

# Đoàn Thiếu Nhi Thành Thế

# LÊ BẢO TỊNH



## Au Nhi - Why do you like TNTT?

I love the class. **Valentina** – AN

I like TNTT because it's fun. **Tyler** – AN

I like the song au nhi ca - **Kiera** – AN

I love ALL the classes. **Chloe** – AN

I like singing. **Candice** – AN

I like church. **Jayden** – AN

I like the teachers. **Andrew** AN

I like singing the song. **Joseph** – AN

I like doing fun activities. **Gerad** - AN

I love TNTT because they play fun games. They help us learn about God. They give us food some times. The people that teach us are nice. **Andrew** – AN

I love TNTT because sometimes we get to party. Also we get to play games. We get to go to church together. Also we get prize and we get to learn morse code. **Anna** – AN

I like TNTT because we have a lot of parties. Also, there is a lot of fun. There are a lot of games. I like God because He made the world, He also made us too. **Kendrick** – AN

I love TNTT because everybody here is nice. I also like it because it is fun here. I also like it because they teach me a lot. **Ella – AN**

I love TNTT because there is games and food. I love story too. **Skyler – AN**

I like TNTT because we play fun games. I also like TNTT because there are a lot of friends. **Ethan – AN**

I love TNTT because my friends. I like camping too. **Tristan – AN**

I love TNTT because it has food/prizes. It is fun. It teaches us about God. The best reason I love it because it has “TNT” in it. **Dylan – AN**

I love TNTT because I like to go to camp. I also like morse code. I really like the parties. **Kenton – AN**

I love TNTT because it’s fun playing games and because we learn with friends. **Theo – AN**

## Thieu Nhi – Life with God / TNTT

Thieu Nhi Thanh The Viet Nam is not that fun. I do like the lion dance of Thieu Nhi, it is cool. My favorite game at Thieu is four corner. I love Jesus and God, they are amazing to me. I like Scott, the tallboy who does the lion dance. **Colin – TN**

Life with Thieu Nhi will be awesome, fun and extraordinary. We will learn a lot of stuff about God. We will have so much fun playing games. We will do outdoor activities like at camp. I will have a memorable life living with Thieu Nhi. Life with God will be a very good experience. I will get to find out how God lives in Heaven. Living with God will be fun. I will be such a good person. I will not be a bad person. I shall be a good person and go to Heaven. **Amy – TN**

Life with God is great because I pray every day, go to church, and follow God's path. I follow God’s path by going to Sunday school and learning what I have to know to go in the right direction. When I am old enough I am going to be a nun or teach other people about God, so they can go in the right path like me. I dream of people learning about God and going in the path I went, but sometimes if you go off the track you can always find your way back on track. **Valerie – TN**

I feel closer to God when I go to church or go to TNTT. I have been in TNTT since I was six years old. We learn about God with fun games. We also learn skills like morse code and semaphore. It's also really fun when we play sharks and minnows. I have enjoyed learning about God and being in TNTT. **Christine – TN**

Life with God is filled with joy and hope. With God in your life, you feel almost at peace with the world. And when you don't, God is always there for you when you need Him. He will always love you and He will understand. Life with God is never disappointing. He will always love you, listen to you, and treat you special. So when you feel lonely or sad or angry, you will just need to pray to him and He will be there. For example, with God in my life I have accomplished so many things. When I needed help on something, I just pray and God will help me and give me courage to do whatever I need to do. So think about Him when you need something or something there. **Nghi – TN**



Thieu Nhi Thanh The Viet Nam is an exciting and wonderful church scout community. I've been in TNTT since Au Nhi. I've learned about many subjects such as lessons about Jesus, morse code, and do many fun activites. For examples, after we finish learning about lines and forms of it, we usually play sharks and minnows. The part that I like about Thieu Nhi is about their activities and games. More importantly, Thieu Nhi is just a fun group that is also education as well. **Scott – TN**

