Dear Pastors, Youth / Campus Ministers, DREs, Parents, and all Quo Vadis Promoters,

The Vocation Office is excited to invite high school men to participate in our Quo Vadis Days this summer at Black Rock Retreat Center (Quarryville, PA). Quo Vadis Days will be held from Monday, June 27 – Thursday, June 30, offering incoming freshmen through graduated seniors the opportunity to grow and remain active in their faith and to interact with other young men of faith from around the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

The theme for this year’s Quo Vadis Days is To the Heights, and we will be exploring the life and example of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati through engaging talks, prayer, games, hiking, and other activities.

This Resource and Invitation Guide includes everything you need to promote Quo Vadis Days in your school, parish, or home. Please feel free to contact the Vocation Office (610-667-5778) with any questions you may have.

Thank you for your dedication in promoting a culture of vocations within your schools, parishes, homes, and beyond!

In Christ,

Rev. David M. Friel
Vocation Director

Contact Information:
Jillian Minnich, Program Coordinator
610-667-5778
jminnich@archphila.org
"Quo Vadis, Domine?"
"WHERE ARE YOU GOING?"

Legend has it that, as St. Peter fled Rome to escape persecution, he encountered Jesus along the way, bearing the cross. Peter asked Jesus "quo vadis, domine?" or "Where are you going?" When Jesus answered "To be crucified again", Peter understood that he must return to Rome to follow the footsteps of his Savior.

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**From Discipleship to Discernment**

**WHAT ARE QUO VADIS DAYS?**

*Quo Vadis* Days, run by the Philadelphia seminarians and sponsored by the Vocation Office for the Diocesan Priesthood, is a 4-day, 3-night summer camp for high school-aged men (incoming freshmen to graduated seniors) that seeks to ask the question: Where are you going?

Through engaging talks, fun activities, and 4 days of fellowship, this camp is designed to encourage the participants to ask themselves "Where am I going?" and listen to God’s call to the particular vocation He has planned for them. Whether their vocation is to the priesthood, religious life, or marriage, young men are challenged first to become a disciple and then to discern their unique call.

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"Four days of a whole bunch of fun, but also prayer and discernment for whatever calling God wants you to have."

~Quo Vadis 2021 Participant
Suggested Timeline

WHAT TO DO WHEN?

Quo Vadis takes a great deal of advance planning and almost an entire year to arrange all of the details. There are some details that cannot be finalized until participants register. Registration closes almost a month in advance so that our Office can finish all last-minute camper details between the final registration date and the first day of Quo Vadis. Therefore, the last day to register, June 1, becomes a target date for everyone assisting in the promotion of this event.

We need your help - the help of those who interact directly with the young men of the Archdiocese on a regular basis - to spread the word and encourage them to join their friends and register for this wonderful event!

Below are key dates and suggestions on when to advertise using different elements such as social media, bulletin announcements and hosting events.

JANUARY - APRIL  Advertise and invite!

- **Website** - HeedtheCall.org/QuoVadis, is the home for all things Quo Vadis. There you will find the registration packet, flyer, video, and pictures from last year’s camp. This is a great reference as you start inviting young men to Quo Vadis Days.
- **Flyer** - Hang the flyer (two-sided) in a prominent place in your parish or school. Print multiple copies and place them in areas visited by students and parents; outside of your office or classroom, in the sacristy or vesting room, in the cafeteria...
- **Social Media** - Social media is a great avenue to advertise to the young men in your school or parish, or to the parents of the young men. On the next page, you will find sample social media posts available for you to download.
- **Bulletin / Pulpit Announcements** - As more people return to Mass during the season of Lent, it is a perfect opportunity to reach out to those who may not regularly see what is happening in the parish and/or Archdiocese. Using the bulletin and pulpit announcements will help to reach a wide audience.
- **Invite** - Invite high school-aged young men to attend Quo Vadis Days. See page 6 for suggestions on making a personal invitation.
- **Video** - The Quo Vadis promotional video is a great tool to introduce Quo Vadis to young men. You can view the video from our website at Heedthecall.org/QuoVadis, or embed the video on your own website by following these instructions.

MAY  Last minute push!

- **May** - To the Heights Day!
  - As the weather starts to warm, gather your youth outside for a game of wiffle ball, kickball, or a hike in the park. This is a small introduction to what the men can experience on Quo Vadis.
- **May 25** - Last full week to register!
  - Use the suggested media on the following page to advertise that there is one week left to register.
  - Follow-up with the young men you invited to see if they have registered.
  - Ask your Pastor if you can speak before or at the end of Mass to talk about Quo Vadis.

JUNE  Registration closes & Quo Vadis happens!

- **June 1** - Registration closes!
  - Make sure all young men you have been interacting with have registered.
- **June 5-26** - Pray for those attending and assisting with Quo Vadis!
  - During Mass, use the sample intention found on page 6 to pray for those attending and assisting with the camp.
- **June 27-30** - Quo Vadis Days!
  - Continue prayers as Quo Vadis is underway.
Sample Social Media Posts

Registration is open for Quo Vadis Days, 2022! Parents, register your high school-aged son, entering freshman to graduated senior, for a week of fun, prayer, and discernment with the Philadelphia seminarians and the Vocation Office; Monday, June 27 - Thursday June 30. Register today at HeedtheCall.org/QuoVadis.

