

DIOCESE OF NEW ULM

**MISSIONARY INFORMATION
BOOKLET**

GENERAL INFORMATION

What is Totus Tuus?

“Totus Tuus” means “Totally Yours” in Latin and comes from Pope St. John Paul II’s motto, which was inspired by St. Louis de Montfort’s great Marian work, *True Devotion to Mary*. The program was started in Wichita, KS in 1988 by Fr. Bernard Gorges. In a nutshell, Totus Tuus is an evangelistic program which sends teams of four missionaries to travel around the diocese to teach elementary-aged youth during the day and middle and high school-aged youth in the evening.



The Program

The Totus Tuus program consists of basically two parts: the daytime program and the evening program. There are other aspects to the program as well, but when people think of “Totus Tuus,” this is generally what they think of:

Daytime Program

From 9:00am to 2:00pm, Monday through Thursday, missionaries host a catechetical program for students in 1st through 6th Grade which focuses on different theological themes and Mysteries



of the Rosary each year. The day consists of skits, songs, class, Mass, lunch, recess, and other activities (see the schedule below for more details).

Missionaries either teach class or are the emcee for the day, leading games, songs, and recapping after each lesson. Each week finishes with a water fight, during which a missionary who has been elected by the students is tied to a tree or other upright object and is...uh...completely doused with water. But it means the kids like you...right?!

Evening Program

From 7:30pm to 9:00pm, Sunday through Thursday, the missionaries host a youth ministry program for those in middle and high school. The night consists of games, a talk by one of the missionaries, small group discussion, prayer, and adoration (on Tuesday night).

The Team

Four missionaries (two men and two women) make up each team. Each team has a Team Leader, a Team Coordinator, and a driver. Every team member is an essential part of every team and every team has its own unique character based on the gifts and abilities of each team.



Teams are prayerfully assigned by the director during Training Week and are then assigned a “tour” of parishes throughout the Diocese. Because they share in the common mission of spreading the gospel, teams become very tight-knit. Many missionaries maintain friendships even after their summer of Totus Tuus.

What makes Totus Tuus in the Diocese of New Ulm different?

1. Rural is Cool!

Because the Diocese of New Ulm is “America’s most rural diocese,” missionaries easily gain an intimate connection with the people of the Diocese and have a strong sense of belonging to the community by the end of the summer. Our families are “salt of the earth” people and missionaries often comment on their hospitality and inspirational family values. Because we are a small, rural diocese, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops classifies us as a “mission diocese.” This means that our parishes do not have the benefit of large staff and budgets, so Totus Tuus missionaries provide a truly evangelistic model of ministry and a welcome help in the life of the parish.

2. Diocesan Investment

You are not just a random Totus Tuus missionary in the Diocese of New Ulm; you are a unique individual with unique gifts who has been brought to our beautiful diocese to share those unique gifts. From the bishop to the parish staff, the people you work with value the sacrifice and commitment you make for our diocese. This plays out most notably in the involvement of diocesan staff in your formation, particularly the director of youth and young adult ministry. From hiring to sending off (and beyond) the director has a vested interest in your well-being. One-on-one meetings, availability, and regular visits to your team by the director make missionaries in the Diocese of New Ulm feel supported.

3. Camps

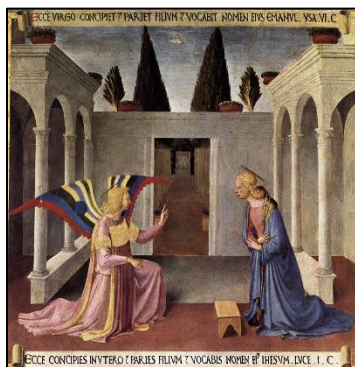
Once the parish tour is completed, missionaries shift gears and become camp counselors at our diocesan boys’ and girls’ camps (Camp Greatness and Camp Beloved, respectively). During Camp Beloved, the male missionaries work “behind the scenes” offering support to the campers and counselors. During Camp Greatness, the roles shift. Camps are a blast and add a welcome change of pace towards the end of the summer.