Thieu Nhi Thanh The is a Vietnamese community, a part of Saint Nicholas Catholic Church. I've been in TNTT since I was six when I was in First Grade. I've learned a lot by coming to Sunday school every week. My knowledge about morse code and semaphore came from TNTT. I like Thieu Nhi because we do fun activities and have parties during the holidays such as Christmas. The Huynh Truongs know how to teach as well but make it fun too. **Carrie – TN**

I like TNTT because we have food and food is good and why be hungry, you can be full. Eating is living, without food you die. I love God. I like camp because of food. **Jacob - TN**

Thieu Nhi Thanh The Viet Nam is a really fun class to learn about Jesus. The Leaders are very kind, but make us do a lot of work. I've been in Thieu Nhi for at least two years. I love the activities they ask us to do and all include things about Jesus. It's very fun to learn many things about God. Overall, Thieu Nhi is a great place to learn about God. **Matthew – TN**

Life with TNTT is awesome because there is always excitement around and everyone always laugh. TNTT is my favorite class of the Sunday class. Sometimes TNTT is boring, but mostly it's exciting; we get to play games and also learn other stuff. This is how life with TNTT is like to me. **Vivian - TN**

I like Thieu Nhi because we have fun and play games. We have parties and have fun at them. I love God for creating the world, also for creating food and nature, most of all for creating me. **Theo - TN**

Life with TNTT is total awesomeness because I was in Thieu Nhi for 9 years and the experience was that it was very fun. This is my first year in blue and I wonder if it'll be fun or not. Before I thought TN was boring, but now I think that it is awesome because I'm in blue and we'll get more fun. TN is a little boring but once in awhile something exciting happens. **Gianna – TN**

Life with God is peaceful and graceful. God can be loved and makes everyone feel welcomed. Everyday I pray to Him and ask for help. God makes everyone feel appreciated. He will always be there for you. Without God or Jesus or the saints, there wouldn't be anything and I wouldn't be here. God is very important to me. I love God and God loves everyone. **Jennifer – TN**

I've been in Thieu Nhi since I was 8 years old which was when I was in second grade. Thieu Nhi is a fun class to learn about God. We get to play games, eat food, learn codes, and FOOD! I really like food. Thieu Nhi is fun. **Dylan – TN**

Thieu Nhi Thanh The Vietnam has been fun, we learn about God and many things like Semaphore and Morse Code. I have been in TNTT when I was in the fourth grade. When I first started, I didn't know anybody so after when I got used to it, it felt like it was my home. I got my First Communion in April. I love GOD! **Kevin – TN**

Thieu Nhi Thanh The Viet Nam is a very fun class to learn about God. I have been here ever since I was eight



years old. Life with TN is great, but boring. Some of the leaders are boring while others are fun. We can have fun while learning but it is also beneficial. **Vincent – TN**

Life with God is a journey of faith. Ever since I was little, I've never known the meaning of mass, but each year I have grown closer to God and have embraced it. I have come to learn more about God and His love. Each time I go to Mass, I feel closer and whenever I pray I feel God's presence with me. Each time I listen to the word of the Lord, I feel like I've just picked up a piece of a puzzle and put it in and without it, I wouldn't be complete. Even after this time, I'm not ending my journey now, I'm just beginning. **Cynthia – TN**

Thieu Nhi Thanh The is just a small part of my church life. Life with Thieu Nhi is not only pushing me harder to strengthen my spiritual soul, but also strengthening my knowledge about God. **Bryanna – TN**

Life with God is great. My life is filled with fun. I pray for the sick and homeless. He will always be with you. He will help you if you pray. **Candyce – TN**

Life with God is terrific! God is filled with peace and joy. Praying to God can be life changing. I pray for the sick and homeless people. God gave me a great life with great parents and great siblings. I Love GOD! **Alexa - TN**

Life in TNTT is fun and exciting. It's really fun because we play games and we get to hang out with friends. We also learn a lot of new stuff but it's harder. It's a lot more fun because the people know more stuff. I think TNTT is really fun. **Loc – TN**

I feel closer to God when I pray or go to church. Life at TNTT is awesome, we play games like sharks and minnows and bang. In TNTT, I learn stuff that I didn't even know, morse code can be fun if you play games. Whenever I am lucky, I think God is helping me. I pray every night and whenever I eat food with my family. I enjoyed my life with God and TNTT. **Leslie – TN**

