

# Youth Ministry at St. Francis of Assisi Parish

*"The Church entrusts to young people the task of proclaiming to the world the joy which springs from having met Christ. Dear friends, allow yourselves to be drawn to Christ, accept his invitation to follow him. Go and preach the Good News that redeems; do it with happiness in your hearts and become communicators of hope in a world which is often tempted to despair, communicators of faith in a society which at times seems resigned to disbelief, communicators of love, in daily events that are often marked by a mentality of the most unbridled selfishness."*

ST. JOHN PAUL II, WORLD YOUTH DAY 1995

**Welcome to the St. Francis of Assisi Youth Ministry Program, where we seek to facilitate an encounter with Christ and an enriching of faith for the youth of our parish. Inspired by the vision of St. John Paul II, the foundation of our program consists of:**

**Deepening our prayer life** through regular Adoration, the Rosary, the Divine Mercy chaplet, and more.

**Growing in fellowship** through our regular meetings and other group events that foster fun, relaxation, and connection.

**Selfless service** through volunteer opportunities at our parish and in our community.



**Middle School Youth Group**  
GRADES 5-8

**Monthly Meeting:**  
Sundays 5:00-7:00 PM

**Area of Focus:**  
The Lives of the Saints



**High School Youth Group**  
GRADES 9-12

**Monthly Meeting:**  
Sundays 5:00-7:00 PM

**Area of Focus:**  
The Sunday Gospel

# July 2019-May 2020 Youth Ministry Program

Dear Families,

I am excited to announce the St. Francis of Assisi Parish Youth Ministry Program for July 2019-May 2020! Here you will find a schedule of our meetings and events. Please note the following:

- While it is my goal to follow this schedule as closely as possible, the dates are subject to change, and other opportunities could arise. I will do my best to give you plenty of notice!
- Youth Group members are NOT obligated to attend all meetings and events!
- Dinner (pizza) will be provided at regular Youth Group meetings (Sundays 5:00-7:00 PM) unless otherwise noted.
- Our Youth Holy Hour at First Saturday Adoration (2:00-3:00 PM) will be followed by a 30-minute gathering where we work on a small service or faith-related project (TBD). Both Youth Groups are invited.
- Certain events, such as hikes, have not been planned yet, and are therefore not included on this schedule. I will send out an announcement when we do have dates and details for any additional events.
- There is no fee to be a Youth Group member, but participants will be expected to cover their own costs for special events such as bowling nights, outdoor activities, etc. Details will be provided before these events.
- The Mass for the Parish Youth is a regular Saturday Vigil/Sunday Mass where the members of our Youth Ministry program will have active voluntary roles, such as lecturing, taking up the collection, taking up the gifts, ushering, and altar serving (for those who are appropriately trained). I will have a system for members to sign up for these roles closer to the Mass date. Both Middle and High School Youth Groups are invited.
- I have included the dates of certain parish-wide events that I want to encourage the Youth Groups to attend with their families, since they are wonderful opportunities for community and fellowship.

If you have not already done so, I encourage you to join our Youth Group email lists! Send me an email at [gabi.gilliland@stfrancisofassisi.net](mailto:gabi.gilliland@stfrancisofassisi.net), and I will add you. I send a weekly newsletter to each Youth Group, and additional announcement/reminder emails as need be. If you have questions, don't hesitate to reach out!

God Bless,

*Gabi Gilliland*

# Schedule of Meetings & Events

For events marked as tentative or TBD, this schedule will be updated as soon as details are available. In the event of a change or cancellation, I will give as much notice as possible.

