Dear Parents,

Hello! My name is Allison Gall, and I prefer to go by Allie. I’m the new Coordinator of Youth Ministry here at St. Joan’s. I am thrilled to be a part of this wonderful community, and I am happy to be serving the youth of this parish.

It’s only fair that I introduce myself to you, as the parents of the children whom I will be working with on a regular basis. I’m a native of Cleveland – I grew up in Solon, and recently moved to Bainbridge. I’m a lifelong member of Church of the Resurrection in Solon. I graduated from John Carroll University in 2014 with my BA in English, and I’m currently finishing up my MA in Nonprofit Administration, also at John Carroll. In my free time, I love to read, paint, crochet, and spend time with my dog. I’m also a musician – I’ve played violin since age five, and I sing as well. Perhaps you’ll catch me in the choir one day! An additional fun fact is that I’m a third-degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do.

While this is my first full-time ministry job, I have been volunteering in ministry at Resurrection my entire life. I started with volunteering as a young teen in Vacation Bible School, participated in Junior High Summer Camp, and became the head counselor of the summer camp. After I got confirmed in 11th grade, I became even more active in the Church, and I’ve now been volunteering as one of the core team members of the retreat team for our confirmation candidates for 10 years. I’m also currently in my third year of teaching seventh grade PSR.

In terms of youth ministry, I am focused on helping teens grow their faith and become comfortable in expressing and using their faith in real-life situations. As a Catholic, I believe firmly that our mission is to share the Good News of God’s love for us, and that we can become the Light for others through service, loving our neighbor, and prayer. My aim for Youth Group (both middle school and high school) is to teach the teens how to live a prayerful, spiritual life while still being active participants in the world around them, and how to understand the events of their life through the lens of their faith. My goal as a youth minister is to be a voice of support and faith to the teens of St. Joan’s, and to help them know that their community loves and supports them. In addition, I want to emphasize that my role is to serve them, and that their opinions, views, wants, and needs are important to me. I want my office to be a safe space for them to come to when needed, and I want to be there as an additional supportive adult for them.

Thank you for supporting me as I begin this journey and thank you for supporting your children and teaching them the ways of our faith.

I invite all of you to sign up for bi-weekly email newsletters and for Remind, a texting service, for up-to-date information and reminders. Information can be found on the parish website under both the 7/8 Youth Ministry tab and the High School Youth Ministry tab.

My door is always open, the candy jars are always full, the suggestion jar is always available, and my ears and heart are always open.

In faith,

Allie Gall

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