4. Friday Formation Day

St. Teresa of Calcutta used to say that she wanted her sisters to be “Mary *and* Martha.” By this, she meant that she wanted her sisters to serve with all of their heart and to pray with all of their heart. Totus Tuus missionaries do the same. In fact, it is our rigorous prayer routine (daily Rosary, Liturgy of the Hours, and holy hour of personal prayer time) which gives life to our apostolic zeal. In order to ensure that prayer is the soul of our apostolate, we have built in a day of rest and renewal. Every Friday, missionaries gather together for spiritual conferences (talks) from smart and holy Catholic leaders, small group discussion, fellowship with missionaries from other teams, and a holy hour of adoration with Confessions and/or spiritual direction offered.

THE LIFE OF A MISSIONARY

Who is a Totus Tuus Missionary?



The Totus Tuus missionary gives his “yes” in order to dedicate his life to Christ and point others to Him. A Totus Tuus missionary is someone who wants to serve Christ in all people: from the children they interact with during the day to the elderly they interact with in the parish, to their teammates whom they serve alongside each day. The Totus Tuus missionary desires to grow deeper in their relationship with Jesus, dedicating enough time in prayer to fuel them in their service. In a word, a Totus Tuus missionary is Marian.

Summer-at-a-Glance

See the calendar below for specific dates and locations

Training Week (late May)

As a missionary, your summer begins with Training Week. Training Week is an intensive immersion experience into all things Totus Tuus. Every day, you will attend multiple theology classes which focus on the year's theological theme and Mysteries of the Rosary (eg. Salvation History and the Joyful Mysteries). These are presented as college lectures and will eventually be synthesized by each team to a grade-appropriate level in order to better teach the students.

Other activities during training week include learning songs and skits (and practicing them), daily Mass and adoration, spiritual direction, lessons on prayer and the spiritual life, and of course, learning how to run the Totus Tuus program.

Parish Tour (June – mid-July)

After training, teams head out to their first parishes to start preaching the gospel! Sometimes, interns are provided for the first day or so to give missionaries guidance throughout their first 24 hours. During this time, you will be staying at host homes overnight and will be hosted by different families for supper throughout the week. Teams spend a week at each parish, gather on Friday for their formation day, and then hit the road and travel to the next parish.

Diocesan Camps (Mid-July – early August)

After six weeks in parishes, you then switch into counselor mode, taking all you've learned throughout the summer and applying it in our diocesan camps. Days are filled with small group time, talks, Mass and adoration, and a whole ton of fun camp activities. During Camp Beloved, the female missionaries serve as counselors and the male missionaries serve behind the scenes setting up games, serving food, doing dishes, cleaning, and praying for the campers and fellow missionaries. During Camp Greatness, these roles shift.



Retreats & Break Week

There are two retreats and a break week each summer. After four weeks of teaching in parishes, teams converge for the *Mid-Summer Retreat* in order to recollect, share stories, evaluate their progress as a team and individual, meet with the director, and spend some extra time in prayer. After the retreat, you are given a *Break Week* to head home (or wherever it is that you want to go) until the following Saturday, when your team will come back together and head back out to parishes.

The *Closing Retreat* occurs after our diocesan camps. This is similar to the Mid-Summer Retreat and is a great way to close out your summer as a Totus Tuus missionary.

Week-at-a-Glance

Your team will typically arrive at your host parish on *Friday evening or Saturday afternoon*. The parish contact (usually the director of religious education for the parish) will meet you and give you a tour of the facilities. You'll also discuss plans for the week: meals, host homes, etc. Then, you'll head to your host homes.

Parishioners volunteer to host the men and women (separately) throughout the week and most evenings you'll be eating supper with different parishioners. Host families typically provide breakfast and lunch, although sometimes parishes provide lunch for everyone in the program.



