

TOTUS TUUS

PARISH FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM

SUMMER 2026



The Ten Commandments & the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary
Diocese of Marquette

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TOTUS TUUS
“Totally yours”

What are people saying about Totus Tuus?

“I love the program. I love the content of the program. I love that it is totally Catholic.”
- Angie Mazurek (Bessemer)

“Every parish needs a summer program for youth and I think Totus Tuus is one of the best!”
- Fr. Ronald Timock (Stephenson)

“The program is awesome and offers a lot of opportunity to the kids for not just learning, but fun too!” - Kelley VanLanen (Bark River)

“The team took time to draw each student into conversation and relationship with themselves and with our Lord. The personal witness is powerful! They had reluctant students involved and smiling” - Melissa Pillifant (Ishpeming)

“The kids’ interaction with the younger leadership of the team and their spirituality seemed to touch the children especially at Mass.” - Fr. Frank Ricca (St. Ignace)

“I like this program because you actually learn something and not just sing songs and do crafts.” - 7-year-old boy (L’Anse)

“The Mass participation by the students was wonderful! The team was so good with Mass prep and getting the students involved. The things the 7th-12th graders learned and experienced at Totus Tuus will be very beneficial as they graduate from high school and continue on their life’s journey.” - Mary Beth Casanova (Iron Mountain.)

“The students see that young people believe in God and practice their faith. They see that believing in God and practicing your faith is not only for adults, but for everyone.”
- Nancy Degnan (Norway)

“The team was great with our kids, the kids loved them! It is a wonderful program and learning the faith doesn’t have to be ‘boring’.” - Fr. Darryl Pepin (Bark River)

TOTUS TUUS is a Catholic youth program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic faith through catechesis, evangelization, Christian witness, and Eucharistic worship. The goal of TOTUS TUUS is to help young people develop their relationship with Jesus Christ so that there is an intimate friendship whereby He may lead them to the Father in the Holy Spirit. To accomplish this, we emphasize a devotion and love for our Lord in the Eucharist and for Mary our Mother. We strive to help young people to understand their faith through catechesis so that they may live it in today's world. We do this in such a way that it is fun for both missionary teachers and youth alike. A TOTUS TUUS missionary teacher helps to make the faith real to the youth as a way of life and love, and not simply a set of rules and obligations.



The program calls upon college students and seminarians from the Diocese of Marquette and across the United States to carry out this mission. Those recruited are trained and put onto teams of four (two men and two women) to go out into a parish for a week at a time, putting on a "parish mission" in order to teach the faith and inspire the young. They do this from June to August. In addition to trying to communicate our faith and translate that into daily life, we also strive to foster Christian vocations. It is our firm belief that vocations, callings from God, can only be heard and responded to if one is living a Christian life. We strive to foster this, first and foremost, in our missionary teachers by providing them with an understanding of the faith, a strong prayer life, and an opportunity to witness to their faith. The missionary teachers sign a "covenant" in which they promise to be open to God's will for them and actively to discern it. Because the missionary teachers are striving to live an authentic Christian life and are actively discerning their vocation, they can better help the youth to do the same.



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THE TOTUS TUUS CURRICULUM

The Sacred Scriptures and the Catechism of the Catholic Church provide the foundation of the catechetical instruction of the Totus Tuus summer program. Consequently, Totus Tuus has divided the four pillars of the Catechism into a six-year teaching cycle:

Year One: The Mystery of Salvation

Year Two: The Apostles' Creed

Year Three: The Sacraments

Year Four: **The Commandments (2026)**

Year Five: The Virtues and Beatitudes

Year Six: Prayer and the Our Father

To complement this six-year cycle, Totus Tuus follows a four-year cycle dedicated to the mysteries of the Rosary: Joyful, **Luminous (2026)**, Sorrowful, and Glorious.

FIVE PILLARS OF TOTUS TUUS

- 1) The Eucharist
- 2) Marian Devotion
- 3) Catechetical Instruction
- 4) Vocational Discernment
- 5) Fun

The Eucharist has pride of place in the Totus Tuus schedule, for both team members and youth. Team prayer (The Liturgy of the Hours, the Rosary, the Angelus, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament) provides the structure, but the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the “source and summit” of the daily schedule, which is celebrated with the youth.