OR

High school aged-young men! Join the Philadelphia seminarians and the Vocation Office for the Diocesan Priesthood for a week at Black Rock Retreat Center filled with "a whole bunch of fun, prayer, and discernment." Registration is now open at HeedtheCall.org/QuoVadis.

Parents of high school-aged young men - Mark your calendars for Quo Vadis Days 2022! Monday, June 27 - Thursday, June 30. If you are the parent of a young man, entering freshman to graduated senior, register him today at HeedtheCall.org/QuoVadis. The registration fee is on a sliding scale: $25-$300, Pay what you are able. Hurry, registration closes on June 1.

OR

Starting to make summer plans? If you are a high school-aged young man, find a friend and mark your calendars for Quo Vadis Days 2022! Monday, June 27 - Thursday, June 30. Don't miss out on a great week at Black Rock Retreat Center with the Philadelphia seminarians. Register today at HeedtheCall.org/QuoVadis.

Only one week left to register your son for Quo Vadis 2022. Sign him up for a week in the woods, hiking, swimming, praying, and meeting other young men from around the Archdiocese. Register today at HeedtheCall.org/QuoVadis. Hurry, registration closes on June 1.

OR

Still haven't signed up for Quo Vadis Days 2022? Time is running out - Only 1 week left to register! Invite a friend and register today at HeedtheCall.org/QuoVadis. DON'T DELAY!!

Follow us on Social Media

Follow us on Social Media (@PhillyPriest) to see more promotional posts. Share our posts to help get the word out to your audience!

Quo Vadis Promotional Video

Embed the Quo Vadis Promotional video on your school, parish, or youth group website for an eye-catching witness to the Quo Vadis Days experience.

Follow this link to learn how!
Sample Intercession

Before the event, and all throughout Quo Vadis Days, we ask for prayers for all of those assisting with and attending the event. Below is an intercessory prayer that can be used during the Prayer of the Faithful, with a class, at a youth gathering, or even around the dinner table.

Let us Pray to the Lord

When:
June 27-30, 2022

Register:
By June 1, 2022

Cost:
$25 - $300 Sliding Scale
Pay what you are able

Black Rock Retreat Center
1345 Kirkwood Pike, Quarryville, PA 17566

Who:
High school-aged young men
Incoming Freshmen - Graduated Seniors

Camp Details

Resources for Download

Printable Resources and How to Use Them

The resources found below are essential to have on hand whether you are a teacher, DRE, Pastor, Youth Minister, or parent. You will find promotional material along with the registration packet. If you are viewing this online, each resource shown can be clicked on to open a digital version of the piece.

Sample Bulletin & Pulpit Announcements

January - March

Registration for Quo Vadis is open to high school-aged young men! Parents, encourage your son to invite a friend and register today at HeedtheCall.org/QuoVadis. Quo Vadis takes place from June 27 - June 30.

OR

High school-aged men - Join Philadelphia seminarians, and other young men from around the Archdiocese for Quo Vadis Days! From June 27 - June 30, the Vocation Office for the Diocesan Priesthood will host a week of hiking, praying, and fellowship at Black Rock Retreat Center! Invite a friend and register today at HeedtheCall.org/QuoVadis.

April

Are you the parent of a high school-aged young man? Sign him up today to spend a week in the woods with the Vocation Office for the Diocesan Priesthood and Philadelphia seminarians at Quo Vadis Days held from June 27 - June 30. Registration can be found at HeedtheCall.org/QuoVadis.

May

May is your last chance to register for Quo Vadis Days! Don't miss out on a week with your friends and register today before it's too late! For more information and to register, visit HeedtheCall.org/QuoVadis. Registration closes on June 1, 2022.

OR

Registration for Quo Vadis Days closes on June 1! Register your son today to spend time with Philadelphia seminarians and other young men from around the Archdiocese. The fee for Quo Vadis is a sliding scale of $25 - $300, pay what you are able. For more information, visit HeedtheCall.org/QuoVadis.

*If you are using these as pulpit announcements, refer people back to the bulletin for more information. There, you can include the flyer.
WHY ARE PERSONAL INVITATIONS IMPORTANT?

Personal invitation is crucial in growing participation for any event, and Quo Vadis is no different. Social media posts, bulletin announcements, and hanging flyers are great ways to advertise for Quo Vadis Days, but a personal invitation is vital in having a young man register and attend the event.

When a personal invitation is extended to an individual or a small group, it becomes relational. That interaction along with handing a young man the flyer and registration packet, builds a relationship and gives the man an opportunity to think about attending Quo Vadis that he may not have been open to before. It tells the invitee(s) that you see something in him that can be cultivated through an event such as Quo Vadis Days. Just as Jesus invites us into a personal relationship with Him each day, it is important that these relationships are built between you and the young men you interact with. Below are suggestions on ways to invite a young man to Quo Vadis Days.

