



## **CHALLENGE & CONQUEST CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY**

"Accompanying young people requires going beyond a preconceived framework, encountering young people where they are, adapting to their times and pace of life and taking them seriously. This has to be done as young people seek to make sense of the reality in which they live and to utilize the message which they have received in words and deeds in their daily attempts to create a personal history and in the more-or-less conscious search for meaning in their lives."

Preparatory document from the Vatican for the Synod on Young People, the Faith and Vocational Development

Challenge Girls Club and Conquest Boys Club are youth ministry programs, that have proven to be successful in forming young people to grow deeper in their faith. In Winnipeg, we work with <u>youth from 8 years of age to</u> <u>High School students</u>. These programs provide an opportunity for girls and boys to grow in their knowledge and love for their Catholic faith, so as to know and love:

CHRIST with real friendship the CHURCH & POPE with loyalty

MARY as a son or daughter All PERSONS with charity & respect

There is a structured, flexible curriculum, with themes following the Church seasons: Ordinary time, Advent, Lent & Easter and include service projects that are built into the curriculum. These projects involve weekly preparation and then carrying out the service as a group. Some projects have been singing at Senior's residences, gathering needed items for pregnancy shelters and hosting the annual Priest Appreciation Dinner, to mention a few.

Challenge and Conquest are designed to be team based, and teen led. This enhances the opportunity for small group mentoring & peer ministry. Adult leaders work with the youth leaders to form and mentor them.

Challenge Girls Club has been meeting since the early 2000's, while Conquest Boys Club has been meeting for the past 6 years. Both groups usually meet Tuesday evenings at St. John Brebeuf School; however, not at this time, due to the Pandemic situation. God willing, we will begin again in the fall.

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