Sunday morning typically consists of travelling around to the various parishes in the area promoting Totus Tuus. The program starts on *Sunday evening* with the first middle and high school session (“Evening Program”). During the day, *Monday – Thursday*, you will be running the Daytime Program: teaching, skits, Mass, etc. Thursday is always the water fight day!

For the Evening Program, *Monday* is fun night, *Tuesday* is adoration, and *Wednesday* and *Thursday* are regular sessions. However, before the Wednesday evening class the parish hosts a Totus Tuus potluck, which is a chance to meet the parents of your students and interact with other parishioners as well.

Friday morning, teams gather for their formation day and afterwards head off to their next parish!

A Day in the Life

Below is a fairly typical weekday (if there ever was such a thing) for a Totus Tuus missionary:

7:00am	Rise
7:30	Breakfast
8:00	Morning Prayer & Rosary
9:00	DAYTIME (ELEMENTARY) PROGRAM BEGINS
9:15	Song & Skit
9:35	Pray decade of Rosary
9:40	Class #1
10:00	Snack
10:15	Class #2
10:40	Mass preparation / Confessions
11:00	Holy Mass
11:45	LUNCH - RECESS
12:55pm	Class #3
1:15	Skit
1:50	Class #4
1:50	Review / Closing prayer
2:00	DAYTIME PROGRAM ENDS
2:15	Clean-up/Set-up for next day/Team meeting
2:30	Holy Hour w/ Evening Prayer
3:30	Team time
5:30	Supper
7:30	EVENING PROGRAM BEGINS
9:00	EVENING PROGRAM ENDS
10:00	Back to host families



Summer Calendar

Date(s)	Event	Location
May 22 – June 1	Training	Sleepy Eye
June 1-8	Teaching	In Parishes
June 8-15	Teaching	In Parishes
June 15-22	Teaching	In Parishes
June 22-28	Teaching	In Parishes
June 28 – June 30 (ends in afternoon)	Midsummer Retreat	Sleepy Eye
June 30 – July 6	Break Week	On Own
July 6-13	Teaching	In Parishes
July 13-19	Teaching	In Parishes
July 20-26	Camp Beloved (girls' camp)	Sleepy Eye
July 27 – August 2	Camp Greatness (boys' camp)	Sleepy Eye
August 2-4	Closing Retreat	Sleepy Eye

JOB DESCRIPTION

Applicant Qualifications

An applicant must be:

- A high school graduate
- A practicing, baptized, and confirmed Catholic

Additionally, the applicant needs to have:

- A working knowledge of the Catholic Faith
- A desire to work with youth (ages 7-17)
- Social skills

Short Job Description

A Totus Tuus missionary will:

- Attend Training Week, the Mid-Summer Retreat, and the Closing Retreat
- Run the Totus Tuus program
- Commit to a life of daily prayer
- Teach youth the Faith
- Work with a team
- Respect team dynamics
- Make sacrifices
- Travel
- Interact with host families, DREs, priests, etc.
- Obey the decisions of superiors
- Commit to growth in discipline and virtue
- Serve as a camp counselor at the diocesan camps

Pay

Each team member will receive approximately \$450 per week (~\$4,300 for the summer).

Remember there are very few expenses for the summer; your room and board is taken care of. Team drivers are reimbursed for mileage as well.

Questions?

If you have any questions about our program, please feel free to contact Kevin Losleben at (507) 233-5327 or e-mail at klosleben@dnub.org.

Application Process

1. Read this informational booklet carefully and pray with it.
2. Go to www.dnu.org/totus-tuus-missionary and fill out an application. *Hiring is done as applicants apply, so be sure to get your application in ASAP!*
3. Have two references fill out a reference form (found at the address above).
4. Once your application and references have been reviewed, Kevin Losleben (Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry) will be in contact with you via email. If you have not heard from Kevin, check to make sure your references have filled out their forms.