

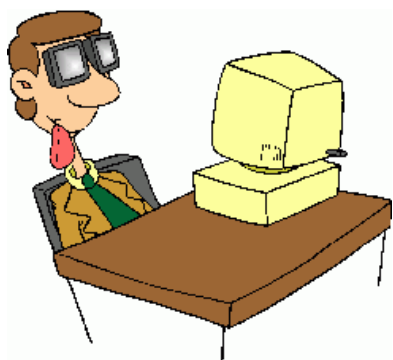


*TAPT Retreat*

**Friday, April 1 - Sunday, April 3, 2022**  
**Camp Lawrence, rural Valparaiso**

**REGISTRATION & PROMOTIONAL  
INFORMATION FOR  
YOUTH MINISTRY LEADERS**

# ***Youth ministry leaders:***



In an effort to both reduce wasted paper (see: environmental justice!) and reduce administrative time (therefore enhancing ministerial time!), TAPT registration is collected **ONLINE**.

Unlike other programs, teens can register individually for TAPT. **But we cannot offer this program without you!** I kindly ask for your assistance in promoting the retreat. Enclosed are full color posters that would enhance anyone's "Parish Happenings" bulletin board! You may also photocopy the 8 ½ x 11 promo pages in this booklet. Bulletin/Email announcements are also included in this book, and to make that even easier, they can be copied directly from the website as well (where you can also download/print both sizes of the promo posters).



Youth leaders will be notified which teens from your parish register, and will receive resource materials to help you process the retreat with them afterward.

All materials and information can be found online at

**[www.garyoyya.org/tapt](http://www.garyoyya.org/tapt)**

## Diocese of Gary TAPT Retreat - F.A.Q.



### WHAT IS TAPT? TAPT is:

- a weekend retreat experience sponsored by the Diocese of Gary Office for Youth, in collaboration with local parishes and youth-serving organizations throughout the Diocese of Gary
- a retreat for high school teens who want to take time to come to know themselves, others, and Jesus Christ more intimately in their lives
- a weekend of talks, discussions, activities, prayer, Reconciliation, Eucharist, food, friends, and more FUN than they ever imagined!
- staffed by priests, experienced and professional adults, and trained peer ministers from the Diocese of Gary.
- is about bringing teens into a more intimate encounter with the Incarnate Jesus Christ (Gospel of John 1: 1-14)
- challenges teens to themselves be an encounter of Christ for those they meet (1 John 4:12).

**What makes TAPT a good *Catholic* event?** Let's start with the theology: the "heart" of the TAPT weekend is about the Incarnation of Jesus Christ. The experience of Emmanuel is what TAPTsters will always remember, but recent efforts have been made to increase the catechetical content of the weekend, reinforcing Church teaching in a way that connects to teens. While every retreat provides opportunities for personal faith growth, TAPTsters often comment that their faith grew because of the sense of community fostered on the weekend. Special attention is paid to prayer experiences- Teens Are indeed Praying Together! Participants experience Eucharist, Reconciliation, and a variety of other prayer experiences. Others pray for the teens in a Blessed Sacrament chapel. Previous TAPTsters perform Christian servant leadership roles. TAPTsters are also challenged to continue the faith journey back home, so that the retreat is not lived "on an island," but rather is designed to foster more active, participating young Catholics in parish communities throughout the Diocese.

**Who is invited?** Any high school teen who has not participated in a previous TAPT, and who wishes to explore his or her faith more deeply. Previous "TAPTsters" are invited to apply to serve on the leadership team. (Teens may participate in TAPT only once.) Some have mentioned to me that they heard that TAPT was a "beginner's" retreat for freshmen and sophomores. Not so! In my observation, many of the teens impacted the most over the years have been juniors and seniors. Diocesan Youth Council reps who have not participated are strongly urged to do so, consistent with their mission to spread the word about diocesan youth ministry to other teens in their communities.

**When and where?** 7:00pm, Friday April 1<sup>st</sup>, to appr. 3:00 pm on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Camp Lawrence, north of Valparaiso. The TAPT weekend is a relational journey, and includes carefully-developed progressions that build on one experience after the next. To ensure that TAPTsters get the most out of the retreat, partial attendance is not allowed.

**How much?** \$90 per person, which covers lodging, meals, t-shirt, and expenses. Registration deadline is Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, or until capacity is reached.

**How do teens register?** By visiting <http://www.garyoyya.org/tapt> and registering online. Unlike other programs, teens/parents register for TAPT as an individual, and not as part of a parish group. Therefore, they may submit forms and money directly to OYYA. Teens attend TAPT without an adult from their own parish (unless their youth leader happens to be on our retreat team). We will however contact youth leaders and ask them to process the experience with their teens afterward.