Totus Tuus catechists and counselors will lead the young people to Jesus for a week; however, Mary will lead them to Jesus for a lifetime. Therefore, Totus Tuus promotes **Marian devotion**. Meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary, we come to see how Mary always leads us to her Son. Praying with her and to her, we hear her say to us, “Do whatever He tells you” (John 2:5).

An authentic **catechesis**, rooted in an orderly and systematic explanation of God’s revelation of Himself through the person of Jesus Christ, provides the foundation of the program’s teaching. Totus Tuus instructs young people in the basic tenets of the Catholic Faith to cultivate both a firm intellectual grounding and a solid relationship with Jesus. All of our teaching aims to help young people grow in the understanding of, strengthen their faith in, and, most importantly, develop an intimate 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 be married, a priest, a religious or a consecrated single. Team members sign a “covenant” in which they promise to be open to and actively discern God’s will for them. Because they are striving to live an authentic Christian life and are actively discerning their vocation, they can better help the youth to do the same.

Finally, Totus Tuus demonstrates that one can be a faithful Catholic and still have **fun**. Morning “pump up,” silly skits and songs, recess, water fights, and more, infuse the element of fun in the program.



OUR MOTIVATION

TOTUS TUUS is Latin for “Totally Yours” and was the motto of Saint 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 sometimes difficult call to spend ourselves for Christ while relying on the intercession of His Mother, and to preach the gospel to all nations.



This 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 missionary teachers dedicate their summers entirely to the youth, leading the youth of our Church through the New Millennium.

FIVE MARKS OF TOTUS TUUS

- 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.**

Totus Tuus joins the Church in her proclamation of the Gospel to arouse faith in the youth of the Catholic Diocese of Marquette. Ready with “an explanation...for the reason for your hope” (1 Peter 3:15), Totus Tuus catechists expound upon the reasons for our beliefs and share their personal testimonies with the young people.

Pope Paul VI wrote:

“Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to missionary teachers, and if he does listen to missionary teachers, it is because they are witnesses.”

(Evangelii Nuntiandi, 41).

With this in mind, Totus Tuus team members are immersed in a life of prayer and give witness to the fruits of that experience of Christian living .

CATECHETICAL INSTRUCTION

TOTUS TUUS is very proud to celebrate over thirty years of teaching over 150,000 youth. This program was founded in 1987 in Wichita, Kansas and is continuing to spread across the country. The foundation behind



what is taught is formed by an authentic catechesis, which is an orderly and systematic initiation into, and explanation of the revelation that God has given of Himself to humanity in Jesus Christ. This revelation, stored in the depths of the Catholic Church's Sacred Tradition and in Sacred Scripture, is constantly communicated from one generation to the next by a living, active tradition.

The methodology, structure, content, and enthusiasm of TOTUS TUUS are concerned not only with teaching the faith but also setting it on fire within the hearts and lives of our young people. Our Totus Tuus teams begin their summer with a week of in-depth training at Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary in Winona, Minnesota. They

are taught the curriculum at a college level, and also are given a spiritual retreat in order to prepare themselves spiritually to serve others. This is a critical part to the success of the program.

MASS, RECONCILIATION, AND ADORATION

Understanding that all we do is intrinsically linked with the whole Liturgical and Sacramental Life, TOTUS TUUS encourages the celebration of Holy Mass at 11:15 a.m. every day. **(Please note that the TOTUS TUUS schedule can be adapted to meet the needs and special circumstances of your parish.)** It is in the Sacraments, especially in the Eucharist, that Christ Jesus works most fully for the transformation of all mankind. Children will participate in serving, bringing up the offerory gifts, and proclaiming the readings and petitions.

