



TOTUS TUUS

SUMMER CATECHETICAL PROGRAM

TEACHER INFORMATION

DIOCESE OF SUPERIOR, WI

JMJ

26 July 1999
Sts. Joachim & Anne

"I have found my vocation! In the Heart of Mother Church, I shall be Love!"
-- St. Therese of Lisieux

When I decided to work for TOTUS TUUS, I thought I would be giving so much. Whatever I did give, I don't remember. But I know I was given more than I'd expected.

The most important thing I received from TOTUS TUUS was the knowledge of my own pitiful humanness, which left me no choice but to place my trust in God.

TOTUS TUUS transformed my appreciation of the Holy Mass and the Most Blessed Sacrament into a fervent love for Jesus; it transformed my understanding of the importance of our Blessed Mother Mary into a complete reliance on her; and it transformed my belief that I ought to do something with my life into a desire to seek God's Will and to follow it.

Truly it was by Mary's intercession first and also by St. Therese's intercession that I came to know my vocation. But TOTUS TUUS gave me the desire to know it, through the revelation that God has a special plan for me. And it gave me the means to know it through prayer.

TOTUS TUUS. I belong to Jesus through Mary. Totally. Now I am heeding His loving call into the heart of the Church. There have been many steps along the way, many signs that I never asked for, many blessings that I will never deserve, and TOTUS TUUS has been a big part of it. I thank God for TOTUS TUUS. What else can I do, but offer my life to Jesus through Mary, and offer my prayers for the world...

Stacy Marie Farmer
(former TOTUS TUUS teacher)
Entrance into CARMEL of Mary
8 September 1999

Questions?

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TOTUS TUUS

TOTUS TUUS is a Catholic catechetical program dedicated to youth and their families through God's Word, Christian witness, and Eucharistic worship. The aim of TOTUS TUUS is to put youth and young adults not only in touch with, but in communion, in intimacy with, Jesus Christ. Only He can lead us to the love of the Father in the Spirit and make us share in the life of the Holy Trinity. TOTUS TUUS 2010 strives to bring forth a balance between the knowledge of the Sacraments and the meaning of life in Christ, thus bringing our faith alive.

TOTUS TUUS seeks to foster openness to vocations in youth as well as the teachers. The teachers sign a covenant in which they promise to be open to God's will, especially concerning their vocation. If the teachers are actively discerning God's will, then they can better help the youth with whom they work to do the same. TOTUS TUUS hopes to accomplish this discernment by bringing its teachers and youth to a greater realization of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. In order to gain this realization TOTUS TUUS focuses on catechetical instruction and an active devotion to Mary.

MISSION

The mission of TOTUS TUUS is to inspire in young people a true longing for holiness, a deep desire for conversion and a personal renewal within the context of a stronger prayer life. Through evangelization and catechesis, TOTUS TUUS seeks to foster openness to sacrifice and the various Christian vocations through the offering of time, talent, and treasure.

- To gather college students and seminarians from throughout the United States into teams, training them in service of God, drawing them closer to Our Lord through prayer, devotion, knowledge and Christian formation.
- To use these teams to inflame the hearts and minds of children and young adults, inspiring in them a true longing for holiness, and empowering them to become Christian Leaders by dedicating their lives totally to God and imitating the motto of John Paul II, "TOTUS TUUS" (Totally Yours).
- To assist parishes in the formation of young Christian leaders for the New Millennium.

OUR MOTIVATION

TOTUS TUUS is Latin for "Totally Yours" and the motto of Pope John Paul II. Taken from St. Louis de Montfort's great work, *True Devotion to Mary*, it represents our desire to give ourselves entirely to Jesus Christ through the hands of His Immaculate Mother. TOTUS TUUS, then, reminds us of the tremendous and difficult call to spend ourselves for Christ through the intercession of His Mother, and to preach the gospel to all nations.

The challenge to be TOTUS TUUS is accepted with great joy! The teams come to know and love the vitality, faith, and courage of all the youth they encounter. The youth are seeking not just role models, but HEROES who are striving to live and proclaim, "Lord, I will be

totally yours". With joy and honor, TOTUS TUUS serves these youth and shares with them the blessings that God has given them. Therefore, the teachers dedicate their summers entirely to the Lord, leading all youth into the New Millennium.

