

## High School Ministry

This mission of this ministry is to attend to the spiritual and social needs of our young people in order to foster an environment where the youth of our parish can feel a sense of belonging to our faith and community. The High School Ministry is made up of three equal and important parts: Confirmation Program, Antioch Retreat Team and Youth Ministry.



My friends, what good is it for one of you to say that you have faith if your actions do not prove it? James 2:14

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We always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and powerfully bring to fulfillment every good purpose and every effort of faith, that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, in accord with the grace of our God and Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Thessalonians 1: 11-12



WE ARE THE HANDS  
OF CHRIST ON EARTH ...

### Goals:

- ◆ Enabling today's youth to be tomorrow's Catholic leaders.
- ◆ Connect youth with the larger church, getting them involved in parish and focused on Eucharist.
- ◆ Provide a positive safe environment.
- ◆ Provide a comfortable sharing environment, a place that is upbeat and inviting.
- ◆ Nurture the youth with positive Catholic values of love, honesty, courage, peace and non-violence, fidelity, chastity, generosity, tolerance, respect for life from conception to natural death, care and compassion, service to those in need, equality, social justice, integrity, responsibility, and community.
- ◆ Promote positive self-image, a sense of self-esteem, a sense of purpose in life, a positive view of one's personal future, and humble acceptance of one's self as lovable and loved by God and others.

### Talent required:

Individuals wishing to consider a commitment to the High School Ministry should be a model of faith that is alive, conscious, and active with a desire to share God's message through word and action. They should have an understanding of the needs, concerns, and wishes of today's teens; as well as being compassionate, a good listener and someone who likes to laugh and have fun.

### Social

**The Youth Ministry:** The evenings, dates to be determined, will be organized fun, social activities to help promote team building and one's own self-esteem. This part of the ministry is open to "ALL" high school teens and their friends. This program meets year round.

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### Service:

We believe the service elements of our programs are the beginning of a life long journey in our relationship with God, the Church, and our fellow human beings. That when they share their time with God, their talents with others they learn more about themselves.

### Time required:

The time commitment will vary depending on the activities for each program. Adults can be part of one, two or all three programs depending on their individual availability.

### Training:

Adults working with the youth of the parish are required by the Diocese of Paterson to attend the "Protecting God's Children" workshop and undergo a criminal background check.

### Spiritual

**The Confirmation Program** prepares our candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Adults present an educational program and mentor the teens through the two years of preparation including faith formation, service and discussion, allowing the youth to better understand what it means to be a Catholic. This group meets on alternating Sunday's from September through April.

**The Antioch Retreat Team** consists of adults and confirmed teens working together and encourages the foundation of Christian friendships that provide peer-support, and gives the youth a sense of being called, of belonging, of being church. The team will meet on alternating Sunday nights (same nights as the Confirmation Program) beginning in September through April. They will develop and facilitate two retreats, one weekend retreat and a half-day retreat for the Confirmation Candidates, as well as faith formation for the team itself.