

Dear Youth, Catechists, Parents and Parishioners of St. Mark,

Thank you all so much for making the past two years at St. Mark a success! I will miss each of you!

I cannot express how proud I am of each of the youth I have had the honor of being with. They have enriched my faith and touched my heart. Through all the experiences; Sunday Youth Ministry, March for Life, Summer Mission Trips, Convention (Youth Group of the Year!), Diocesan Retreats, Faithful Servants, Diocesan Youth Board, St. Mark Youth Board, Service Saturday's, Tree Lot and too many others to name, I have seen the St. Mark Youth grow by leaps and bounds in their faith and in their actions. It has been a privilege to serve beside them. They will continue to do great things for St. Mark, for this the parish is blessed!

To my Catechists who have always supported the program and the youth, I am humbled by your witness. Thank you for everything you have done to help with the formation of the St. Mark youth. It is your dedication to the youth that has given them their foundation that will keep them active in their faith and encouraging them to continue that journey into their adult lives. God has graced each of you with incredible gifts that I have witness first hand make the difference in each of these youth's lives.

To the parents of Youth Ministry, your support and prayers have been unwavering. Thank you for trusting your youth to my care these past two years. Thanks to those of you who also stepped forward in assisting in volunteer positions. Your work made it possible for Youth Ministry to be successful. Please keep praying and keep volunteering as St. Mark Youth Ministry needs you!

To the parishioners – thank you for your support of youth ministry. Without your dedication to the youth many of the opportunities afforded to them would not have been possible. Your prayers, your donations, your gift of time and talent are necessary for the success of youth ministry. We have proven this to be true these past years. St. Mark Youth Ministry is vibrant but it needs your continued support.

In closing, I ask each of you to continue to support, pray and advocate for the youth of St. Mark. They are the future of our church. They are the vocations that we seek. They are the gifts that God has given us. Stand firm and strong in your support and prayers so that the Kingdom of God will flourish!

My heartfelt prayers are with each of you!

Humbly His,

J-P Lyons