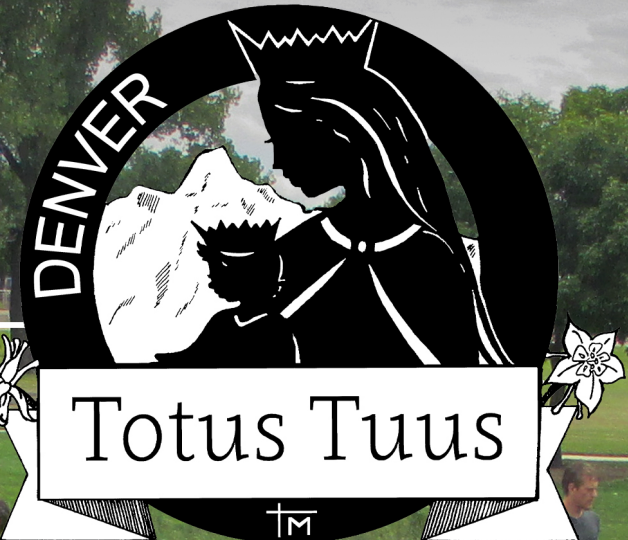
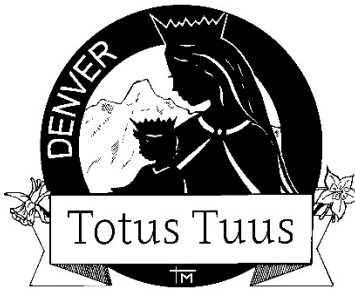


# TOTUS TUUS

2024 BLUE BOOK







# 2024 Blue Book

## **What's Inside**

About Totus Tuus .....	2
Grade School Program.....	6
Middle and High School Program .....	10
Parish Involvement and Registration .....	12

NOTE: This is a general introduction to the Totus Tuus programming offered through The Office of Evangelization and Family Life Ministries. Instructions on how to coordinate the program on the parish level can be found in the 2024 Parish Program Manual found at: <https://archden.org/eflm/youth-ministry/totus-tuus/parishes/>

# **About Totus Tuus – “Totally Yours”**

## **Our Mission**

To gather college students from across the United States and seminarians from St. John Vianney Theological Seminary into teaching teams, and train them in service to God, drawing them closer to Our Lord through prayer, devotion, knowledge, and Christian formation.

To send these teaching teams to inflame the hearts and minds of children and young adults by inspiring in the youth a true longing for holiness, a deep desire for conversion, and by empowering them to become Christian leaders by dedicating their lives totally to God in imitation of the motto of Pope St. John Paul II, "Totus Tuus Maria" (Totally Yours, Mary).

To impart an understanding of the Catholic Faith and an ongoing change of heart in all the youth of Totus Tuus through faithful catechesis.

# Our Motivation

Pope St. John Paul II's motto is taken from St. Louis de Montfort's *True Devotion to Mary*, and it signifies our desire to give ourselves entirely to Jesus through Mary. It also expresses our effort to give our all to every person we encounter. Through the teachers' examples of joy and service, the youth see that these young men and women are ON FIRE with the love of God and the Catholic Faith and long to spread that fire to them.



# Our Method

Totus Tuus programs exist in dioceses throughout the country. Each program is run independently. Totus Tuus Denver calls upon college students from across the United States and seminarians from St. John Vianney Theological Seminary to work in tandem to carry this mission to every person they encounter in the parish program. In hiring our teachers, we look for love of God, faith, energy, and enthusiasm. We also look for commitment to spiritual growth, teamwork skills and desire to serve the youth. Teachers are formed into teams of four, two men and two women, and bring the program to different parishes each week for seven weeks. At the parish, they conduct a week- long "parish mission," teaching and inspiring the parish's children and teenagers.

# The Five Pillars of Totus Tuus

**The Eucharist** – The Eucharist has pride of place in the Totus Tuus schedule, for both teachers and youth. Other prayers – the Liturgy of the Hours, the Rosary, the Angelus, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – provide a great deal of nourishment, but the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the “source and summit” of our faith.



**Marian Devotion** – The teachers will lead the youth to Jesus for a week, but Mary will lead them to Jesus for a lifetime. The teachers bring them to Mary by helping them dialogue with her as they meditate on the mysteries of the Rosary. Praying with her and through her, we hear her say to us, “Do whatever He tells you” (John 2:5).