If a priest is unable to preside at the Mass at any point during the week, the team will bring the children to the church to pray the Rosary, Midday Prayer, or the Stations of the Cross. We suggest that opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation be made available every day at 10:45 a.m. 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 pas-

tor may want to invite a fellow priest to assist. We realize that this can be a lot to ask our priests who are already so busy. But we have found over the years that celebrating and participating in the sacraments on such an intimate level has a tremendous effect on the children. We strive to help the children to participate fully and actively in the liturgy and consider this an integral part of our program. **It is the responsibility of the "contact person" at the parish to arrange the liturgical and sacramental events with the priest.**

2026 CURRICULUM

Kindergarten - 6th Grade (Day Program)

Catechetical Theme: The Ten Commandments

Mysteries of the Rosary: The Luminous Mysteries

Monday

Class #1 *[Class titles are to-be-determined, but will center around the above themes.*
#2 *Much of the detail is worked out at training, which is why these are still open.]*
#3
#4

Tuesday

Class #1
#2
#3
#4

Wednesday

Class #1
#2
#3
#4

Thursday

Class #1
#2
#3
#4

Friday

Class #1
#2

7th - 12th Grade (Evening Program)

	<u>Session #1</u>	<u>Session #2</u>
Sunday	<i>[Class titles are to-be-determined]</i>	
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday	Evening Social & Fun Night	

DAILY SCHEDULE

The following is a suggested schedule for use during the week of TOTUS TUUS. ***This schedule can be adapted to meet the needs of a particular parish.*** If you would like to make adjustments to the schedule to accommodate any special circumstances in your parish, we ask that you notify Fr. Ben Hasse (or the team leader who will be contacting your parish once the summer has begun) as soon as possible.

Team	7:00 a.m.	Rise
	7:30 a.m.	Breakfast
	8:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer and Rosary

GRADE SCHOOL PROGRAM

9:00 a.m.	INTRODUCTION
9:15 a.m.	Warm-up/songs
9:25 a.m.	CLASS PERIOD #1
9:50 a.m.	Snack Break
10:10 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
12:00 p.m.	Lunch-Recess
1:00 p.m.	Cool Down-Water Break
1:10 p.m.	“Totus Tuus Show”
1:25 p.m.	CLASS PERIOD #3
1:55 p.m.	CLASS PERIOD #4
2:15 p.m.	Gather, Review, and Closing prayer
2:30 p.m.	DISMISSAL

Team	2:30 p.m.	Clean-up/Set-up for next day/Team Meeting
	3:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer and Chaplet of Divine Mercy
	3:30 p.m.	Team Recreation
	5:30 p.m.	Supper

JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

7:00 p.m.	Introduction/Review
7:15 p.m.	SESSION #1
8:00 p.m.	Break
8:15 p.m.	SESSION #2
9:00 p.m.	Night Prayer
9:15 p.m.	Dismissal

Very Small Parish Model (VSP)

After several years of discussion, in the summer of 2017 we piloted a program in Ewen and Naubinway for very small parishes. A number of parishes were interested in hosting Totus Tuus, but did not feel it was likely they would have sufficient numbers for the middle school and high school evening program.

For parishes utilizing the VSP model, please note that this schedule is still accurate for the day program, but the youth evening program is cancelled. Any students going into grades 7th-12th are encouraged to attend the day program as volunteers.

The evenings are then to be used to meet parishioners through home visits set-up ahead of time by the parish leaders. Discussion topics with these families may include: testimonies, how to pray with the Sunday Gospel and readings, the day program of Totus Tuus, as well as letting the Spirit lead the conversation. This provides a more intimate atmosphere in which the parishioners can get to know the missionaries, and vice versa.

Parish leaders should contact Fr. Ben to work out the details. Home visits should be scheduled well in advance for the evenings Sunday—Wednesday. On Thursday, we recommend that there be a parish-wide Eucharistic Holy Hour with confessions, either preceded by a parish potluck, or followed by a parish ice-cream social.

Volunteers/Helpers and Safe Environment

It can be helpful to have a few high school students or adults to assist in the classrooms, especially with the activities in the Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades, to supervise the children during bathroom breaks and during recess, and to assist those who may become ill or homesick. There must be at least two adults present in the building at all times. One should be a contact person for any needs that arise as well as someone to watch the kids before 9:00 a.m. and after 2:30 p.m. until their parents arrive.