## **Nghia Si – How has TNTT affected You?**

Thieu Nhi has affected my life in many ways. Having been in Thieu Nhi for many years, I have made so many friends and became so much closer with God. Going to camp and meeting other people has made Thieu Nhi so much fun. Also, being in Nghia Si has exposed me to more responsibilities. As a result, Thieu Nhi has been so influential to my life by making me more responsible. I have learned more about God and lessons involving Thieu Nhi. I am so grateful for Thieu Nhi! **Elaine – NS**

Thieu Nhi Thanh The has impacted my life in many ways. First of all, I have met many friends such as Le and Hannah. I have grown closer to the people here and we are now like family. I have also learned many things for camping such as morse code and semaphore. Camping has impacted my life because I have met people in our Vietnamese community. I have been able to feel closer to God. Also, Dang Hoa has impacted my life by dancing to Mary. Thieu Nhi has made me more responsible and able to take care of the Au Nhi kids. I will forever remember Thieu Nhi. **Emily – NS**

I am in Nghia Si because I wanted to return to Thieu Nhi Thanh The. Another reason I am in TNTT because I have met more people and have gotten more friends. Being in TNTT has changed my life by giving me more knowledge, like morse code. To me, being in TN, is also like growing and turning into an extended family. I also like the camps, games, and all the other activities we do to grow as one and improve myself and my own skills. **Allen – NS**

Thieu Nhi Thanh The has allowed me to build my confidence and leadership. That has helped me in Aliso Niguel High School when we do projects or present to the class. TNTT allows me to bond with my friends like Minh, Allen, Hannah and Sabrina. TNTT has taught me unique skills including semaphore and morse code which is not taught in any public school that I know of. Thieu Nhi Thanh The has benefited my life in ways in which no other public school can really offer. Thieu Nhi Thanh The has great leaders who are easy to talk to and that alone allows things to kind of flow. With an actual curriculum now, I hope TNTT will continue to positively improve their lives with laughter and fun. **Ryan – NS**

Thieu Nhi Thanh The is part of my spiritual life. It helps me, as well as other children, become closer to God. We also learn to come closer to one another and our friends. Thieu Nhi also teaches us basic camping and survival skills. Semaphore, morse code, and knots are just some of the things I have learned. Thieu Nhi is very fun and has greatly affected my life. **Timothy – NS**

Nghia Si has changed my life in so many different ways. I am here in Nghia Si because I choose to do so. I come to TNTT to learn more about God. It has changed my life in making me a stronger and mature student. It has improved my physical and mental abilities. Thieu Nhi has helped me with communicating to others easier. Just like using the morse code and semaphore, it helps me with the little complicated things in life. What I like the most about TNTT is some of the lessons being taught and the teamwork performed at this church. **Minh – NS**



I am currently in Nghia Si. TNTT has taught me many things. I have made many friends along the way. I also learned morse code and semaphore. It has also brought me closer to God. My favorite part about Thieu Nhi is the camping. I especially like June camp because we have competitions and meet all the other churches. Thieu Nhi has greatly changed my life. **Dylan – NS**

Thieu Nhi for me is a part of natural life. There are its ups and downs (mostly ups) but we all have fun. Everyweek I get to see friends and the teachers. We learn about God and get closer to him. We also get to bond with one another. Thieu Nhi is amazing! **Le – NS**

Thieu Nhi is like a second family. What makes Thieu Nhi different from school friends is that everyone is accepting of one another, and we all pray and worship God together. The fact that we all share the same religion makes our friendship more personal. This year, I hope to do fun community services and spread the Word of God. I hope that future generations can experience Thieu Nhi as I did, and build strong friendships with one another. **Anonymous – NS**

