

# Youth Report

It has been quite a challenging year for us but we have managed to pull through and got so much done for our wonderful youth of St. Mary's Mt. Albert

## Life Teen

Despite our efforts, multiple meetings, and some shoulder tapping, we were unable to get enough support from the adults in the community to make Life Teen happen. It just wasn't in God's plan for now. However, Joanna attended the Life Teen Summer Camp from 11<sup>th</sup> January – 19<sup>th</sup> January 2020 as a Summer Missionary which was held in Wellington. This was a great opportunity for her to see Life Teen in action at a camp. She had a wonderful experience where she answered Christ's call to build up his Kingdom on Earth. As a missionary, she led high school teens closer to Christ through service, relationship, music and prayer. We plan to utilize the resources of LifeTeen for our youth group.



## Upgrades to Wairaka Room

Over the past year, we've added furniture to the Wairaka Room, including two couches and four bean bags and a large speaker for music that can also be utilized as an amplifier for the upcoming youth mass. We also got a flat screen TV donated to the room and a small Nintendo video game. We have managed to create a fun space for our youth

## Monthly Meetings

Covid has been a bit of a challenge this year with meeting up as per usual. So, we utilized Zoom and put together some quizzes, which were a lot of fun. And then we prayed together as we always do.

Our first meeting back after the first lockdown was a social. We did a quiz, caught up with each other, had pizza, played video games on the new TV. And then ended with prayer. It was a great time and we'll plan to do more socials.

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Our 'normal' meetings involve sharing some food, discussing our faith, cracking open the bible and praying together for each other.

We recently switched from meeting after the 5:30pm mass to meeting after the 10am mass. This way everyone has dinner with their family, as it should be. Plus, some of the kids walk or take public transport and it's safer to do that during the day.

## Future Plan

We plan to begin a youth mass this year, which got postponed due to Covid. PPC and finance committee has approved funding to buy a subscription which gets the church copyrights for new contemporary music for the youth mass. We're very excited about the possibilities for our youth and our congregation.

At present, we are around 6-7 members that are regular for our group meetings and 15 members on our FB messenger group – ranging from approximately aged 15-25+. Our hope for the future is to grow in numbers and possibly have more adults and family involved as well. We are also thinking of starting a youth choir as part of our youth mass and in doing so, we will be able to provide the same for our Sunday masses.

We hope that someday, we will also be able to start Life teen at St. Mary's. We hope that we are able to share our experiences with them and get them onboard for upcoming camps and conferences that are so much fun. It is something that is not to be missed.

We would like to thank the PPC for giving us this opportunity to lead the youth for St. Mary's Parish and will continue to do so. Keep our youth in your prayers ☺

God Bless.  
Joe and Joanna