Volunteers should also be utilized in the classrooms, as Totus Tuus will be unable to provide more than one team member in each classroom. For safe environment purposes, please have at least one volunteer per room.

During training, team members will be given the following safe environment guidelines in regard to the classrooms. If you cannot get volunteers for the classrooms, please make sure these guidelines are being followed. If there is no window in the classroom door, the door must be open. If there is a window in the door, the window is not to be obstructed. Totus Tuus takes the safety of children seriously. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

No child should ever leave a classroom unattended. If a child has to leave in the middle of a class for any reason, at least one (preferably two) volunteer(s) should accompany the child(ren) to his/her destination.

Volunteers should not be alone with youth in the bathroom, but should instead wait outside in the hall for them. If it is necessary to go into the bathroom with a child, there should be two volunteers present.

Classroom volunteers who are being disruptive will be asked to report to the parish coordinator.

The team leader will meet with classroom volunteers Monday morning at 8:30 a.m. to explain their responsibilities during the week. The parish coordinator should also attend this meeting.

All volunteers over the age of 18 **MUST** be trained in the VIRTUS safe environment program as required by the Diocese of Marquette. Additionally, all volunteers over the age of 18 **MUST** have a current background check on hand, to assure that there is no history of a sexual crime with children or young people. There should also be an adult present with volunteers who are under 18.

It is the responsibility of the parish coordinator to make sure the volunteers have met these diocesan criteria.

If you have any questions about this, please contact
Donielle Kube: 906-227-9155 • dkube@dioceseofmarquette.org.

GRADE SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Grade School Program that TOTUS TUUS provides is designed for children **going into Kindergarten through Sixth grades** in the upcoming school year. The grade school program runs Monday through Friday.

Note: Your parish may opt to include only First through Sixth grades. We encourage you to consider including the Kindergartners as a way of reaching children and families as soon as possible. If you would like to reach younger students (four and five year olds), that is up to the local parish to provide both program and volunteers: the Totus Tuus missionaries are not able to provide this. **We HIGHLY recommend this approach: recruiting a number of catechists/volunteers who can run a program for the smaller children, 4 year-olds - Kindergarten, with games and age appropriate activities during the Totus Tuus class periods.**



The students are encouraged to be clear and consistent in their faith, affirming always their identity so they may see God as their loving Father and, in so doing, empowering them to be witnesses for Him in the world. Finally, TOTUS TUUS endeavors to show the children that the humble ,yet courageous seeking of all believers is to be based upon the Word of God, who cannot deceive or be deceived.

Facilities

In order for the Grade School Program to run smoothly, the missionary teachers ask for one large hall or room for their main assemblies. (This same room can be used as a lunchroom if necessary). Three classrooms are also needed, as well as a small room for the team to keep their supplies in. For the 1st and 2nd grade classroom, it is ideal to have an empty space near the chalkboard for the children to gather, as well as tables set up with chairs for their activities. Each classroom should have a chalkboard or a dry erase board. As our program is centered on the Eucharist, it is important that the church be available for Mass and Confessions every day. It would be ideal if Father would expose the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesday night with the high school program, as well as hear Confessions that night.

Snack/Recess

We ask the parish to provide drinks through the day. Water is a necessity, but we also encourage other drinks such as lemonade or Kool-Aid. The children will need water set out for them at three points during the day: at the 9:50 snack break, at 12:00 lunch, and after recess at 1:00. We also ask that snacks (cookies, muffins, bars, cheese, fruits and vegetables, etc.) also be provided for the morning break. We ask that your parish volunteers have the snacks and drinks ready to go at 9:45 am. After lunch is a recess break. The team will have group games in mind to play, or if there is a playground, that can be utilized as well. There is no snack break in the afternoon.

Lunch

Lunch can be provided by the parish, or the children can bring sack lunches. If lunch is to be provided, often the Knights of Columbus, the Altar Society, or other parish groups can be helpful both with cost and with preparation.

