

Dear Families, Teens, and Parishioners of St. Jude Church!

St. Jude Youth Ministry is launching a totally new and impacting MENTORING approach to accompany teens in 7th through 12th grade as they grow as present-day disciples of Jesus! All teens are welcome to sign up to join a qualified, friendly, and faith-filled mentor and two other students in their grade – called a Trio—for monthly gatherings (face to face or virtually).

Why a Mentoring Approach? When teens have the opportunity to journey with a caring adult and two other peers, they will experience genuine community, feel valued and listened to, and be held accountable for growing and maturing. Their Trio interactions give them a safe place to ask questions, share their ideas, learn practical faith habits, and apply Gospel values in their lives.

How, when, and how often will Trios connect? Trios have the option of gathering over zoom or face to face (at St. Jude church, a teen's home, or a public place) for about one hour each month. Junior high teens can choose to gather on a Sunday or Monday at a time agreed upon by the Trio. High school Trios have more flexibility for their meeting day. Mentors will communicate with teens safely through the Faith Formation App in between their scheduled meetings to connect teens and families with relevant Scripture, videos and articles that assist and guide teens in applying faith.

St. Jude Faith Formation App: Our new and customized St. Jude Faith Formation App gives teens and families access to relevant, inspiring, and thought-provoking content each month! Trios can stay connected through the App's group chat feature (which is transparent for staff and parents). The St. Jude Faith Formation App will be available as a free download in September for all smart phones, tablets, and computers. Elementary Faith Formation will also use this App to provide high-quality and relevant content for parents and younger students later this year.

Who are the Mentors? Youth Ministry is looking to recruit and train over 125 faith-filled adults (ages 18 -98) to work with our youth. Mentors will have on-going training and be massively supported by staff to meet teens where they are at and journey with them as they progress through stages of faith. Mentor Trainings will be held on: Sunday, August 30th 6:30-8:00 pm or Monday, August 31st 7:00-8:30 pm in the church. See <u>stjudes.org/teens</u> for more information and an application to be a mentor.

How can teens sign up? It is imperative that we have a clear count of how many students desire to be a part of youth ministry this year. We ask that if your family wishes to participate, register (if you haven't already) by submitting registration forms and a student survey by September 1st, all of which can be found on <u>stjudes.org/teens</u>.

How can adults contribute? First, please pray for successful out-reach to the hundreds of teens in our parish. Second, please consider being trained to mentor three students. Third, please invite teens and adults you know to participate and contribute by participating, praying, or mentoring.

If you have any questions, comments, or would like more information about becoming a mentor, please contact Matthew or Jenny Krumdrick! We really value your support and participation in St. Jude Youth Ministries.

Blessings, Matthew Krumdrick & Jenny Krumdrick Matthew Krumdrick Jennifer Krumdrick

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