Youth Ministry Policies

Attendance

Teens are expected to attend all the classes for which they are registered. Anyone who arrives to class more than 15 minutes late will be considered absent. Understanding that teens have busy lives which include social events, extracurriculars, and part-time jobs, we allow for up to 5 absences per year. Teens in sacramental preparation may fail to meet the requirements of their preparation program if they exceed 5 absences.

Behavior

Disrespectful behavior toward peers, volunteers, or staff, inappropriate public displays of affection (PDA), and failure to actively participate in class activities are all considered unacceptable behavior. Disciplinary action may be taken at the discretion of the Director of Youth Ministry and/or the Pastor. This may include notifying parents of misconduct, excusing a teen from classes, or removal from the youth ministry program.

Technology

Phones will be collected by the classroom catechist at the beginning of each class. This may also include youth events such as the youth retreat. Phones will be returned to teens at the end of class. If parents need to contact their teens during class time, please call the Director of Youth Ministry. Headphones have been a particular distraction for many of our teens this past year, therefore headphones are prohibited on campus during youth ministry classes and events. Please leave headphones at home or in your vehicle. Violation of these rules may result in the confiscation of these items until the end of class. Repeated violation may result in requiring a parent to collect these items. Further disciplinary action may be left to the discretion of the Director of Youth Ministry.

Artificial Intelligence: Teens are prohibited from utilizing Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies for the completion of any and all faith formation materials including but not limited to class work, make up work, and sacrament requirements. The goal of faith formation is to grow and develop an authentic and personal relationship with Christ and His Church. Any use of AI in the formation process that is considered inauthentic, impersonal, or otherwise contrary to the growth in relationship with Christ and His Church is prohibited. Proper and improper uses of AI are left to the discretion of the Director of Youth Ministry.

Dress Code

There are three standards of dress for Youth Ministry classes and events:

Daily Dress: for most classes and events the dress code is Daily Dress. Clothing should cover the chest, belly, and area between the waist and mid-thigh. Additionally, the following items are prohibited: Hoodies, short shorts/skirts, pajamas, and Jeans with large rips.

Active Dress: for some events and fraternity days Active Dress may be recommended. This includes T-shirts, shorts, sweatpants, and tennis shoes. During these days formal wear and open-toed shoes are to be avoided.

Formal Dress: For many liturgical events and other special events. Female students should wear things like a dress, skirt, dress pants, blouse, formal shoes, etc. Male students should wear things like a suit, dress pants, button down shirt, necktie, dress shoes. Formal head coverings may be worn by ladies but are prohibited for gentlemen.

Clothing with inappropriate, crude, or profane messaging or imagery is prohibited at all times. Undergarments of any kind should never be visible. Those items prohibited in the Daily Dress category above are always prohibited. Determined violations of the dress code are made at the discretion of the catechist and the Director of Youth Ministry in accordance with these rules. Violations may result in calling home to make corrections before being permitted to participate in classes.

Transportation

Teens with a driver's license may transport themselves and family members to and from faith formation classes. To do so they must have permission from their parent given via the "Transportation Permission Form" and a drivers pass signed by the Director of Youth Ministry. All teens should be dropped off for classes between 6:10-6:25pm at the "olive tree entrance" and picked up from classes at 8:00pm at the "gate entrance" to the courtyard. Volunteers cannot leave until all our children have been picked up by a parent, so please be punctual.

Sacramental Preparation

Those in sacramental preparation must complete their requirements in correspondence with the information packet they received during their orientation meeting with the Director of Youth Ministry and the Faith Formation Administrator. Failure to meet these requirements will be handled on a case-by-case basis between the candidate for the sacrament, his/her parent, and the Director of Youth Ministry.