I am very thankful to be a part of the St. Nicholas Parish, to have the opportunity to experience another year of Bible study and TNTT. I voluntarily come back to TNTT every year because of the new things we will learn, the new people we will meet, and the new memories we will make as a family. It's spiritually fulfilling to be in the type of environment where everyone else also shares the same Catholic faith as you do. Because TNTT teaches everyone leadership skills and prepares us for the future, every little thing taught is purposely beneficial for us. I hope the future generations will realize how TNTT is more than just a Vietnamese youth group; it is a place where we learn more about ourselves, a place where we discover our capability to accomplish great things. I have not once thought about quitting TNTT, and I intend not to because of the impact it's made on my outlook on life. For right now, for this new school year, I am looking forward to the lessons, the new friends, and to the next step in our journey, together. **Chan – NS**

The reason why I go to Thieu Nhi is to be closer to God. Thieu Nhi teaches you leadership and how to be a good Catholic. It is like another family. I expect to learn more things and guide the younger generation during their travels with Jesus. For the next generations coming up, I would like to leave behind a good foundation for them, making them enjoy coming to TNú where they know that we will always help them. Being a Catholic youth makes me proud and honored to be one. **Anonymous - NS**

## Hiep Si and Huynh Truong

### \* What does TNTT mean to you and why are you still in TNTT?

Being in Thieu Nhi brings great joy to me, especially being a leader, it is very fun. It helps me keep my mind off the real world for a while and really connect with everyone in Thieu Nhi, including this year helping out cap mot Au Nhi. Being a leader, I find it takes a lot of work and patience, but I've been in Thieu Nhi since I was 7 and have gone the whole way. So I believe I, and everybody other leader, has worked very hard and has earned their role as a leader in Thieu Nhi Thanh The. As a leader in Thieu Nhi, setting a good example for the Au Nhi, Thieu, and Nghia Si is important and I hope they will see the fun and importance of being a leader, and that they will also become a leader. Being a part of a great organization such as Thieu Nhi Thanh The has taught me many productive skills along the way. I take it to heart in my journey of life, and I will express it to everyone I meet. Being a leader in Thieu Nhi is fun... Why stop now? **Jonathan – HS**

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Being in TN means a lot to me. Growing up, I went to TN to be with my friends, hang out and play games. Even though we only saw each other once a week, we considered each other as best friends. I gained a close group of friends that will be there for me even when we're miles and miles apart. They're the people that don't just come and go like the ones at school. But being a leader in TN is sort of a different story. We now have a mission and responsibility to take. Our mission as a TN leader is to build the kids' faith, and to become good Catholics and citizens of society. Not only that, but we are training them to take our spots as leaders so that they can keep our community alive. **Elaine – HS**

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The year was 2001, I had just moved over from Chicago, Illinois, to the beautiful city of Laguna Niguel, California. All I could remember was the first day of church, the day I dreaded most. When I first came to the classrooms for bible class, I was lost, felt out of place, and started to cry. I sat through Bible class crying. Luckily I met a friend. His name was Brian (till this day we're still good friends.) He told me all about himself and that this was also going to be his first year in Thieu Nhi. With a new friend right by my side, I knew I wasn't going to be alone at this church anymore. When it came time for Thieu Nhi, all the Huynh Truongs greeted all the new kids with big smiles. After a couple of weeks in Thieu Nhi, I soon learned to enjoy it. With all the fun games and the joy that the Huynh Truongs brought to the kids' eyes, I knew that I wanted to be just like them when I was older.

Every week when my parents drove my sister and I to church, there was nothing to look forward to besides Thieu Nhi. Being in Au was the best thing ever. You could practically do anything you wanted and wouldn't get in trouble for it. We never spent time to sit and learn a lesson. We would spend the majority of our time in the grass area behind church and play sharks and minnows. That would explain why all the 'au' kids would always come to church sweaty and tired. The best experience in Au was the Doan camp. We were placed into families and shipped off to the campsites. There, I met awesome Thieu and Nghia people. For once in my life I felt cool because I had friends that were older than me. During my last year as an Au Nhi, I was promoted to Doi Truong. When lining up my group, I wanted to show the Huynh Truong I had what it takes to be one of them. I was obviously the fan favorite in Au Nhi.

