This communication contains initial information concerning the Quo Vadis Retreat for 2020. Please read all the information contained in this communication to ensure you have a full understanding of the event.

**What is Quo Vadis?**

Quo Vadis is a Latin phrase which translated means “Where are you going?” The goal of the Quo Vadis Retreat is to bring high school aged men together who desire to grow in faithful discipleship and personal holiness to be better able to discover their own vocation invitation from our Lord, whatever that might be. This is accomplished through a three-day experience that is highly energetic, fun, active, prayerful, and meant to build fellowship among the participants.

**Does this mean that the high school guys I send to participate will become priests?**

Not necessarily. The Quo Vadis experience is meant for high school guys who are seeking a greater understanding of who God has created them to be and how He is calling them to serve His Church as they continue through their high school and young adult years. The main focus of the week is a chance to be around a group of other young guys who are serious about their faith. The week draws attention to the Universal Call to Holiness and the Call of Discipleship and how those themes are played out for a young man in high school.

**Who should attend the Quo Vadis Retreat?**

Quo Vadis is open to all rising 10th graders through rising 12th graders. Due to the nature of the retreat experience, we cannot accept any individual who is younger than 10th grade. In addition, we cannot accept any recently graduated 12th graders. For this population, there are other young adult discernment experiences that are available during the year.

Most importantly, pastors and ministry leaders should identify young men who are well-rounded and active in the life of the parish to participate in this experience. We do not typically recommend that you do a “mass marketing” campaign for this retreat, rather participants should be invited through one-on-one invitations. While some of the young men you may invite may have considered the priesthood in the past, it is not a requirement that they have considered or talked about the priesthood prior to coming.

**Where and when is the Quo Vadis Retreat?**

The Quo Vadis Retreat will be held on Tuesday, July 14 through Thursday, July 16, 2020. This retreat will be a hybrid retreat, using both a digital platform (Zoom) and in-person regional gatherings. Each day will include 2 digital sessions (one from 9:30 am to 11:30 pm and a second from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm). The in-person locations will have sessions from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and will be as follows:

- Tuesday, July 14, 2020: Richmond
- Wednesday, July 15, 2020: Norfolk
- Thursday, July 16, 2020: Roanoke

**Who leads the Quo Vadis Retreat experience?**

The Quo Vadis Retreat is a joint effort by the Office for Evangelization and Office of Vocations. The talks and activities will be led by priests and seminarians.

This year, due to COVID-19, Quo Vadis will be hosted concurrently at the same locations at Fiat Days. The programs will only interact with each other at daily Mass. The Vicar for Vocations and the Associate Director and Promoter of Vocations will be onsite as well as a small group of female youth ministers who are assisting with Fiat Days.
Due to the nature of the retreat experience, parishes are not required to send a chaperone with the youth they send to the retreat. If there are any interested male adults from your parish who wish to attend, please contact the Office for Evangelization to inquire about availability.

**What is the registration fee?**
The cost for youth participants is $25. There are no refunds, regardless of reason for cancellation.

**What does this registration fee cover?**
The registration fee will cover food (on the day you attend in-person), t-shirt, journal, books, and activities for the duration of the retreat. The cost is the same, if a participant opts not to attend in-person.

**What are the requirements for adult chaperones?**
If an adult chaperone is coming from your parish, that adult chaperone must be in compliance with the Diocesan Safe Environment Policies, which includes completing the following:
- Screening (every 5 years)
- VIRTUS training (once)

**How do I register and what are the registration deadlines?**
All youth must register through their parish youth coordinator OR Catholic school coordinator. The registration process includes two steps:

1. **Registration Form:** Print out and distribute the registration form from www.evangelizerichmond.org. A copy should be maintained by the youth coordinator in case of emergency. **DO NOT SEND THESE TO THE OFFICE FOR EVANGELIZATION.**

2. **Register Participants via the Online Registration System:** If you are a youth coordinator, contact the Office for Evangelization via email (evangelization@richmonddiocese.org) or phone (804-622-5159) to get your username and password for the online registration system.

3. **Send payments to the Office for Evangelization:** Be sure to include your parish/school name along with a list of participants for whom the payment applies. All outstanding registration fees will be invoiced to the parish by fall 2020.

**Registration will close on Monday, July 6, 2020 at 12:00 pm.**

**Where do I go for questions or additional support?**
For all questions or support, contact the Office for Evangelization directly via email at evangelization@richmonddiocese.org OR 804-622-5159.