



CHOSEN

YOUR JOURNEY TOWARD CONFIRMATION

Faith Mentors for Chosen Program

Will you buy into God's bold vision for our parish; that is, to offer every person a life-changing encounter with Jesus, grow disciples, and send them on mission.

Faith mentors are parishioners who have a strong desire to work with teens and have an active faith life. The mentors provide support for continual faith growth and determine the teens' readiness and receptiveness towards the Sacrament of Confirmation. The faith mentor will journey along with the teens and facilitate small group discussions throughout the two-year Chosen Program.

Faith Mentors will bring about a personal encounter with Jesus Christ, the personal witness and pastoral guidance of the Faith Mentor is inseparable from the message. Remember, you are not just teaching but "making disciples" of young people as our Lord did with the apostles. He did not just share facts. He shared his life with them. He ate meals with them. He let them see how he lived. And what they saw was authentic.

A Faith Mentor should be more like a big brother or sister sharing life in Christ than a distant instructor sharing facts about God. While a Faith Mentor will spend most of his or her time leading the group, it is equally important to listen and remain patient, to give an example of what holiness means, and to take questions seriously. Even if you do not have the answers immediately available, you should tell them you will find them.

Faith Mentors support teens by praying for them and their families.

Listening, guiding, and advising the teens on their faith journeys.

Providing additional spiritual support or resources as appropriate and especially when requested.

Addressing questions about the Chosen Program, Service and/or Discipleship opportunities and the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Maintaining contact with the teens and parents throughout the 2-year Chosen Program.

Requirements/Skills for Faith Mentors

- *Adults and High School Teens who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation.*
- *Be willing to share your faith with teens in a safe and welcoming environment by creating an atmosphere that encourages an on-going conversation about the teen's relationship with Jesus.*
- *Personally committed to prayer.*
- *Being an active listener is an extremely helpful skill.*
- *Actively practicing the precepts of the Church.*
 - ⇒ *Attending Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor.*
 - ⇒ *Confessing your [serious] sins at least once a year.*
 - ⇒ *Receiving the sacrament of the Eucharist at least once during the Easter season.*
 - ⇒ *Observing the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church.*
 - ⇒ *Helping to provide for the needs of the Church.*
- *Having the mindset that it's not about information transfer, rather it's about transformation and helping the teens to come to know Jesus.*
- *Will participate in the Diocesan/Parish Safe Environment process to ensure all our youth are safe.*

Please contact Dave if you are interested in learning more or would like to serve as a Faith Mentor (DaveM@olmercy.com or 331-707-5371)