Parish Potluck Supper

If so desired, the parish is asked to sponsor a potluck supper for the children, their families, and parishioners on **Wednesday** evening. The potluck supper should begin at 5:00 p.m. and wrap up around 6:30 p.m. so as to allow time to prepare for the high school class. Once again, this activity and the time are **suggested**; the day and time can be adapted to meet the needs of each individual parish.

We encourage this to be a parish-wide event. This gathering gives the team the opportunity to meet with families and other parish members. This is an excellent opportunity to meet parents and for them to get to know the missionary teachers, where they are from, etc. About 6:00 p.m. the team leader will introduce the team 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 for the parents.

Friday Afternoon

On Friday 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. Students can still bring their lunches, or some parishes like to take this opportunity to have a “cook out” (usually hot dogs and chips). After lunch there will be no classes.

Friday afternoon can be spent in a nearby park or recreation area. After lunch there will be a water-balloon toss, and a “water fight” in which students can bring water containers, squirt bottles, buckets, etc. The parish is asked to provide water hoses and wading pool or stock tank, etc. to refill the water buckets/squirt guns. Parents should be warned that children will be wet and possibly dirty when they are picked up and they will not be allowed to go back inside to change clothes.



Parishes may also choose to provide popsicles, ice cream, or other treats at the conclusion of Friday afternoon. The day is closed with songs and prayer.

One fun Totus Tuus “tradition” is the Human Mudpie or Human Sundae. One of the Totus Tuus missionaries is chosen to be the Human Mudpie. The students then get to put mud, shaving cream, sawdust and glitter on them (or chocolate sauce, whipping cream, sprinkles, etc.) This is not required, but it is a component of the fun that seems to be really successful in motivating the students!



TOTUS TUUS JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

TOTUS TUUS offers evening instruction for junior high and high school youth (grades 7-12) during the week in the evenings. We have found that vibrant, faithful college-aged missionary teachers can effectively impact the junior high and high school youth. Two reasons have been noticed: the close proximity of age and the 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. **The junior high students will join the high-schoolers for the evening program. Their classes will remain separate so as to provide a comfortable surrounding and appropriate instruction.**



Notice: the junior high and senior high school program starts on Sunday and concludes on Thursday evening. Each retreat session runs from 7:00 p.m. until 9:15 p.m. with a 15-minute refreshment break at 8:00 p.m. We ask the parish to supply the refreshments. A chalkboard/dry-erase board is needed for the program.

same time, each youth is afforded the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Penance. Thus a priest (or priests) will be needed from 8:00-9:00 pm. It is important that the Holy Hour start at 8 pm, as the time before that is used to prepare the students for Adoration and Confession. Depending on the number of students, it may well be helpful to have 2 or 3 priests to help hear confessions.

On **Tuesday** evening, the youth experience adoring Christ face to face during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. During the

Concluding the week of retreat sessions, **Thursday** evening, the team will be spending time in fellowship with the youth. Activities for Thursday evening may include a barbecue at the lake, going out for pizza and bowling, having a bonfire and game night, etc. This is a great time for the missionary teachers to really get to know the junior high and high school students.



Often it is challenging to gather our 7-12th graders, and some youth leaders and pastors feel considerable discouragement in working with this age group. The evening program of Totus Tuus has borne rich fruit among our youth, including some who have gone on to become Totus Tuus missionaries themselves! Please prayerfully do your best to recruit as many 7-12th graders as possible, and consider having some of your “prayer warriors” pray for this specific intention!

THE TEAM

Each of the TOTUS TUUS teams will consist of two men and two women. The missionary teachers are chosen based upon their commitment to the Catholic faith, desire to teach the faith, love of youth, energy and enthusiasm, and for their leadership abilities. In order to run a week of TOTUS TUUS smoothly, the missionary teachers adhere to a well-defined schedule which has as its foundation and backbone a structured prayer life.