**Middle School Youth Group Regular Meetings** are highlighted in blue.

**High School Youth Group Regular Meetings** are highlighted in yellow.

## JULY 2019

**Saturday, July 6th:** Youth Holy Hour at Adoration, 2:00-3:00 PM followed by gathering, 3:00-3:30 PM

**Sunday, July 21st:** Middle School Youth Group Regular Meeting, 5:00-7:00 PM

**Sunday, July 28th:** High School Youth Group Regular Meeting, 5:00-7:00 PM

## AUGUST 2019

**Sunday, August 4th (tentative):** New Horizons Soup Kitchen, 4:00-6:00 PM

**Sunday, August 11th (tentative):** Middle School Youth Group Regular Meeting, 5:00-7:00 PM

**Sunday, August 25th (tentative):** High School Youth Group Regular Meeting, 5:00-7:00 PM

**Saturday, August 31st:** Youth Holy Hour at Adoration, 2:00-3:00 PM followed by gathering, 3:00-3:30 PM

## SEPTEMBER 2019

**Sunday, September 8th:** Middle School Youth Group Regular Meeting, 5:00-7:00 PM

**Thursday, September 12th:** Bowling Night at Merrimack Ten Pin, time TBD

**Sunday, September 15th:** (Parish-Wide Event) Parish Picnic after the 11:00 AM Mass

**Sunday, September 22nd:** High School Youth Group Regular Meeting, 5:00-7:00 PM

**Saturday, September 28th:** Mass for the Parish Youth, 4:00 PM Vigil

## OCTOBER 2019

**Friday, October 4th:** (Parish-Wide Event) Feast of St. Francis Potluck Supper, time TBD

**Saturday, October 5th:** Youth Holy Hour at Adoration, 2:00-3:00 PM followed by gathering, 3:00-3:30 PM

**Sunday, October 6th:** Middle School Youth Group Regular Meeting, 5:00-7:00 PM

**Sunday, October 27th:** High School Youth Group Regular Meeting, 5:00-7:00 PM

## NOVEMBER 2019

**Saturday, November 2nd:** Youth Holy Hour at Adoration, 2:00-3:00 PM followed by gathering, 3:00-3:30 PM

**Sunday, November 3rd:** Middle School Youth Group Regular Meeting, 5:00-7:00 PM

**Thursday, November 7th:** Bowling Night at Merrimack Ten Pin, time TBD

**Sunday, November 17th (tentative):** New Horizons Soup Kitchen, 4:00-6:00 PM

**Sunday, November 24th:** High School Youth Group Regular Meeting, 5:00-7:00 PM

## DECEMBER 2019

**Saturday, December 7th:** Youth Holy Hour at Adoration, 2:00-3:00 PM followed by gathering, 3:00-3:30 PM

**Sunday, December 8th:** Middle and High School Youth Groups Christmas Gathering, 5:00-7:00 PM

**Saturday, December 14th:** (Parish-Wide Event) Parish & School Christmas Party following 4:00 PM Mass

## JANUARY 2020

**Saturday, January 4th:** Youth Holy Hour at Adoration, 2:00-3:00 PM followed by gathering, 3:00-3:30 PM

**Sunday, January 12th:** Middle School Youth Group Regular Meeting, 5:00-7:00 PM

**Tuesday, January 21st:** Bowling Night at Merrimack Ten Pin, time TBD

**Sunday, January 26th:** High School Youth Group Regular Meeting, 5:00-7:00 PM

## FEBRUARY 2020

**Saturday, February 1st:** Youth Holy Hour at Adoration, 2:00-3:00 PM followed by gathering, 3:00-3:30 PM

**Sunday, February 2nd (tentative):** New Horizons Soup Kitchen, 4:00-6:00 PM

**Sunday, February 9th:** Middle School Youth Group Regular Meeting, 5:00-7:00 PM

**Sunday, February 16th:** High School Youth Group Regular Meeting, 5:00-7:00 PM

## MARCH 2020

**Saturday, March 7th:** Youth Holy Hour at Adoration, 2:00-3:00 PM followed by gathering, 3:00-3:30 PM

**Sunday, March 8th:** Middle School Youth Group Regular Meeting, 5:00-7:00 PM

**Sunday, March 22nd:** High School Youth Group Regular Meeting, 5:00-7:00 PM

## APRIL 2020

**Saturday, April 4th:** Youth Holy Hour at Adoration, 2:00-3:00 PM followed by gathering, 3:00-3:30 PM

**Sunday, April 5th (tentative):** New Horizons Soup Kitchen, 4:00-6:00 PM

**Sunday, April 19th:** (Parish-Wide Event) Divine Mercy Sunday Holy Hour, 3:00-4:00 PM

## MAY 2020

**Saturday, May 2nd:** Youth Holy Hour at Adoration, 2:00-3:00 PM followed by gathering, 3:00-3:30 PM

**Thursday, May 7th:** Bowling Night at Merrimack Ten Pin, time TBD

**Sunday, May 3rd:** Middle School Youth Group Regular Meeting, 5:00-7:00 PM

**Sunday, May 17th:** High School Youth Group Regular Meeting, 5:00-7:00 PM