When I hit the age of 11, I was moved up to Nganh Thieu. I was looking forward to even more games to be played on the field, but I was wrong. In Thieu, we learned morse and semaphore EVERY SINGLE WEEK. Besides the boredom that struck, I was also grateful that I had moved up to Thieu. In Thieu one of the Huynh Truongs brought me to a lion dance practice. I thought the art of lion (unicorn) dancing was very exciting. The way they move and riled up the audience was thrilling. Ever since I was little, my favorite holiday was Tet, not because of the money, but because of the lion (unicorn) dancing. The performances that they showcased really rocked my world. I started out as a Buddha (The Earth god) for two years. After those two years, my friend Brian convinced me to move up and try out for the role of being in a lion (unicorn). During the day of the performance, I was confident, ready to achieve my goal, and rock the church. At the end of the performance everyone cheered and clapped for us. I felt really proud of our team and the performance we just presented. Till this day I still participate in lion (unicorn) dancing. When moving up to Nghia my job was to recruit and train people in lion (unicorn) dancing.

Being in Nghia was a different ball game. Unlike Thieu Nhi, we learned about the social world and the barrier that



splits people into “cliques”. When I said that it was a different ball game, I meant that we are going to be the future leader. All the Au’s and Thieu’s will be looking up to us, so we had to set a good example not just for them, but also ourselves. Thieu Nhi wasn’t just something I enjoyed doing on my spare time, it shaped me who I am today. I can’t even imagine what would happen if I had never joined Thieu Nhi. They showed me who I really was and gave me character. I met great people who showed me the ways in life. I’ve learned how to overcome obstacles, which most people could never achieve. Thieu Nhi played a big role in my life. From Au Nhi to Hiep si, there has not been one day where I hated coming.

As of now, I am on my way to becoming a Huynh Truong. One of my life long promises I made to myself when I was only six years old. I believe the past generations of Huynh Truongs have carved the path for me to not only step up, but to also become a leader. I have seen many faces come and go in Thieu Nhi, but only a few of us has managed to stay. Thieu Nhi as a whole, is not only considered an opportunity, but also a second family to me.

**Scott – HS**

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Life with God and Thieu Nhi Thanh The has been a great experience in the past twenty years. When I first joined TNTT as an Au Nhi, I didn't know what to expect. My friend just asked me to join because it was fun. Ever since then, I don't think it was anything to regret. I was able to learn life lessons living through God and spreading his love and teachings to others around while gaining lifetime friends. Now as a Huynh Truong, I want to be able to give the kids the same opportunities I had when I was their age: singing songs in gatherings; working together as a team to accomplish our goals; using our senses to see, listen, speak, touch, and think about how God has created each and every one of us to live through his words; and creating memories to last a lifetime. I want to be able to see smiling faces as God would like to see as well to know that everything is moving in the right direction. **Tr. Trang - HT**

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Thieu Nhi Thanh The shaped the person that I am today. Growing up with this organization, I learned how to become a well-rounded person. TNTT taught me the virtues and principles of a good-hearted person, useful life skills, leadership, and the teachings of God. I experienced wonderful leadership; therefore, I wish to pass on the great experience I had with Thieu

Nhi to the incoming generations. When working with the children, I hope to guide them in their faith as well as teach them various things that are useful for everyday life. I love everyone in Thieu Nhi Thanh The as my own family member. I love to teach, learn and make bonds with the children and leaders that I work with. God bless Thieu Nhi Thanh The. **Tr. Austin – HT**

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Growing up I did not like going to Thi u Nhi, but as I continued going, I learned the importance of being in Thi u Nhi. Thi u Nhi is a place where one goes to learn, connect, and build better relationships with their families, friends, and our Catholic community. Being a Huynh Tr ng has taught me leadership, responsibility, and the importance of being a good role model. Thi u Nhi has helped me overcome many of my struggles and made me a more bold, yet humble person. My faith in God has become stronger because of his constant love and life lessons I have experienced, to become a better Catholic. I enjoy coming to Thi u Nhi and all its events because it brings us closer as a family and community with God. And I enjoy teaching, molding, and moving our young kids in a better direction. **Tr. Jessica – HT**