**Who is their chaperone?** The TAPT retreat weekend is an intimate setting in which the safety of all teens is carefully monitored at all times. Each teen is assigned to a trained adult leader in a manageable small group. All adult leaders at TAPT have participated in diocesan safe environment training. Additionally, nurses and counselors are on call.

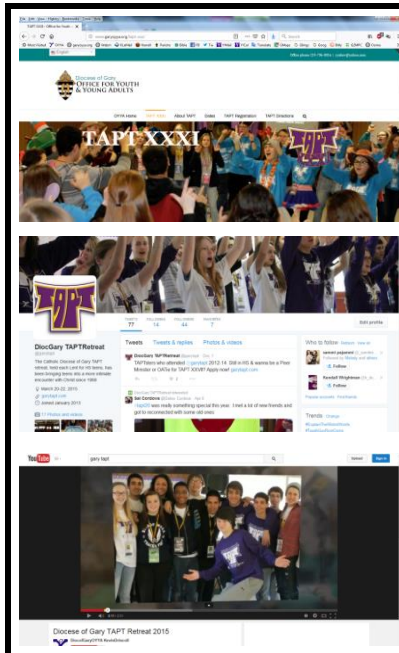
**What is needed of ME, the youth minister??!!** We ask that you promote TAPT to your teens by promoting the retreat. Additionally, at least one youth ministry leader of all TAPTsters will receive some post-TAPT materials, to assist you in processing the experience with the teens. If the teens do not return to your parish ready to more fully live the mission of your faith community, we have not done our job! Youth ministers are also invited to attend the TAPT closing liturgy on the last day of the retreat, as a sign of support for your teens.

**What do I do if my question wasn't answered?** Email Jamie Sandona, TAPT Board Chair or Chad Franks, TAPT Board member at [garytapt@gmail.com](mailto:garytapt@gmail.com).



# Teens need more than just a flyer to convince them to attend a church program. They need a human connection!

The TAPT Board and this year's TAPT Core Team have provided tools to help youth ministry leaders promote the retreat. They include:



**Website:** <http://www.garyoyya.org/tapt>, chock full of complete information for teens, parents and YM leaders

**Social media:** Prospective and former TAPTsters alike can connect with the retreat via [facebook.com/garytapt](https://www.facebook.com/garytapt) and on Twitter and Instagram [@garytapt](https://www.instagram.com/garytapt)

**Videos:** Three YouTube promo videos for are available- find the link at <http://www.garyoyya.org/tapt>.

***But these won't work as well as a human invitation and witness!***

If you have teens and adults from your parish that have participated in TAPT during the last 2 years, allow them to promote! ***We encourage YM leaders to utilize these people to promote TAPT by having them give a brief witness to others in your community.*** Most TAPTsters have a positive- *often life-changing*- experience. Ask them to share what the experience meant to them!



The TAPT Board can also assist you in lining up a guest speaker to help promote the retreat as well. Contact Jamie Sandona (219-616-5341, [jsandona@stjohnbap.org](mailto:jsandona@stjohnbap.org)).

***TAPT has the power to transform lives. We want YOUR teens to have that opportunity!***

# About the online registration system:

## TAPT Retreat Registration Form

### Student Information

Name

First	Middle	Last
-------	--------	------

Date of Birth

Gender

☐ Male

☐ Female

Primary Language

☐ English

☐ Spanish

☐ Other

Religion

☐ Catholic

☐ Non-Catholic

☐ Other

Parish

Student School Name

Student Grade Level

Student Allergies

Student Special Needs/ Mobility

Student Phone Number

Student Email

### Parent Information

Mother Name

We are using an online portal to gather registrations.

Please visit:

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/GaryTAPT/TAPTRetreatRegistrationForm>

The registration will be submitted once you finish filling out the form.



**DATE:** January, 2022  
**TO:** Parish Bulletin Editor(s), Priests, Youth Leaders  
**FROM:** Diocese of Gary Office for Youth & Young Adults  
**RE:** Bulletin announcement: Diocesan TAPT retreat

Parish leaders: Please consider using any of these bulletin/email announcements during weekends through March 6 to assist you in recruiting teens. You may also copy/paste the text directly from garytapt.com (click "Other stuff" link). As always, we thank you for your help in our ministry efforts!

---

*(Full Version)* High school teens are invited to attend *Teens Are Praying Together* ("TAPT"), a Diocesan Catholic weekend retreat, held April 1-3 at Camp Lawrence, north of Valparaiso. Through talks, guided discussions, prayer, recreation, Reconciliation, and Eucharist, TAPT is a call to discipleship, bringing teens into a more intimate encounter with the Incarnate Jesus Christ. Cost: \$90. Deadline: March 18. For complete details, visit <http://www.garyoyya.org/tapt>, [facebook.com/garytapt](https://www.facebook.com/garytapt), or contact the TAPT Retreat Board at [garytapt@gmail.com](mailto:garytapt@gmail.com). We are using an online portal to gather registrations. Please visit: <https://www.cognitoforms.com/GaryTAPT/TAPTRetreatRegistrationForm> The registration will be submitted once you finish filling out the form.

