

Mentoring at St. Jude's JHYM

Mentoring

- Mentors are faith-filled and enthusiastic Catholic adults (ages 18 and older) that will be assigned to build community and journey with a Trio of 3 students to listen to them, pray for them, encourage them, ask the right questions to empower their faith growth, as well as guide them in developing faith habits (of prayer, Scripture, and service) while holding them accountable. Mentors will be massively supported by St. Jude staff, given a vast array of resources to share with their Trio, and have opportunities for on-going training.
- What mentoring IS NOT—we do not expect mentors to act as a counselor/therapist, or spiritual director. Mentoring is NOT the same as being a catechist: JHYM teens will have responsibility for accessing the video content for their monthly lessons. Instead of focusing on *teaching* the faith, mentors have a unique opportunity to model the faith through personal sharing, connecting the “dots” for teens to see the practical implication of our faith in their own circumstances, and to train teens to create habits of living their faith.

Training & Support

- Mentors will receive (via email or a physical copy) a Mentor's Training Manual with the expectations and guidelines for becoming an inspiring and empowering mentor.
- Mentors will be asked to attend a training on Sunday, August 30th at 6:30-8:00 pm or Monday, August 31st 7:00-8:30 pm.
- Mentors will have the opportunity to gather each month for a 45 minute “Mentor Strategies” zoom meeting (or watch them later) for support and collaboration.
- Matthew and Jenny will massively support our mentors by giving them access to a huge categorized list of resources for share with their teens (Scripture passages, videos, articles, memes, etc—all sorted by topic).
- Mentors will be given a plethora of springboard questions and nuggets of wisdom each month that tie in the content from the videos, the liturgical season, as well as training processes so students learn to create faith habits of prayer, Sacraments, and service.

Expectations & Responsibilities

Mentors are:

- Expected to meet (virtually via zoom or in person at St. Jude or an approved location) with their Trio (group of 3 students) one Sunday or Monday night each month for junior high (dates have already been determined) at a time convenient for all 4 of you—for no less than one hour. High School Trios have more flexibility on the day they meet.
- Given the ability and be expected to touch base with their Trio at least once a week via the Faith Formation App. The Trio's group chat will include: mentor and students, and be visible to a staff member and one parent from each student. *We will instruct parents to refrain from participating in the conversations—this is merely for transparency. Parents can text, call, or email staff or the mentor directly if they need to connect.*
- Expected to abide by the St. Jude Media Policy and all Protecting God's Children and health and safety guidelines.
- Encouraged to participate in Mass with their Trio and connect with them before or after Mass.
- Expected to pray for their Trio each week.
- Expected to clear their in-person meeting format/time/place with Jenny or Matthew to ensure proper protocols (adequate space available, staff person present, cleaning afterwards, etc.)
- Asked to touch base with the parents of their Trio once a month via the communication app to invite them to something, encourage them, or share something inspirational with them (taken from the huge categorized list of resources).
- Expected to submit a progress report each month to communicate with staff (are students participating, responding, are there any issues/concerns).

Mentor Agreement

I, _____ agree to the following:

- Practice my Catholic faith; I actively develop a personal relationship with Jesus through prayer and Sacraments, and strive to live with virtue and integrity in line with the Catholic church.
- Desire genuinely to journey with teenagers to help them develop a personal relationship with Jesus and grow in their understanding and lived experience of the Catholic faith.
- Commit to praying for my Trio and their family each week.
- Commit to meeting with my Trio of students once a month (on the determined dates) for a minimum of one hour—in person or over zoom.
- Commit to touching base with my Trio at least once a week on the approved communication app used by JHYM (to maintain transparency with staff and parents). I agree not to use my PERSONAL phone number, social media accounts, or email to communicate with students under 18 years old.
- Send any resources I find to Youth Ministry staff for approval BEFORE sharing them with my Trio.
- Touch base with the parents of my Trio once a month via the Faith Formation App to invite them to a church offering, provide encourage for them, or share something inspirational with them (taken from the huge categorized list of resources).
- Touch base with youth ministry staff once a month (by submitting the brief progress report) to ensure accurate records can be kept.
- Join in or watch at least two Mentor Strategies zoom meetings each semester (one will be offered each month).
- Abide by St. Jude's Media Policy, all Protecting God's Children guidelines, and health and safety guidelines (all listed in the Mentor's Training Manual).
- Bring any major concerns for the teen's well-being immediately to a youth ministry staff member. I understand that by making the commitment to work with minors, I am a mandated reporter of any abuse I hear of or see evidence of.

Mentor's First & Last Name

Mentor's Signature

Date

If your Protecting God's Children certificate and background check are not on file at St. Jude, a staff member will contact you about filling them out or requesting a certificate be emailed to St. Jude.

Office Use Only:

PGC certificate _____

Background check _____

Training _____