**Catechesis** – An authentic catechesis, rooted in an orderly and systematic explanation of God’s Self-revelation through the person of Jesus Christ, provides the foundation of the program’s teaching. We instruct the youth in the truths of the Catholic faith in accord with the Tradition of the Church to cultivate both a firm intellectual grounding and a solid relationship with Jesus. All of our teaching is directed toward helping the youth deepen their understanding of God, strengthen their faith in Him and, most importantly, cultivate a more intimate union with Him.

**Christian Vocations** – Totus Tuus strives to foster Christian vocations by encouraging the youth to begin discerning God’s call to the married life, priesthood, or consecrated life. Because the teachers are striving to live an authentic Christian life and are actively discerning their own vocations, they can better help the youth to do the same.

**Fun!** – Totus Tuus demonstrates that one can be a faithful Catholic and have a lot of fun doing so! Morning pump up, skits, songs, recess, a water fight and sundae-ing the teachers make the program come alive! (Just don’t tell the kids about the last two – they’re surprises!)

# Totus Tuus Curriculum

Sacred Scripture and the Catechism provide the foundation for our catechetical instruction. The **2024 curriculum** will focus on the Creed and the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary.



*We divided the four pillars of the Catechism into a six-year teaching cycle:*

Curriculum Year	Pillar of the Catechism
1: The Mystery of Salvation	1st Pillar – Creed
<b>2: The Apostles’ Creed (2024)</b>	1st Pillar – Creed
3: The Sacraments	2nd Pillar - Sacraments
4: The Commandments	3rd Pillar - Life in Christ
5: The Virtues	3rd Pillar - Life in Christ
6: Prayer and the Our Father	4th Pillar - Prayer

*To complement the six-year curriculum cycle, Totus Tuus follows a four-year cycle for the mysteries of the Rosary:*

- Year 1: The Joyful Mysteries
- Year 2: The Luminous Mysteries
- Year 3: The Sorrowful Mysteries
- Year 4: The Glorious Mysteries (2024)**

# Grade School Program (1st – 6th Grade)



The Grade School Program is for children entering the first through sixth grades for the upcoming school year. This program runs Monday through Friday.

The kids are encouraged to engage the faith and make it their own. We teach them how to view God: as their loving Father, their Savior, and their Comfort and Guide. This message of God's love is made tangible through the love the teachers give to the kids, following St. Paul's exhortation to share "not only the gospel of God but also our own selves" (1 Thess. 2:8). **Developing a personal**

**relationship with God contributes to lifelong faith and gives them the confidence to be Jesus' witnesses in the world around them.** We endeavor to show the youth that a strong desire to know and love God can only be fostered by a steadfast prayer life and the frequent reception of the Sacraments.

## Daily Schedule

9:00 AM	Introduction
9:15	Icebreaker and String Skit
9:25	Class 1
9:50	Snack and Game
10:10	Music Preparation for Mass
10:20	Class 2
10:45	Mass Preparation and Confessions
11:15	Mass
12:00 PM	Lunch and Recess
12:50	Water Break
1:00	Decade of the Rosary
1:10	Class 3
1:30	Totus Tuus Theatre
1:50	Class 4
2:15	Gather, Review, Closing Prayer and Song
2:30	Dismissal



# 2023 Curriculum

## Monday

Class #1: 1st Glorious Mystery – The Resurrection

Class #2: I Believe in God

Class #3: The Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth

Class #4: And in Jesus Christ, His Only Son Our Lord

## Tuesday

Class #1: 2nd Glorious Mystery – The Ascension of Jesus into Heaven

Class #2: Who was Conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the Virgin Mary

Class #3: Suffered Under Pontius Pilate, Was Crucified, Died and Was Buried

Class #4: On the Third Day He Rose Again from the Dead

## Wednesday

Class #1: 3rd Glorious Mystery – The Descent of the Holy Spirit

Class #2: He Ascended into Heaven and is Seated at the Right Hand of God the Father Almighty

Class #3: I Believe in the Holy Spirit

Class #4: The Holy Catholic Church, The Communion of Saints

## Thursday

Class #1: 4th Glorious Mystery: The Assumption of Mary

Class #2: The Forgiveness of Sins

Class #3: The Resurrection of the Body

Class #4: And Life Everlasting, Amen

## Friday

Class #1: 5th Glorious Mystery: The Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth

Class #2: Our Mission to Serve: Stewardship and Vocations





# Lunch, Snacks and Recess

While a large part of the day is spent in classes, Totus Tuus is not school, and we make sure the kids have lots of fun! There is a snack break in the morning, recess and “cool down” after lunch. The kids are given plenty of water, and parishes may choose to offer them lemonade, fruit punch or other refreshments. The children bring sack lunches, unless the parish chooses to provide lunch for them.

