

# FIAT FAQs

## Most commonly asked questions about FIATs

- 1. What is a FIAT?** Faith In Action Testimonial ≠ Youth Retreats and Service Projects
- 2. What is the purpose of FIATs?** Growing in faith extends beyond classroom learning. We grow as disciples of Jesus Christ when we experience Faith in Action through Catholic Retreats, Service Opportunities, and Faith-Based Experiences or Activities.
- 3. Why are FIATs required?** The Archdiocese requires a set amount of contact hours for Parish Faith Formation Programs. We incorporate those hours into both in-classroom learning *and* experiential learning; our program consists of 16 classes and 6 experiences ≠ retreats or service opportunities.
- 4. How do FIATs help my child learn about their faith?** By experiencing faith outside the classroom, with these retreat and service opportunities, our teens grow in their relationship with Our Lord ≠ not just knowledge of God, but relationship with God ≠ and come to understand how to live practically as His disciple, as a practicing Catholic.
- 5. How many retreats and service project do they have to do?** Each student must do one Youth Retreat, one Parish Service Project and one Community Service Project ≠ that makes up the first 3 FIATs; the other 3 FIATs can be any combination of the above depending on the personal preference of each student. Some enjoy retreats, others serve often within the Parish, and others typically help out in the community. Whatever fits your liking.
- 6. How do I find Youth Retreats and Service Projects?** Your child was given a FIAT Calendar with their student folder. There is a scheduled Grade Specific Retreat that counts as your Retreat FIAT included in your class schedule, other Youth Retreats and Service Projects are listed on the back of the calendar. And we will notify you monthly about retreat and Service Projects coming up ≠ watch for the YOUTH HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER for more information.
- 7. What if my child cannot make the Grade Specific Retreat do to a scheduling conflict?** They are allowed to substitute another Youth Retreat.
- 8. Can we substitute a family retreat for a Youth Retreat?** Only in extenuating circumstances are they allowed to substitute the Youth Retreat with a Family Retreat. Youth learn together and support on another in living their faith in youth experiences ≠ at school, on the sports team, in friend groups. What they learn together in a Youth Retreat carries over to the lived community experience.
- 9. Are they only allowed to count the service opportunities listed on the FIAT calendar?** No. If you know of other opportunities, give us a call or email so we can approve it.
- 10. How do we sign up for FIATs?** Email the Faith Formation Coordinator to let us know of your interest in a specific FIAT ≠ we will get you the details at that time. [resreled@frontier.com](mailto:resreled@frontier.com) or [stlawreled@gmail.com](mailto:stlawreled@gmail.com).