FIVE PILLARS

1. The Eucharist
2. Marian Devotion
3. Catechetical Instruction
4. Vocational Discernment
5. **Fun!**

FIVE MARKS

1. Proclamation of the Gospel – to arouse faith.
2. Apologetics – 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

Catechetical Instruction

TOTUS TUUS is very proud to begin its twenty-eighth year of serving youth. To date TOTUS TUUS has served around 1,000 young people within the Diocese of Superior alone and this is only the third year that the Diocese of Superior has had TOTUS TUUS. The basis of what is taught is formed by an authentic catechesis, which is an ordered and systematic initiation into the revelation that God has given of Himself to humanity in Jesus Christ; a revelation stored in the depths of the Catholic Church's Sacred Tradition and in Sacred Scripture, constantly communicated from one generation to the next by a living, active faith.

The methodology, structure, content and enthusiasm of TOTUS TUUS is concerned not only with teaching the faith but also with arousing it unceasingly with the help of grace, opening the heart, conversion, and encouraging total adherence to Jesus Christ on the part of those who are still on the threshold of Faith.

APPLICATION QUALIFICATIONS:

Experience working with youth is helpful but not required.

The applicant must be:

1. A high school graduate
2. A practicing Catholic
3. Confirmed

Additionally, the applicant should have:

4. A working knowledge of the Catholic faith.
5. A desire to work with youth

JOB DESCRIPTION:

The teacher must be willing to:

1. Learn and experience the faith
2. Work with a team
3. Respect team dynamics
4. Strive for a stronger prayer life
5. Teach children
6. Travel
7. Spend oneself in rigorous schedule

The Team

Each TOTUS TUUS team consists of four members: two men and two women. The teachers are chosen based upon their desire to teach the faith, love of children, energy and enthusiasm, and for their individual leadership abilities. In order to run a week of TOTUS TUUS Summer Program smoothly the teachers adhere to a well-defined schedule which has as its foundation and backbone a structured prayer life.

Training Program

Your commitment to TOTUS TUUS begins with a two part training program. First, there is an eight day camp, where each teacher will be prepared to work as a modern day evangelist. Each teacher is trained to articulate the information contained in the curriculum (found in this packet) and all aspects of the parish catechetical program. Additional training includes instruction in: the mission of TOTUS TUUS, prayer, Catholic doctrine, Christian relationships, and evangelization skills. Opportunity for individual and/or community prayer, Eucharistic Adoration, daily Mass, Confession, team recreation, and fellowship completes a well rounded week of training.

The training period is also a time when team assignments and destinations will be announced. Team members will learn to pray together, resolve conflict and work together. This should be a very enjoyable experience since you will be living with other young people dedicated to the life of Christ.

The second part of the training program consists of an internship week. During this week you will be able to watch past TOTUS TUUS teachers in action. In the past we have realized that it is difficult to enter a parish having no idea what to expect. During this week you will have the opportunity to observe different teaching methods, interacting one-on-one with the children, parents, and teachers and begin to teach classes yourselves. This gives you some experience before you hit the road with your team.

On the Road

Upon completion of the internship week your team will travel to seven more parishes throughout the Diocese of Superior. There is a vacation during the July 4th holiday week. There will also be a mid-summer and an end-of-summer retreat.

As part of TOTUS TUUS you will have the opportunity to teach many youth, ranging in age from first to twelfth grade. You may also assist in leading songs, prayers, meditations, giving talks to the parish or a number of other duties that may arise. The duties of the TOTUS TUUS team do not end in the classroom. While on the road, a TOTUS TUUS team is not only evangelizing to the children and young adults that they teach, but also to the priests, sisters, families, waiters, gas station attendants and everyone else God brings into your life.

Arrival/Preparation/Departure

The team arrives at a parish Saturday evening prior to the week of teaching. One of the team members will be speaking at all of the Masses that weekend. The team will meet with a parish representative, tour the facilities, set up and prepare for the coming week on either Saturday or Sunday afternoon. After putting on the summer program, the team will have some free time Friday evening and Saturday morning for team recreation and personal time. The teams are due to arrive at their next parish before the anticipatory Mass on Saturday evening.