Recess follows lunch. To facilitate team sports and other games, the kids bring (or the parish provides) Frisbees, hula hoops, gloves, balls, bats, jump ropes, etc. The teachers participate in recess with the children.

# Mass and Confession

It is in the Sacraments, especially in the Eucharist, that Christ Jesus works most powerfully for the redemption and sanctification of mankind. We have found over the years that participating in the Sacraments on such an intimate level has a tremendous effect on the children. The teachers strive to help the kids participate fully and actively in the liturgy; we consider this an integral and indispensable part of our program.



There is Mass with the children every day, which the parishioners are encouraged to attend. There are also opportunities for Confession each day. The kids will participate at Mass by serving, bringing up the gifts, proclaiming the readings and reading the petitions. The teachers will lead the children in songs during Mass. The teachers prepare them daily for Mass and Confession, remind them to be reverent during Mass and to behave well throughout the week (their fun Friday afternoon depends on it!). One of the biggest compliments we receive is that kids often behave better at Mass after attending Totus Tuus.



## Friday Afternoon

On Fridays, the schedule is the same until lunch. However, the afternoon is just for fun, and so there are no classes. The children can bring lunches as usual, or the parish can have a cookout.

In the afternoon, the kids change into swimsuits. Then they pick some (or all) of the teachers and turn them into human sundaes!

Afterwards, the water games begin! There is a water fight, for which the children bring buckets and/or squirt guns. Some parishes have even brought the Fire Department to spray the kids and make it “rain”!

After it’s over, the kids help the teachers clean up the area. Parishes may also choose to provide popsicles, ice cream sandwiches or other treats at the conclusion of Friday afternoon. The program is brought to conclusion with prayer and song.



## Volunteers and Safe Environment

In order to run Totus Tuus smoothly, we depend on the generosity of volunteers. They assist by setting up, cleaning, helping in the classroom, and doing other tasks as needed.

All teachers are given Safe Environment training before they arrive at the parish. Volunteers 18 years of age or older must be Safe Environment trained as well, and the business manager or Safe Environment Coordinator of each parish verifies that this has been completed. Totus Tuus takes the safety of the children very seriously.

**Please note that the Totus Tuus Teaching team does not count as chaperones. The Parish is responsible for providing the proper ratio (1:14) of adult chaperones per students in the program.**

## **Middle & High School Program (7th – 12th Grade)**

The Middle and High School Program runs Sunday through Thursday, 7:00 – 9:00 PM. We consistently find that vibrant, faithful, college-age teachers can make a lasting impact on these youth.

The teachers give witness to their faith and relationship with God through powerful talks and testimonies. They also lead small group discussions, quiet meditation, prayer, games and fellowship.

The middle and high school students are together for most of the evening program, but some of the talks and small groups are split up by age to create an atmosphere conducive to honest and age-appropriate discussion.



## **Adoration and Confession**



On Tuesday evening, the youth adore Christ face-to-face during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The youth are also encouraged to go to Confession which is offered during this time. These create the space for the teens to encounter Christ Himself. This night is often very impactful for teens regardless of where they are on their spiritual journey. This is the focal point of the week, as the goal of the program is simply this: intimacy with Jesus.



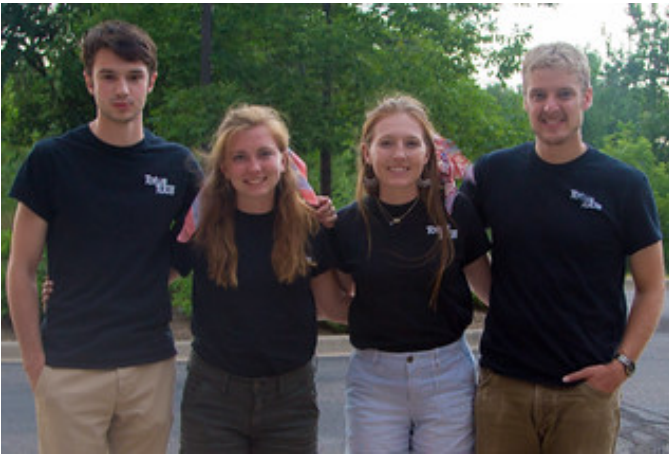
# Thursday Evening Social and Volunteers

To wrap up the program, the teachers spend Thursday evening as a fun night with the teens. With the approval of the pastor, this can even be at an off-site location. Activities can include anything that allows them to interact on a social basis, like a barbecue, going out for pizza, Nerf wars, dodgeball, Frisbee, bowling, going to a parishioner's home for a cookout, volleyball, etc. This provides a good opportunity for the teachers to solidify personal and meaningful connections with the youth and the mentor relationship.