*(Shorter Version)* The diocesan TAPT retreat returns to Camp Lawrence April 1-3. TAPT is a dynamic, life-changing spiritual retreat for high school teens sponsored by the Diocese of Gary Office for Youth. Cost: \$90. Deadline: March 18. For complete details, visit <http://www.garyoyya.org/tapt> or [facebook.com/garytapt](https://www.facebook.com/garytapt).

*(Spanish)* Los adolescentes de secundaria están invitados a asistir a *Teens Are Praying Together* ("TAPT"), un retiro católico diocesano de fin de semana, que se lleva a cabo del 1 al 3 de abril en Camp Lawrence, al norte de Valparaíso. A través de charlas, discusiones guiadas, oración, recreación, reconciliación y eucaristía, TAPT es un llamado al discipulado, llevando a los adolescentes a un encuentro más íntimo con Jesucristo Encarnado. Costo: \$ 90. Fecha límite: 18 de marzo. Para obtener detalles completos, visite <http://www.garyoyya.org/tapt>, [facebook.com/garytapt](https://www.facebook.com/garytapt), o comuníquese con la Junta de Retiro de TAPT en [garytapt@gmail.com](mailto:garytapt@gmail.com). Estamos utilizando un portal en línea para recopilar registros. Visite: <https://www.cognitoforms.com/GaryTAPT/TAPTRetreatRegistrationForm> El registro se enviará una vez que termine de completar el formulario.

(El retiro es en inglés.)

**Diocese of Gary TAPT • April 1-3, 2022**  
***Consent to Participate, Waiver and Release***

**Participant Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
In the case of an emergency, if I cannot be contacted at the address or phone number provided above, please contact:  
\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Activity Information**

**Parish/Organization:** DIOCESE OF GARY  
**Activity:** TAPT Retreat  
**Place & Times:** Camp Lawrence, 68 E 700 N, Valparaiso, IN 46383  
**Date of Activity:** April 1-3, 2022  
**Event Contact Number:** 219-789-4910  
**Adult Chaperone(s):** TAPT Core Team & Leadership Team, approved by Diocese of Gary

**Authorization and Waiver of Risk**

I hereby agree and consent to my son/daughter \_\_\_\_\_ ("Child") participating in the above-named "Activity", which includes traveling to and from the above-named "Place." I further consent to my Child traveling to and from the above-named "Place" by way of *(means of travel)* \_\_\_\_\_. I acknowledge that, despite careful and proper preparation, there is still a risk of injury when participating in any activity. I release and hold harmless the Diocese of Gary, the Parish, the Parish Youth Minister, the Parish Chaperone, as well as any and all other participating organizations, their officers, agents, representatives, employees, and volunteers from any and all responsibility and liability for any injury, claim, costs, or any other damages whatsoever which may result from my Child's participation in the above-named "Activity". I further agree to assume full responsibility for the actions of my Child as well as for the payment of any and all debts incurred by my Child during his/her visit and participation in the above-named "Activity."

**Authorization for Emergency Medical Treatment**

I hereby agree and consent to my son/daughter \_\_\_\_\_ ("Child") receiving emergency medical treatment in my absence should the need for such treatment arise during my Child's participation in the above-named "Activity".

Should the need for emergency medical treatment arise, the following health information pertaining to my Child is voluntarily disclosed:

a) *Special Dietary Needs:*

b) *Medications:*

c) *Allergies:*

**Promotional Photographs**

In the interest of promoting future activities, video and still photographs may be taken during this event. This form constitutes written permission for Child's participation in the videotape and/or photographs, which may be used for future promotional efforts, including the Diocese of Gary website (names are not used in photos).

By signing this Consent to Participate, Waiver and Release, I hereby acknowledge that I have read and fully understand the provisions contained above, and I knowingly consent to my Child participating in the above-named "Activity" and agree to be bound by the terms and provisions of this Consent to Participate, Waiver and Release.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature(s) of Custodial Parent(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name(s) of Custodial Parent(s)

# TAPT retreat Scholarship Application

A limited amount of scholarship money is available for persons wishing to participate in the TAPT retreat. The purpose of the scholarship fund is to provide an opportunity for a young person wishing to attend TAPT, but whose family may lack the funding at this time.

This form should be submitted directly to the Office for Youth & Young Adults. Applicants can be assured confidentiality will be respected.