PASTORS

- You know your parish best and your parishioners trust you. If you have altar servers who fit the age of Quo Vadis, consider inviting them to register.
- Find ways you can volunteer with Quo Vadis Days. We are always looking for confessors for our penance service. Inviting a young man to go to Quo Vadis and telling him you will be there as well, may give him the confidence he needs to register.
- Encourage the people in your parish to use this guide. Point out the great resources it has to offer for everyone.

DRE’S AND PRINCIPALS

- If there is a young man that assists around the office or with the morning announcements, hand him a flyer and registration packet and encourage him to think about attending the camp. Have a few flyers and registration packets on hand so that you are prepared for any conversation.
- Since you may not directly interact with the young men of your parish or school, it is important that you encourage those who do to use the resources available here.

YOUTH AND CAMPUS MINISTERS

- You know the young men you work with very well. Think of a few Quo Vadis-aged men in your group who tend to hang out together and invite them to register together for the event.
- Find ways you can volunteer with Quo Vadis Days. Inviting a young man to go to Quo Vadis and telling him you will be there as well, may give him the confidence he needs to register.

PARENTS

Parents, you play a crucial role in getting your son to Quo Vadis!

- Around the dinner table, have a conversation about what the week might look like and invite your son to think about attending Quo Vadis.
- Suggest a friend that your son can invite. Talk to his friend’s parents about your sons attending together.
Planning an Outreach Event

GIVE A SMALL TASTE OF QUO VADIS

Planning an outreach event gives the Quo Vadis-aged men that you interact with a small taste of what they might experience during Quo Vadis Days. We recommend including three main aspects to the event: Fun, Prayer, and Discernment. These three aspects can be incorporated in many ways throughout an event and can be adjusted to how much time you have with your men.

The small event schedule found below can be used in a classroom setting or in a youth gathering, while the larger one is more fitted for a family, as a scouting event, or with a youth group. Pay attention to the young men who were excited to participate in the activity or enjoyed watching the video. Pull them aside and invite them to attend Quo Vadis Days.

Small Event
(1 hour)

- Begin in prayer (5 min)
  - Find the Prayer for Courage here.
- Introduce the day, what they might expect, and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati (15 min)
- Survival activity (20 - 30 min)
  - Break your classroom or group into at least 2 teams and have them work together to survive being lost at sea! Directions and activity template can be found here.
- Show Quo Vadis promotional video (2 min)
  - After showing the video, mention how the activity and your time together can be similar to what they might find at Quo Vadis; team work and fellowship, prayer, and learning about Blessed Pier Giorgio. (additional 5-10 min)

- OPTION B - Survival activity (1.5 - 2 hrs)
  - Similar to the Small Event option, break your group into at least 2 teams and have them work together to survive being lost at sea! Suggestions on how to expand the original Lost at Sea game can be found here.
  - Show Quo Vadis promotional video (2 min)
    - After showing the video, mention how the activity and your time together can be similar to what they might find at Quo Vadis; team work and fellowship, prayer, and learning about Blessed Pier Giorgio. (additional 5-10 min)

Full Day Event
(3-5 hours)

- If you can, start your day with Mass (1 hr)
- Introduce the day, what they might expect, and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati (15 min)
- OPTION A - Hike (2-3 hrs)
  - Find a local park that has good and visible trails that you can take your group to.
  - Provide event-appropriate snacks such as trail mix and have water available.
  - While hiking
    - Ask your hikers to name 10 things that they can hear only when it is quiet. Remind them that this is how we hear the voice of God - in the quiet.
    - Pray a rosary or divine mercy chaplet together
- Conclude with the Prayer for Courage found here.

For questions, assistance, or for other event ideas, contact Jillian Minnich, Program Coordinator at 610-667-5778 or jminnich@archphila.org
MORE QUESTIONS?

Still have questions after reading the Resource and Invitation Guide?

Reminders:

**WHO:** High school-aged young men
  Incoming Freshmen - Graduated Seniors

**WHERE:** Black Rock Retreat Center
  1345 Kirkwood Pike, Quarryville, PA 17566

**WHEN:** June 27-30, 2022

**COST:** $25-$300 Sliding Scale
  Pay what you are able

**REGISTER:** By June 1, 2022

Contact Us

If you have further questions on how to use the Resource and Invitation Guide or on anything you found here, please reach out to our Office at 610-667-5778 or contact Jillian Minnich, Program Coordinator at jminnich@archphila.org.

We look forward to having your young men join us for *Quo Vadis* Days!

Vocation Office Contact Information

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**Jillian Minnich, Program Coordinator**
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Wynnewood, PA 19096

One Last Resource

**Bible Verses That Take You "To the Heights"**

These Bible verses can be used throughout the *Quo Vadis* promotional period as inspiration for this year’s theme "To the Heights".

- Psalm 120-134
- Ezekiel 37:22
- Isaiah 52:7-10
- Matthew 5:1
- Matthew 17:1
- Mark 11:23
- Acts 1:9
- 1 Corinthians 13:2

Download Resources

- **Flyer**
- **Promotional Video**
- **Registration Packet**
- **Bulletin, Pulpit and Social Media Announcements**

This Resource and Invitation Guide was created by the Vocation Office for the Diocesan Priesthood for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.