Housing and Transportation

During the week the team will stay at host family houses so as to better know the families of the parish better. The host families often treat the teachers as though they were part of their own family. Housing of team members occurs from their arrival Saturday afternoon/evening until their departure the following Saturday. Each team will provide their own transportation through the generosity of one of the team members whose mileage will be reimbursed by the Diocese of Superior.

Meals

All of the team's meals will be provided while the team is in the parish:

- Breakfast is provided by the host family at **7:15 a.m.** Please inform the host family that cereal, fruit or toast is sufficient.
- Lunch is provided by a parish family at **12:00 p.m.** Volunteers assisting in the kitchen can prepare the lunch or the team can fix sandwiches from food brought in.
- Evening meal is provided at **5:30 p.m.** Families in the parish will invite the team to supper. This allows for more families to be involved in the hosting of the team and provides an excellent opportunity for the team to interact with families of the parish. A family may prepare and serve the meal, have food brought in, or take the team out to eat, whatever they prefer. The team will leave the host families home no later than **7:00 p.m.** in order to prepare for the junior/high school program. Teachers will sometimes have to pay for meals on Friday night and Saturday afternoon.

Pay

Each team member will receive a stipend for the summer as well as free meals and lodging. Additionally, the team member that drives his or her own car will be reimbursed for gas mileage.

DAILY SCHEDULE

7:00 a.m. Rise
7:15 Breakfast
8:00 Morning Prayer & Rosary

GRADE SCHOOL PROGRAM

9:00 Introduction
9:15 Icebreaker
9:25 Class period #1
9:50 Snack/Game
10:05 Music Preparation for Mass
10:20 Class period #2
10:45 Mass preparation/Confessions
11:15 Mass
12:00 LUNCH – RECESS
p.m.
1:00 Water Break/Totus Tuus Show
1:15 Class period #3
1:40 Skit
1:50 Class Period #4
2:15 Gather, Review, & Closing prayer
2:30 Dismissal
2:30 Cleanup / Setup for next day/ Team meeting

3:00 Evening Prayer & Chaplet of Divine Mercy
3:30 Team Recreation
5:30 Supper

JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

7:30 Introduction/Review
7:45 Session #1
8:30 Break
8:45 Session #2
9:30 Dismissal
9:40 Night Prayer

Our schedule is quite rigorous and demands all the energy a person can muster. This is deliberate so as to provide an intense giving of oneself in service to Jesus Christ and the spreading of his gospel. It is when we are weak that we are strong, for the Lord's grace makes up for all that is lacking in us. In other words, it is meant to challenge and stretch our teachers so as to form them in selfless generosity, so that they might truly say as did our Holy Father John Paul II, in imitation of Mary's "yes" at the Annunciation, "TOTUS TUUS!"

Grade School Program

The ***Grade School Program*** (grades 1-6) is designed for Catholic children going into first through sixth grades. Unfortunately at this time, TOTUS TUUS does not have the resources to provide a curriculum appropriated for preschool aged children. If a parish wishes to provide their own preschool program at the same time as TOTUS TUUS, they may. For the teachers the program will include teaching four classes each day, helping with Mass preparations, teaching liturgical songs and responses, participating in games, icebreakers, skits and leading songs, participating in recess, teaching and leading prayer and countless other things that arise. The week is finished with a water fight and activities. The Friday activities may include one teacher being covered in shaving cream by the kids.

Mass and Confession

Understanding that all we do is intrinsically linked with the whole of Liturgical and Sacramental Life, TOTUS TUUS encourages the celebration of the Holy Mass at 11:15 everyday. For it is in the Sacraments, especially in the Eucharist, that Christ Jesus works in fullness for the transformation of all mankind. (Please note that, the TOTUS TUUS schedule can be adapted to meet the needs and special circumstances of each parish).

