

Hello Youth Ministers!!!

Hope you are having a great year with your teens and have seen some wonderful fruit from last year’s Mission Retreat! Wow….how do we follow up after last year? That was the question as we began planning this year and the result is you do not, rather, we continue on from where we left off. Great Things will do just that continue to move forward in the same direction bringing teens to encounter the power of Christ in their daily lives so they can become strong witnesses in the world that they walk in each day. Each year we hope to equip them and send them as disciples back into the world and it is very exciting to have such a great team to do help bring this about at THE MISSION 2018. Michael Gormley and Sr. Miriam will bring their gifts this year and we do expect Great Things with their guidance. We are blessed to have a large team commited in the planning process this year and you can be confident that this weekend will be FANTASTIC!!

TESTIMONIES REQUESTED

Last year we received more letters of thanks and stories than ever before. Both teens and adults wrote to us sharing their experiences from the weekend and we would like to hear from some of them this year. If you have a teen or an adult who would like to give a testimony at this year’s event please send their name and email to us at [scathemission@gmail.com](mailto:scathemission@gmail.com). We will follow up with them and hopefully have some wonderful stories to share this year.

BOYS LUGGAGE

This year we have to put a limit on boys luggage as it has gotten a bit out of control with tents and many other items. Each boy is limited to one light overnight bag, one shower bag and a sleeping bag. Cots and air mattresses are not permitted for teens. Chaperones may bring cots or air mattresses. Sorry for this change but the volunteers have made this request as it has become too difficult to transfer the large amounts of heavy items for the boys. **Thank you for your help in this matter.**

**REGISTRATION**

**We had 600 in attendance last year and this pretty much is out limit so please**

**REGISTER EARLY**

**and spread the word with other youth ministers as we do our**

**best to keep up to date info. but is not so easy with the Detroit Area.**

**We have an early registration price again this year:**

**Everyone registered by Feb. 5rd will receive the early registration price of $75. After Feb. 5, the price is $90. A $25 deposit per person will hold your spots. Final payments are due Monday Feb. 26 in full. Registration is not available at the door. Again- please have your full payment to us no later than Monday Feb. 26 2018. Payment after Feb. 5rd will be at the $90 per person rate. We appreciate your help in this matter as timely payment in needed to support this event.**

Please be assured that we are praying for you and your teens as we continue to prepare for this year’s youth weekend. We are excited to have you join us and please call or email us with any questions you may have. You can also reach us on FB at themissionMI or at [scathemisison@gmail.com](mailto:scathemisison@gmail.com)

In Christ,   
Nancy Duey & “The Mission” Team

Nancy’s work number 517-655-2520



YM info for The Mission

Registering

1. Please register your group by Feb. 5, 2018 to receive the discounted price of $75. You can register after Feb. 5th at the price of $90 per person. A $25 per person deposit will hold your groups spot with full payment due Feb. 5th. You may add people to your group after this date at $90 per person.
2. Registration the day of the event begins at 4pm. Please have your group arrive by 5:30 to get through the registration process so you are all checked in for the start of the event at 6pm.
3. **You do not have to send permission slips in ahead of registration.** You can bring them the day of registration. All adults will need a signed waiver by your pastor indicating they have taken the Protecting God’s Children requirements of the Diocese.

Food

1. **Friday night dinner is not included** in the cost of the weekend. We do have a concession stand open with snacks and pizza, but suggest your group eats before arriving. We will serve pizza and a snack during the evening.
2. We can accommodate special diets if needed. Please let us know before the weekend so that we can plan accordingly.
3. The event closes with a Brunch hosted by the K of C. Departure time is approximately 1pm on Sunday.

Sleeping Accommodations:

1. Girls sleep at St. Catherine’s.
2. Boys sleep at a nearby location and will be bussed to the sight each night.

Other info

1. Confession will be available Friday and Saturday as much as possible. **Please ask your parish priest to help at this event**. Please let us know if they are willing to hear confessions.
2. We always looking for volunteers and have a link of the St. Catherine website if you have parents that would like to give of their time for this event please direct them to the Mission website.
3. Everyone registered person gets a t-shirt! Praise the Lord! Only one per person please.

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**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Showering?**

* + Male Chaperones shower at close of each night at St. Catherine’s.
  + Teen boys shower after chaperones.
  + Female Chaperones 11:30 pm Friday/Saturday night and 5:30 am to 6:30 am.
  + Teen girls shower Saturday/Sunday morning.
  + Shower Schedules posted outside locker room hallway.
* **Small Groups?**
  + **Please assign your teens to small group leaders as we have small group sessions**
  + Small group leaders are responsible for their small groups (i.e. monitoring behavior) throughout the weekend.
  + **If you are bringing a Confirmation Group we ask that you have one adult to 6 teen ratios and that they are kept close to their Chaperone all weekend. Please also have them familiar with Adoration and properly prepared for the weekend.**
  + **Chaperones in general are asked to stay with their group throughout the weekend helping teens to get the most out of the weekend.**
  + Small group questions are provided for each session in your folder.
* **What if someone is hurt/sick?**
  + There is a nursing station at the end of the locker room hallway.
  + Teens must attend with an adult chaperone.
* **Chaperone Coffee Room**
* CHAPERONES ONLY have a coffee room available throughout the weekend located in a room inside the Cafeteria.

**\*\*\*New Small Group Leaders/Chaperones are asked to attend a brief informational meeting at 5:00 p.m. or 5:30 p.m. on Friday. \*\*\***



Packing List and other info.

Packing List:

* Boys: towel in a drawstring bag for showering at SCA, soap , shampoo
* Pillows, sleeping bags, **TENTS, COTS AND AIR MATTRESSES NOT PERMITTED IN BOYS SLEEPING AREA. ONLY MALE CHAPERONES MAY BRING COTS OR AIR MATTRESSES.**
* Modest clothing for both boys and girls.
* No crazy shirts with skulls, poor word choices ect.
* Girls nothing to short or low.
* Hoodie or sweater suggested for the gym area as it does get a bit cold.
* No pajama pants for daytime, no yoga pants. Sweat pants are ok.
* Should there be a clothing issue we will have great extra large size Catholic t-shirts available at no charge! ☺
* Toiletries, shampoo, soap, toothbrush, ect.
* Rosary
* Prefer no cell phones, ipods ect.
* We ask that all cell phones be left in rooms or sleeping area and not brought to retreat during the day.
* Chaperones will have phones for any teen who must make a call home.

Speaker’s books and CD’s are available on the weekend.

Concession Stand open at certain times throughout weekend. Teens can bring snacks.

**Snacks not allowed in sleeping areas.**

**ALL SLEEPING AREAS MUST BE CLEANED AND**

**CHECKED PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.**

Medications:

* Nursing is available during the day for any minor medical needs. An adult must accompany youth to the nursing station.
* Youth Minister or main chaperone is responsible to know of teen’s medical needs and medicine.
* If medicine needs refrigeration please contact nurse upon arrival.