

## YOUTH MINISTRY POLICIES

### ATTENDANCE

We encourage the teens to attend as many functions as they are able. Attendance at education meetings is strongly recommended. These meetings an important way that our teen community builds and strengthens.

**Participants must sign in at all meetings & / or functions to receive credit (see points system under mission trip) This is to record attendance. Teens may not leave a meeting early without written permission.**

### BEHAVIOR

Each teen is expected to be respectful of others and themselves. There will be NO DRUGS/ALCOHOL, NO SMOKING AND NO PDA'S (public displays of affection) at any youth ministry sponsored function. The Holy Spirit needs room to work! A PDA is considered anything more than hand holding or sitting next to each other. RESPECT is to be shown to everyone at all times.

With respect to dress code, we abide by Farmington Public School dress code available online at [www.farmington.k12.mi.us](http://www.farmington.k12.mi.us) or in the RF office.

### CHECK IN

Whenever a permission slip is required each teen needs to check in. **Parents will be notified by phone if their teen is not present at this event.** If you have signed up for an event and cannot attend, contact Mrs. Kerwin about your absence.

### DEPARTURE TIMES

Departure times are set as the time we will be departing, please arrive a few minutes early so departure times can be upheld. Departure times will be honored, please respect all involved and arrive on time.

### DISMISSAL

Teens are expected to stay at any given function until the stated ending time. Early dismissal **will only be allowed with parents/guardian permission.** Once they have left the building, St. Fabian Youth Ministry and the adult volunteers involved are no longer responsible for them. **Teens will not be left unattended on parish property, please respect the ending time and be prompt to pick up teens.**

### FINANCIAL NEED

If there is ever a financial need for assistance whether it is for registration fees or events, please contact Mrs. Kerwin. This information will be held with the strictest of confidences.

***No teen should have to miss an activity or event due to financial constraint.***

### ILLNESS

In case of illness or injury during an event or activity, parents or emergency contact listed on the permission slip or registration form will be notified immediately.

### PERMISSION SLIPS

Permission slips are required for all functions and social events that will occur "off-site" or away from St. Fabian grounds. Should a fee be required, please submit payment with your permission slip. **To prepare and plan events, please respect deadlines for permission slips.**

### REFUNDS

Refunds will not be issued for youth ministry events unless the event is cancelled by St. Fabian.

### TRANSPORTATION

Teens are not eligible to drive for events. Parent drivers will be required to drive teens. To be a parent driver, the proper driver information must be on file with our office.

### ADULT VOLUNTEERS

The youth ministry program at St. Fabian relies heavily on adult volunteers for all functions and meetings. This includes driving, helping facilitate activities, and chaperoning. Not only is this an excellent opportunity to connect our teens to our adults, it is a fantastic opportunity for our community to build. We all learn from one another! Volunteering with the teens can be just as fulfilling for you as it is for them! To volunteer, adults must have a completed background check and have completed Protecting God's Children. Please consider being a part of our events!

## **Mission Trip**

The annual mission trip is an incredible commitment made by this parish to provide a life changing experience for our teens as they travel to other parts of the country to repair and rebuild hearts and homes. Parish members support our mission trip financially with donations and fundraiser support throughout the year, emotionally with care packages and letters, and spiritually by lifting our mission group in prayer during this experience. Teens and their families commit to participate in a variety of settings to earn service points and participate in fundraisers to enable our group to go to work camp.

1. Each teen is expected to attend as many education meetings as possible (18 in all).
2. Each teen is asked to participate in as many service projects as possible to earn total hours of service points to include each of the following areas: Service, Catechesis, and Liturgical celebration. Possible service projects are as follows: Housing the Homeless, Soup Kitchen, Gleaners, Thanksgiving Baskets, Rebuilding Together, Service Saturdays, Pasta Suppers, etc.  
  
Possible Liturgical Service may include: being active as a Lector, Usher, or Eucharistic Minister, a part of the Music Ministry (Endless Praise), active as an Altar Server, participation in the Thanksgiving mass, the Confirmation Day of Reflection, and/or the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday.
3. Teens must work at least one shift at Harvest Sale, Pasta Suppers, and the Flower Sale.
4. Whenever a teen attends/works any St. Fabian Youth Ministry events that are not just social outings, they earn service points which help earn a spot on the mission trip. Our goal is to take as many teens as possible but we can be limited by work camp availability and money. Points and participation will matter, but will not be the sole qualifier for mission trip acceptance.

5. In addition to teen participation, parents are asked to work fundraisers and chaperone events as well. Parent participation helps to build our community as well! Fully aware that we all have full and busy schedules, please understand that a participation MINIMUM is one event, but more than one is of course encouraged.

## **St. Fabian Youth Ministry Goals:**

Goal 1: To empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today.

Goal 2: To draw young people to responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the Catholic faith community.

Goal 3: To foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person.

Themes of a Comprehensive Vision of Youth Ministry

Effective ministry with adolescents:

- \* is Developmentally Appropriate
- \* is Intergenerational
- \* is Multicultural
- \* involves Community-wide Collaboration
- \* provides leadership that mobilizes all the resources of the faith community
- \* creates flexible and adaptable programming

Components of a Comprehensive Ministry:

- \* Advocacy
- \* Catechesis
- \* Community Life
- \* Evangelization
- \* Justice and Service
- \* Leadership Development
- \* Pastoral Care
- \* Prayer and Worship

Renewing the Vision offers a practical framework for utilizing the resources of the entire faith community and integrating ministry with adolescents and their families in the total life and missions of the Church.