



St Mark's
NEW CANAAN

Dear St. Mark's Youth and Families,

I hope you had a fun and restorative summer. With the new school year beginning, I'm excited to share a new plan for St. Mark's Youth Ministry (9-12th grade) that will offer meaningful opportunities for connection, reflection, spiritual growth, outreach, and fun.

Youth Group Gatherings (*Sundays following the 5pm service*): Our regular youth group meetings this year will be relaxed, come-as-you-are gatherings with check-in (highs and lows), prayer, food, and discussion sparked by something shared by someone in the group (i.e., I might show a clip from a movie that resonates with me). If time allows, we'll also play games like foosball or cards. At least once a month, we'll have special activities like offsite outings or movie nights instead of the usual youth group gathering.

5pm Sunday Service: I encourage youth to join our 5pm Holy Eucharist (starting September 8).

Monthly Outings: We'll have a monthly offsite social outing for activities like mini-golf, hiking, and bowling. In September, we'll kick off with mini-golf on **Sunday, 9/15**, after the 5pm service.

Sunday Movie Nights (Quarterly): Once each season, we'll host a Sunday movie night in the Youth Room, focusing on films relevant to youth, our world, and faith. Our fall movie night will be Sunday, October 6.

Laundry Love: On the first Wednesday of each month, join us to serve at Laundry Love in East Norwalk from 5-7 pm (or earlier if needed). This is a great way to support our broader community with hands-on outreach.

Additional Outreach Opportunities: More to come soon.

Youth Council: This year, our youth ministry will be guided by a new youth council of St. Mark's youth, parents, and myself to ensure our activities meet our community's needs.

Taizé Pilgrimage: We plan to return to Taizé in February during the New Canaan Public School winter break (Feb 13-23). Let me know if you're interested (jkennedy@stmarksnewcanaan.org).

Stay Connected: Follow us on Instagram: @stmarksncyouth

I'm excited about the year ahead and look forward to seeing you soon,

Peace,
Fr. John+

St. Mark's Youth (9-12th Grade)

Fall 2024 Calendar

Youth Group Gatherings

Sundays, 5:45-6:45pm, Youth Room

September: 22, 29

October: 27

November: 10, 24

Offsite Outings

Sunday, September 15, 6-8pm

Mini-Golf at Norwalk Cove Marina

Saturday, October 5, 9-11am

Hike at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation

Sunday, November 17, 6-8pm

Bowling at Pinstripes, SoNo Collection

Movie Night

Sunday, October 6, 6-8pm, Youth Room

Pope Francis: A Man of His Word



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