Activity costs, if any, are incurred by either the parish or the teens. It is usually no more than \$15. If the activity is off-site, the parents of the youth provide transportation.

**A parish must have an adult parish staff-member/volunteer present during the Middle and High School Program both at the parish and at off-site activities to assist with general oversight, be available in case of emergency, and to ensure all participating youth arrive safely and depart safely.**

## The Teachers



Each Totus Tuus team consists of two men and two women who come with a passion for serving the Lord, the youth, the parish and each other.

The daily schedule of the teachers revolves around the Mass and the Sacraments, as well as communal and personal prayer – a summer given entirely to God and the youth would not be fruitful otherwise. Their communal prayer includes the Liturgy of the Hours, the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

**The teachers arrive at the parish on Saturday afternoon to prepare for the program to begin Sunday evening. The teachers stay at host families' homes during the week, one for the women and one for the men.**

# **Parish Involvement and Registration**

## **Parish Potluck**

On Wednesday evening, the parish has a potluck where the children, their families, the teachers and all parishioners gather. At the potluck, the teachers introduce themselves to the parish and share a little about their story and the mission of Totus Tuus. To close the night, the teachers lead the children in a few songs for their parents and the parishioners to enjoy.

## **Intercessors**

The experience and impact on the youth is made stronger by intercessors who pray for the teachers, the youth, the pastor, the coordinators and volunteers. This provides a much-needed flood of grace and spiritual protection by which hearts can be radically changed. It is also a great way for the rest of the parish to get involved.

## **Program Fee**

Here is the cost to host a team at your parish and the maximum number of youth who can be served per team.

- 1 team (4 teachers): up to 80 youth in the Grade School Program – \$2,600
- 2 teams (8 teachers): up to 160 youth in the Grade School Program – \$4,750

The maximum number of teens for the Middle and High School Program would be the same. If a large number of youth are present for the night program, extra adult supervision may be needed.

## **Funding Tips**

The amount the parish charges for participating youth is entirely up to the parish. Totus Tuus recommends around \$50-60 per child. At \$60/child, a parish with 40 youth in the Grade School Program would cover just under the cost of a team this year. Another way to fund a team is to add the cost of Totus Tuus to the annual Religious Education fee.

We have found it helpful not to charge for the Middle and High School Program in an effort to bring as many teens as possible. We recognize that sometimes teens don't want to come to church activities and that charging them can be an extra deterring factor. Other parishes find the opposite to be true and do charge for the evening program.

Throughout the years, many Knights of Columbus Councils, parish men's groups, altar societies, and other parish groups have assisted in bringing the program to various parishes. Would a group at your parish be willing to help sponsor Totus Tuus? We are willing to discuss ways of making the program affordable at your parish.

## Registration and Deposit

Online parish registration can be found at our website: [archden.org/eflm/youth-ministry/totus-tuus/](http://archden.org/eflm/youth-ministry/totus-tuus/). If you have further questions, you can contact Karin Middleton at [Karin.Middleton@archden.org](mailto:Karin.Middleton@archden.org) or call at 303-715-3249.

For registration, each parish must choose three potential weeks for Totus Tuus. This allows us to be able to schedule all of the parishes who wish to host the program. Parishes will be scheduled on a "first-come, first-served" basis.

Each Parish will receive their official date early in 2024. A confirmation document will be sent to each parish detailing the scheduling information. The emailed Ministry Services Agreement must be signed and returned to the Archdiocese of Denver by **March 1, 2024**. The week is not fully secured until full payment has been received.

## Balance

Parishes are asked to remit the balance of the program fee to the Office Evangelization and Family Life Ministries by **April 5, 2024**, at the very latest.

Checks should be made out to the Archdiocese of Denver with "Totus Tuus" in the memo line and mailed to:

Archdiocese of Denver  
Attn: Totus Tuus  
1300 S. Steele St  
Denver, CO 80210

Once again, we are willing to discuss ways of making the program 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 [Karin.Middleton@archden.org](mailto:Karin.Middleton@archden.org) or call at 303-715-3249.

## Cancellation

Please note page 21 of the Parish Program Manual for our cancellation policy.