Arrival/Set-Up

The team arrives the **Saturday evening prior to the week of teaching.** Members of the team will be available to speak at the parish Masses that



weekend. This is an excellent opportunity to publicize the coming week with a brief presentation about TOTUS TUUS. 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 touring of the facilities on Saturday evening. The team will set up the facilities on Sunday afternoon. Due to the early morning and late night scheduling of events, parishes have found it more convenient to provide the team leader with a copy of the facility keys. Please make arrangements with the team leader concerning who will have facility keys for the week.

Housing

Because the missionary teachers are "out on the road" we ask that the parishes provide host families to provide sleeping arrangements, a morning continental breakfast and possibly snacks to refuel. The team needs two "host homes," one for the men and one for the women.

Men and women are to be housed separately. It is easier for the team and the parish if the host homes are close to the parish and to each other. The interaction at host homes is very valuable for both the missionary teachers and the families.

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



We ask the host families to treat our missionary teachers as though they were part of the family. It is important to stress that occasionally the missionary teachers may be late getting home due to team meetings and may not be present in the afternoons due to planning and setup.



Meals

Plan to provide all of the team's meals while the team is in your parish **with the possible exception of Thursday and Friday supper**. Sunday after Mass and/or lunch with a host family is "team time," a necessary time of rest and recreation for the team. Because the schedule for the week and the entire summer is so demanding, and, to observe Sunday as a day of rest, the team will have "down time" on Sunday afternoons for rest, recreation, fellowship, and to prepare for the coming week.

- The host family provides **breakfast** at 7:30 a.m. Please inform the host family that cereal, fruit, or toast is sufficient.
- The missionaries normally eat **lunch** with the students. If the students bring their own bag lunches, lunch should be provided for the missionaries by a parish family or the parish. Volunteers assisting in the kitchen can prepare the lunch or the team can fix sandwiches from food brought in. Buffet style works best, and the parish may want to provide extra food for the helpers, priest, etc.
- **Evening meal** is provided at 5:00 p.m. As we are on a tight schedule, please do not schedule supper any earlier or later than 5:00 p.m. Host families normally prepare this meal. Otherwise, please arrange for families in the parish who would like to invite the team to supper. This allows for more families to be involved in hosting 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. The team will leave the family's home no later than 6:30 p.m. These meals should be scheduled for Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday evenings. Wednesday is the parish potluck, Thursday is the evening out with the junior/senior high, and Friday evening the team is usually on their own. The meals on Saturday, and Sunday lunch can be with the host home families.



PARISH INVOLVEMENT

TOTUS TUUS is a full parish program; not just a summer program for youth. Stewardship is a key and underlying theme of the TOTUS TUUS program. There are many ways for adults and families to be involved, some are listed below. Parish Coordinators should not feel as if all of the work and the ultimate success or failure of the program is seated upon their shoulders. They should actively seek out individuals and families to help out. This is part of what it means to be a parish “family.” Coordinators should also note that parents who are asked to invest in the success of the program through their donation of time, talent, and/or treasure are more likely to have their kids participate in the program.

Parish Program Coordinator

The responsibilities of the parish coordinator for the program are as follows:

- Reserve facilities:
 - 3 Classrooms
 - Gathering space for the week
 - Team room
 - Field or other play area for recess and Friday afternoon water activities
 - Large room for the parish potluck
- Help the team set up if necessary
- Arrange for Friday afternoon water activity supplies
- Recruit volunteers to help during the day program
- Confirm that volunteers over the age of 18 have VIRTUS training and background checks
- Arrange how snacks will be provided for the day and evening programs
- Find host families for men and women
- Arrange families (may be different than those providing housing) to provide meals for the team during the week
- Schedule a priest(s) for daily Mass, Confession, and Adoration
- Schedule a priest(s) for Adoration and Confession Tuesday night
- Organize and promote the potluck, as well as set-up and cleanup
- Promoting the program, collecting registrations, and providing name tags for the children

Cost

Below is the cost to a parish for hosting a team and the **maximum number** of K-6 youth the team will handle. This cost includes the mileage fee. The amount the parish charges the participating youth is entirely up to the parish itself. We do recommend that there be a registration fee. For some years, many parishes have used \$20.00 for one child, and \$30.00 per family with more than one child. We recommend now (2026) increasing this to \$25.00 for one child or \$40.00 per family with more than one child.