**Please submit this application on or before the registration deadline.**

Name of Person Requesting Scholarship: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish/School: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City, St ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Year in school: FR SO JR SR

Deferred payment arrangements can also be made (contact Vicky Hathaway to make specific arrangements for payments). If you can pay the full amount in smaller payments over a certain time, please do so.

The diocesan scholarship fund is very limited, and assists youth who want to attend youth events *after all other sources of funding are exhausted, including your home parish*. It is expected that each person will pay part of the registration fee. Therefore, the more money you are willing to fund, the more likely you are to receive funding assistance. How much of the \$90 TAPT registration fee are you requesting *from the diocese*?

\_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate below (use separate form if needed) special information which may be helpful to the TAPT scholarship committee as they determine the need for this scholarship:

How do you believe your attendance in TAPT will assist your parish/school in the development of better ministry with God's young Church?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Youth

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian





*Parents, Family Members, Youth Leaders, Former TAPTsters...*

**YOU ARE INVITED!**

**to attend this year's...**

# TAPT REUNION MASS

**PARENTS & FAMILY MEMBERS...** We know your teen's faith life begins at home. Join us for liturgy to see your teen joyously celebrate the culmination of his or her weekend faith journey and show him or her your support!

**FORMER TAPTSTERS...** Show this year's group of TAPTsters that you support them in their faith journey by joining them at the celebration of Eucharist that concludes their TAPT experience! Hundreds of youth and adult youth leaders have gone before these TAPTsters in the 32-year history of the retreat, and we're hopeful that many of you will come out as a visible link to past, present, and future! Maybe you can connect with former TAPTsters you haven't seen in a while. Wear your old TAPT shirts!

**YOUTH LEADERS...** Teens leave TAPT on fire for the faith and ready to LIVE it! Be there to show your support for them and to show them that you are ready to join them in mission when they return home!

*Be sure to  
remember the  
TAPTsters in  
prayer all  
weekend long!*



The Teens Are Praying  
Together (TAPT)  
retreat is a  
presentation of the  
Diocese of Gary Office

for Youth & Young Adults. For more  
information, visit [garytapt.com](http://garytapt.com) or 219-769-  
9292 x282.

**Mass begins appr. 2:00pm  
Sunday, April 3rd  
Dining Hall • Camp Lawrence**

- No RSVP is necessary. Just show up!
- Please plan to arrive a little early to allow enough time to arrange for seating, host counting, etc. Come as early as 1:00 to enjoy social time with current and former TAPTsters!
- This mass fulfills obligation for Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Camp Lawrence's address: 68 E 700 N, Valparaiso, IN 46383.
- Directions to Camp Lawrence can be found at [www.garyoyya.org/tapt](http://www.garyoyya.org/tapt)



## **What other teens are saying about TAPT!\***



**"For a while I've felt like something is missing in my life. I now realize it was God. TAPT helped me find that something I was searching for, and I've been much happier ever since!"**

**"I met a lot of young people from across the diocese who share the same ideas and thoughts as I do about our faith and life in general."**

**"I want to be able to touch others' lives in the same way that my life has been touched."**

**"I loved our small group time because we got to open up. I'd never really done that before, not about God that is."**

**"I went because my friend dragged me along, but I didn't think I would like a church event. Boy was I wrong! Words can't describe it. Just go!"**

**"I liked meeting other people, letting other people know about me, and feeling accepted into other people's lives."**

**"I'm glad my youth minister pushed me to do TAPT! I want to get more involved in church now."**

**"Through attending TAPT my faith has grown in a huge way. I have become closer to God and I am ready to take my faith to the next level."**

**"I've never in my life felt better than I did after Reconciliation Saturday night. I used to think church stuff was, you know separate from the rest of my life, but on TAPT I began to understand that Jesus is with me always. Thank you, (small group leader & Peer Minister)!"**

**"TAPT is fun, with the dancing, and the hikes, and just talking at meal times, but it's also much more. There are other teenagers like me who want to get to know God better but we just haven't had a chance. TAPT gave me that chance."**

**"Like (the speaker) said, 'I'm proud to be Catholic!'"**

*\* Quotes are taken from evaluation forms, as well as from miscellaneous correspondence (email, letters) with the Office for Youth & Young Adults.*

## How to contact the TAPT Retreat Board:

Board email		<a href="mailto:garytapt@gmail.com">garytapt@gmail.com</a>
Jamie Sandona	Board Chairperson	<a href="mailto:jsandona@stjohnbap.org">jsandona@stjohnbap.org</a>
Chad Franks	Board member	<a href="mailto:Cfranks4649@gmail.com">Cfranks4649@gmail.com</a>
Donna Frazier	Board member	<a href="mailto:donnakay530@gmail.com">donnakay530@gmail.com</a>
Mark Medina	Board member	<a href="mailto:markamedina0612@gmail.com">markamedina0612@gmail.com</a>