Children are asked to participate as readers, commentators, and bringing up the gifts at the Offertory. One of the many fruits of allowing children to participate in Holy Mass is the strengthening of the Church's internal life as a community of believers and of her external activity as a missionary Church. Furthermore, within the daily schedule, it would be ideal if the Sacrament of Reconciliation would be offered everyday at 10:45 am. Once again, this is the suggested schedule and can be adapted as necessary. The oldest students will be sent on Monday and younger grades as the week progresses. If your parish has many young people, the pastor may want to invite a fellow priest to assist.

If the parish priest is unable to preside at the Mass, the team can arrange for Stations of the Cross or the Rosary to be prayed.

Junior High and High School Program

While many summer programs limit themselves to the sixth grade and below, TOTUS TUUS offers evening instruction for junior high and high school youth. We have found that college aged teachers can effectively impact the high school youth. Two reasons have been noted: 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. The team teaches in such a way as to continually offer a dialogue - in which each person feels respected in his or her most basic dignity. Our high school program is different from normal parish based youth ministry. Our goal is to conduct a "parish mission" for them, consequently it will be and look different from the usual youth group gatherings.

Once again this is the suggested schedule. Although it is important that the program begin on Sunday evening, it is possible to arrange the order of classes to meet the needs of each individual parish if prior notice is given.

Each retreat session runs from 7:30 p.m to 9:30 p.m. with a 15 minute refreshment break. We ask the parish to supply the refreshments Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings.

On **Tuesday** evening, the youth experience adoring Christ, face to face, during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. As part of the program, TOTUS TUUS asks that the students be given the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on the evening that Adoration is scheduled. Due to time constraints, if more than 10 high school students are expected, it helps to have more than one priest hearing confessions if at all possible. Concluding the week, the team will spend **Thursday** night in fellowship with the youth which may include grill-out in a park, bowling, ultimate frisbee etc.

To Bring or Not to Bring...

As you pack for your TOTUS TUUS mission, there are two things you should keep in mind to make things easier:

- 1) You and three other people will be traveling (sometimes long distances) in ONE VEHICLE (Yes, there was once a team that spent the summer in a Geo Metro!). Therefore space is at a premium.
- 2) You will have the opportunity (and it would be a good idea to take advantage of it) to do laundry each week; therefore, you need only to pack for one week and not the whole summer.

Due to space constraints, each teacher is allowed one large, duffel style suitcase and a backpack. Please be reasonable. Although it is tempting to bring your entire theology library, there might not be room for it in your team car!

As a positive reflection on TOTUS TUUS and in the spirit of professionalism, all teachers are asked to observe the TOTUS TUUS dress code:

Weekdays

Ladies Slacks, dresses, capris, or skirts (of appropriate length); blouses, collared shirts, or dress shirts for teaching. No t-shirts, shorts, or tight or revealing clothing, please.

Guys Slacks and collared shirts for teaching.

Facial hair should be neat and well groomed or clean-shaven.

No t-shirts or shorts, please.

Sundays

Because Sunday is a solemn celebration of God's goodness and a special opportunity to offer Him our praise and worship, teachers are asked to "dress up" for Sunday Mass.

Ladies Dresses or skirts of appropriate length, no slacks please.

Guys Dress shirt, tie, nice slacks and dress shoes.

Other items that may come in handy...

- Watch
- Bathing suit (one piece)
- Sweatshirt or jacket
- T-shirts, jeans and shorts for non-teaching time
- T-shirt, shorts and shoes suitable for water fights, grass and mud stains (sandals work better than flip flops which easily break!)
- Underwear (extra just in case)
- Towel
- Toiletries and hygiene items (shampoo, soap etc.)
- Sunblock
- 3-ring binder and Loose-leaf paper
- Pens/pencils
- Catechism of the Catholic Church and your Bible (NAB translation will match the lectionary)
- Rosary
- Breviary (If you do not have one, contact John Schreurs)
- Some money for team outings/occasional meals
- Travel Alarm Clock
- *Host families provide laundry detergent, bedding & pillows (these items are also available training week so no sleeping bags/pillows are necessary)

Not necessary but sometimes useful...

- Teaching/skit props (nerf ball to use for review games, etc.)
- Refillable water bottle
- Stain stick for laundry stains
- Camera
- Guitar & music, piano/organ music (if applicable)
- A few catechetical resources such as Catholic directory and Catholic Young Adult Question Books
- Frisbee