<u>Number of Teams</u>	<u>Max. Youth Served</u>	<u>Cost</u>
1 team (4 persons)	90 youth (K-6)*	\$1,000
2 teams (8 persons)	180 youth (K-6)	\$2,000

* If you think you will be near the 90 youth number for K-6, please contact Fr. Ben.

*This fee has been fixed at \$1000 since 2017, and costs have gone up quite a bit during that time. In 2027 we will be slightly increasing the program fee to help compensate for increased costs.

**(Parishes from outside the Diocese of Marquette will pay \$1500.00. Please note, many dioceses charge \$2000 or \$2500 or more, so this is still an advantageous rate.)

Payment Schedule

Deposit

Each parish must pay a fee of \$1000 per team to reserve a date and a team. This fee must be mailed with the **Parish Registration Form** signed by both the contact person and the pastor, and be sent in by **April 1, 2026**. An email of confirmation will be sent to each parish detailing the scheduling information. Parishes will be scheduled on a first-come first-served basis, with returning parishes scheduled first, and then new parishes.

Balance

To simplify the process, we are asking for the full fee (\$1000/team) by April 1, 2026 this year.

Refunds

Your \$1000 fee per team is refundable prior to April 1, 2026. Prior to May 1, 2026, if circumstances arise whereby your parish is no longer able to host Totus Tuus, a refund of \$500 per team will be given. After May 1st, every effort will be made by us to find a parish that will take the week for which you signed up, but if we can't, you will be responsible for the entire fee.

Mail payments to:

Fr. Ben Hasse
St. Albert the Great University Parish
411 MacInnes Drive
Houghton, MI 49931

****Checks payable to: "Diocese of Marquette"

At least one week prior to arrival, the team leader will contact the parish contact person listed on the Parish Registration Form to make all necessary arrangements. Please be available between noon and 1:00 pm on Monday of the week before the team arrives so that the team leader can reach you by phone. On the Saturday of the scheduled week, the team will arrive.

NOTE: We are willing to discuss ways to make TOTUS TUUS more affordable for your parish. If the cost of the program is the only deterrent to your parish scheduling TOTUS TUUS or if there are payment scheduling problems, please contact Fr. Ben.

*Totus Tuus receives generous support from the
Legacy of Faith, making the
program more affordable for your parish!*

*We are grateful to the Legacy of Faith
and to all who have contributed to the endowment!*



What are people saying about Totus Tuus?

“The enthusiasm and knowledge of these young adults brings hope and encouragement to older parishioners, seeing the interaction with our children. Having the entire week is an opportunity to REALLY teach and move the kids to a new level of knowledge, respect, and love for God. They learn and see it modeled in the team members.”

- Angela Johnson (Ishpeming)

“Student growth is possible through the entire Totus Tuus program, it is all encompassing.” - Alison Schlag (Ironwood)

“The talks and small group sessions, and the activities that are geared to age groups get students to open up and interact.” - Karen Druschke (Iron Mtn.)

“The team was well-trained, energetic, enthusiastic, knowledgeable, loving, and FUN!” - Christy Miron (L’Anse)

“Some of the students were very curious and intrigued with the reverence displayed by the missionaries, and I believe it will have a positive impact on their spiritual lives going forward.” - Kelly Moran (St. Ignace)

“The growth was palpable as the week went on.” - Fr. Corey Litzner (L’Anse)

“They presented the faith with joy! The kids did not want to see the team leave.” - Deacon Tom Moseley (Munising)

“Very good program. Many parents who had their kids over spoke very highly and favorably about the program. I would not hesitate a bit to have them over and over to our parish in the future, God willing.” - Fr. William Ssozi (Hancock)

“It is a fun week learning the faith. Often we don’t see the fun in learning. The team of young adults on fire for their faith is great for our children to experience.” - Karen Paidl (Stephenson)

