

THADDEUS SOCIETY LEADERSHIP MANUAL

**Mission Statement**

The Thaddeus Society is a community of young adults seeking to follow the path of St Jude as followers and friends of Christ. We accomplish this goal by offering small-group settings to delve deeper into our faith, as well as, opportunities to gather as a larger group to celebrate the sacraments and enjoy fellowship. This community seeks to serve the needs of ALL young adults, 18-39, that want to grow deeper in their relationship with Christ.

**Vision Statement**

When more and more Catholics choose to embrace and live their faith; that is when real change in the world will happen. We will not settle with mediocrity in our relationship with Christ and His Church. We are the change the world needs to see.

"If Catholics would rise up and be truly Catholic, the world would change overnight."
-*Mother Angelica*

“Do not be afraid. Do not be satisfied with mediocrity. Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.”
-*Pope John Paul II*

**Values Statement**

1. St Jude Thaddeus is our patron, and Mary, Queen of the Universe, is our patroness.
2. We are true to the teachings of the holy Roman Catholic Church.
3. The Thaddeus Society is a ministry through St Jude but open to all young adults.

CELL GROUPS

What is a cell group?

One of the main components of this ministry are the weekly cell group meetings: small groups of up to 16 members. Our society grows as each cell group invites and welcomes new members, then divides once the group begins to overflow—similar to our human cells. In this way, the interconnected cells can live the New Evangelization as Pope Benedict XVI defined it: “New evangelization must surrender to the mystery of the grain of mustard seed and not be so pretentious as to believe to immediately produce a large tree.”

Who leads a cell group?

Typically, the groups are led by 2-3 leaders. They can be all-female or male led, or both. These leaders must be active Catholics that abide by Church teaching. They must be willing to commit to the weekly meetings, as well as, the large group gatherings at the end of the month. There will also be one additional monthly meeting for leaders only.

What is the most important requirement of a leader?

The leaders are to be practicing Catholics that uphold the teachings of the Church (this does not require perfection ☺ ) Leaders are asked not to speak out against Church teaching in meetings, or post/display anything on social media that contradicts what She teaches.

Where are the cell groups held?

Ideally the meetings will be held at the members’ homes. If, in the case, that isn’t possible, they may choose another location such as a coffee shop or meeting room at the parish.

When are the meetings held?

The meeting time and day is up to the leaders to choose. They may be any time in the evening Monday through Thursday. The goal is to have as many options as possible for the incoming members to choose from. The meetings last about 1.5 hours.

What do you do at meetings?

The meetings should begin and end with prayer. If desired, praise and worship may be done. The content of the meeting will be planned ahead of time by Sue. The leaders are asked to go through the prepared plans.

How will leaders find out about the content?

Once a month all of the leaders will meet with Sue to go over the following month’s content. The meetings are held at 8PM on the 1st Sunday of the month.