



# High School Youth of St. Patrick Catholic Church

Dear Parents:

Greetings and Peace! My name is Fr. Rowland, and I will be leading the High School Youth Ministry and Confirmation Program. I am excited to begin this new school year with you as we seek to strengthen your child(ren) in the faith. Truly within our culture, there are many battles and temptations to draw one away from the faith and live according to the world. This year with the High School Youth Group, I look forward to helping you teach your child(ren) about the teaching of the *Theology of the Body*, which our late Blessed John Paul II gave to the Church. We certainly have a great wealth of knowledge from all the saints who have lived and studied the teachings of Christ. I desire to tap into this great font and strive to help your child(ren) to co-operate with God's grace so that they may seek and obtain that which is Good! The meetings for the High School Youth Group will be each week at the Bethany Center from 7:00-8:30pm on Sunday.

**High School:** Included is a registration form for the High School Youth Group. If you have not already filled out this form for this year, please do so. There is a fee of \$55 for each person in the Youth Group, but there is a discount if you have multiple children within the youth group. You can look at the Youth Fee Schedule which is included within this envelope to determine the fee. If you find this fee to be burden, please feel free to contact the parish office at 452-6021 and other arrangements can be made. Please bring the form to the High School Youth Group Kick-Off on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Pre-Confirmaton:** Also included within this envelope is a registration form for those who will be seeking the marvelous Sacrament of Confirmation. There is a two year program for the preparation of the Sacrament of Confirmation provided for those who are in 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade. The form is for the first year of the preparation for confirmation called "Pre-Confirmation." Please fill out a form for each child entering the confirmation formation program and bring it to the High School Kick-Off on August 21<sup>st</sup>. Please note that there is an additional fee to the Youth Group of \$20 for each child entering Pre-Confirmation to cover the cost of the book, *Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church*, which was published this year. The following is a quote from Pope Benedict XVI from the forward of this Catechism for the youth:

*So I invite you: Study this Catechism! That is my heartfelt desire. This Catechism was not written to please you. It will not make life easy for you, because it demands of you a new life. It places before you the Gospel message as the "pearl of great value" (Mt 13:46) for which you must give everything. So I beg you: Study this Catechism with passion and perseverance.*

What a strong and challenging statement from our Holy Father! Together with your help, I hope to help your child(ren) to have a greater understanding of the Gospel message and to see it truly as the "pearl of great value" which demands one to have a new life in Christ.

In Christ,

Fr. Tony Rowland, Associate Pastor