- Schedule volunteers for the week.
- Organize potluck, including set-up and clean-up. **This is optional.**
- Have containers cleaned and available Thursday evening to organize for the water fight and fill water balloons.

After Totus Tuus

- Submit evaluation form.

T-Shirts

T-shirts are included in the price for each camper. Please complete the T-shirt form sent out by the Vocation Office no later than the Friday before you host Totus Tuus. The team will bring extra shirts for any last-minute registrants. After handing out shirts, please plan a full group photo. “Fun” photos are appreciated!

BRINGING TOTUS TUUS TO YOUR PARISH

The most important first step of bringing Totus Tuus to your parish is to introduce the program to your pastor. Once your parish has the enthusiastic support of your pastor, a parish contact needs to be named to coordinate with the Vocation Office.

At this time, that contact should call the Totus Tuus coordinator, Katie Hazen, at 847.508.2023 to begin going over the specifics of the preparation. The archdiocese coordinator will send you the Parish Registration form as well as set up a time to meet with your parish coordinator, pastor and staff to talk through this Guide in more detail.

BEST PRACTICES FOR A SUCCESSFUL TOTUS TUUS

1. While the team is at your parish, and even before they arrive, we recommend recruiting intercessors to pray for and provide spiritual assistance to the team, youth, coordinators and volunteers, and the pastor of your parish. This is a great way to involve parishioners who don't have school-aged children attending Totus Tuus.

2. Inform the priest of the schedule for the sacraments (daily Mass and Confession, Adoration/Confession on Tuesday night).
3. Find host homes to provide sleeping arrangements, a morning continental breakfast and possibly snacks to refuel the teachers. Homes close to the parish help save time for travel.
4. Find families to provide lunches and dinners for the team each day. Lunches are at the parish and dinners are generally at the homes of different families during the week. A family may choose to bring a dinner to the parish or take the team out to eat if they desire.
5. The parish coordinator cannot do everything by him or herself. As such, we strongly recommend forming a committee of adults and high school students to assist throughout the week of Totus Tuus. Some volunteers may help during the evening program or assist with promotion. All volunteers must be approved according to archdiocesan guidelines.
6. Begin promoting Totus Tuus as early as possible so families can plan to have their children participate. Share fliers with the parish school and religious education programs, and include them in church bulletins and announcements from the pulpit. Make sure everyone is aware of the program, so a concerted effort is implemented to effectively promote the program. Neighboring parishes can also be invited to participate.
7. Have facilities reserved for the program well in advance.

CONTACT US

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