

Dear Parents of St. Noel Teens,

I'm excited to share with you the upcoming calendar for the 2018-2019 high school youth program. You will notice that the format of the Prime Time program has been changed from previous years. I would like to share with you some of the reasoning behind this new format.

As you know very well teens have many commitments and finding a time to call them together is a challenge. Both Erica Zaler, the former Youth Minister, and myself have experimented with offering different formats. This upcoming year we are planning to focus our Prime Time gatherings to two meetings per month. In this way, I hope to encourage more teens to participate.

One event will be a service opportunity with a reflection and social justice component. Teens enjoy participating in service, but it is also important to reflect on those experiences. Therefore, in addition to the service we will reflect on how our actions connect to our faith.

The other monthly event will be an opportunity for community building. It is my goal to help bring teens from many schools together and for them to create new friendships. As well as the service events, our community events will also make connections to our faith traditions.

Let me also remind you that St. Noel provides 5 GIFT sessions every year. All teens are invited to participate individually or with their families. The GIFT sessions will include a variety of break out sessions for teens to dig deeper into each of the GIFT topics.

The events on this year's calendar are designed to help create more opportunities for teens to participate at St. Noel. Not all events are scheduled on Sunday evenings, in the hopes, that more teens might be able to participate. I ask you to encourage your teen to participate in our youth programming so that they may grow in maturity and faith.

Thank you for your support of St. Noel's Youth Ministry programs. It is my sincere hope that I get to meet each of your teens and share with them the love of Christ.

God Bless,

Kaitlin Chervenak

St. Noel Youth Minister