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Eleven years ago, I joined Thieu Nhi Thanh The as a young Au Nhi. I learned so much in Thieu Nhi and enjoyed all of the activities we did. What I appreciated the most out of TNTT were the Huynh Truongs, particularly this one Huynh Truong. This Huynh Truong was always there for me and steered me in the right direction. I can say confidently, that I am the man today because of him. After a two year break from TNTT, I have returned as a Huynh Truong with many goals in mind. I am in TNTT today because I want to be a positive role model to the children. But most of all, I want to have the same significant impact on someone like that Huynh Truong had on me so many years ago.

**Tr. Quinton – HT**

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I was a Huynh Truong from Doan Teresa Hai Dong Giesu, Mien Dong Bac in **Connecticut**. I am now part of Doan Le Bao Tinh, Mien Tay Nam. Being a leader at TNTT is a big responsibility. It is very rewarding when we see the children we teach grow up to become fulfilled individuals and perfect Christians. We educate the children in both social and spiritual life and help them become better people and responsible Christians. Being involved in TNTT has given me a lot of blessings in my life. I would not be the same person I am today without TNTT. TNTT has had a major impact on my life. **Tr. Minh – HT**



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TNTT to me is more than just vocational community service. I attend TNTT because I would like to lead the younger generation to become better catholic children. Making the right choices when your parents, peers, and siblings aren't around is what it means to lead. I won't be a HT forever, but for the time I do have here, I would like to educate our youth group on the importance of having a community. Attending church every Sunday isn't enough to live a fulfilling catholic lifestyle. One must actively seek God's forgiveness as well as look out for your brother and sisters. God states that if only 1 person with a good heart was in the town he was visiting, he would not destroy that town. And with that I believe that if we give everything up to the Lord, we will have better successful happy life. TNTT is more than morse-code and semaphore; it's a way of life,

leadership, and guidance. I would like to light the candlestick of future generations and without TNTT, I don't think I would be the person I am today with a good heart.

### Tr. Joshua – HT

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I have been in Thieu Nhi Thanh The (TNTT) most of my life. The teachings I have learned and the friends I have made has influenced me tremendously.

Growing up in TNTT has taught me valuable skills that helped me succeed in life. Morse Code was a fun way to teach me how concentrate and process what I was hearing so I can write it down, the faster the morse code, the quicker my brain was processing the data. Semaphore helped me develop my short term memory and hand and eye coordination by seeing what signal was given and writing it down quick enough so I can catch the next letter.

TNTT showed me what it means to be a team member, a co-leader, and the leader of a group. I was always a quiet and shy kid growing up, still am, but for some reason I was always a Doi Truong (group leader). I remember going to camps and partaking in Tro Choi Lon where each group is set off by themselves to find clues and solve puzzles. I was able to lead my group and accomplishing goals together to get to the end of the game. I was a different kid in TNTT than I was normally, I was a leader, I was ambitious, I was more determined and I was confident. Growing up, I have not experienced this anywhere else but in Thieu Nhi Thanh The. Even



playing sports as a kid and in High School, the coach was always leading the team.

As a Huynh Truong of TNTT, I have taught others what I have learned. I have experienced a lot of laughter and smiles from the children and I have seen little Au Nhi kids grow up into wonderful adults. Knowing that I am spreading the teachings of the Lord as a confirmed Catholic means I am living my life as God intended.

Being a Huynh Truong has helped me become a better leader, a more mature individual, a better role model, a mentor, a loving husband, a soon to be parent, and most importantly a stronger Catholic. I have learned what it means to be a part of a Vietnamese Catholic community and have experienced living the Vietnamese culture.

There was a time when I was no longer in TNTT, but it does not mean I stopped living my life the way I have learned to live it. TNTT played a major role on shaping me to who I am today. I recently came back to TNTT because I wanted to keep making a difference in people's lives. Now, all I can hope for is that TNTT will continue to be strong at Cong Doan Duc Me Hang Cuu Giup so my child gets to experience what I have experienced.

### Tr Tony – DT