



**Office for Evangelization  
Catholic Diocese of Richmond  
Diocesan Youth Conference 2018**

This communication contains initial information concerning the Diocesan Youth Conference for 2018. Please read all the information to ensure you have a full understanding of the event.

**What is the Diocesan Youth Conference?**

The Diocesan Youth Conference is a weekend event held each calendar year to gather high school youth from all 145 parishes located in the Diocese of Richmond to one central location. The Conference is a highly energetic, engaging, and awesome opportunity for our high school teenagers to gather as a larger Church community and celebrate the amazing richness of our Catholic Christian faith.

**What are some highlights of the Diocesan Youth Conference for 2018?**

- **Diocesan Youth Choir.** For our sixth year, we invite our youth to participate in our Diocesan Youth Conference Choir for our Masses at the Youth Conference. Participants will need to indicate if they would like to participate during the registration process. There will be no rehearsals prior to the conference this year.
- **Sacraments.** Mass will be celebrated during the weekend on both Saturday and Sunday with all attendees. In addition, the sacrament of reconciliation will be available during the course of the weekend. There will also be an opportunity for attendees to spend some time in prayer and reflection during the weekend.
- **More Sessions.** We will be offering more breakout sessions for adults and youth during the course of the weekend with topics that have been requested based on feedback from previous years.
- **Creative Breakout Sessions.** We will continue to offer more breakout sessions for adults and youth during the course of the weekend focused on particular topics that have been requested based on feedback from previous years, including several panel-type discussions.

**Who should attend the Diocesan Youth Conference?**

The Conference is open to youth who are in 8th through 12th grade for the 2017 – 2018 academic years. No college-aged students may attend the Youth Conference. These individuals should be encouraged to attend the College Summit. We ask all youth leaders to use appropriate pastoral judgment to determine if their 8th graders are mature enough to socially and spiritually be fully present to the conference.

**Where and when is the Diocesan Youth Conference?**

The Diocesan Youth Conference will be held on Friday, February 9 through Sunday, February 11, 2018 at the Richmond Marriott Downtown in Richmond, Virginia.

All youth and adult participants will be housed in the Richmond Marriott Downtown hotel located at 500 East Broad Street in Richmond. However, depending on registration numbers this year, several overflow hotels have been identified near the Richmond Convention Center that parishes may be assigned to if necessary. All hotels are within walking distance.

**I've heard that college students will be participating in the DYC? Is that true?**

Yes and no. As was the case last year, the "Summit" will be happening concurrently with the Diocesan Youth Conference this year at the Greater Richmond Convention Center. While most activities will remain separate, both the high school youth and college students will gather together for our Saturday morning Mass. All college students will have hotel accommodations in an off-site location. All registrations for the Summit are independent from the Diocesan Youth Conference.

**A college student in our parish is attending the College Summit, can they travel with our parish to Richmond?**

No. While the College Summit and Diocesan Youth Conference are happening in Richmond, the start and end times, as well as the start locations for each event are very different. We are unable to accommodate transportation around Richmond for College Summit participants who travel with your parish. In addition, we cannot allow college-aged students to attend the Diocesan Youth Conference, including staying in hotel rooms with youth or adult participants from the Youth Conference.

**Are we participating in a service project this year?**

As been the tradition for the past several years, the Diocese is partnering with "Helping Hands" to package meals to support our brothers and sisters in impoverished countries who are in need. Each participant and parish are asked to prayerfully consider making a donation, in addition to their registration fee, to support this important project. The more money that is contributed, the greater impact our Diocese can have to support those in need. A donation request will be included as part of the registration process.

**What is the theme this year?**

The theme this year is **Truly Present**.

**What is the registration fee?**

Because of generosity of the Diocesan Annual Appeal this year, we have been able to discount our prices this year and offer additional incentives. The registration fee per participant is listed below:

**Base Registration Fees:**

- Youth Participants:
  - \$195 (based on 4 youth per room)
  - \$225 (based on 3 youth per room)
  - \$275 (based on 2 youth per room)
  
- Adult Participants:
  - \$220 (based on 2 adults per room)
  - \$325 (based on 1 adult per room)

**Discounts:**

- Early Bird Discount:
  - \$50 off registration fees listed above if entered online by December 19, 2017 at midnight

**Additional Fees:**

- Substitution Fee: \$65
- Cancellation Fee: \$110 for cancellations made between December 5, 2017 and January 9, 2018. No refunds for cancellations made on or after January 10, 2018, regardless of reason.
- Additional T-Shirt: \$12

**Please note the following:**

- Registration closes on January 10, 2018 at 3:00 pm.
- Any registrations not fully completed in the online system will not qualify for the super early bird or early bird rates. This includes any names that are not correctly entered or anything entered as "TBD".

**What does this registration fee cover?**

The registration fee will cover lodging on Friday and Saturday evenings at the Richmond Marriott. In addition, Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner as well as Sunday breakfast are included. T-shirts and a light snack on Friday night are also included in the registration fee.

### **What is the lodging situation?**

Each room at the Richmond Marriott is a room which contains 2 queen-size beds. Each room will be assigned 2 adults OR 4 youth of the same gender unless your parish opts for smaller numbers of participants per room. The Office for Evangelization will combine parishes with odd numbers to maximize the room allocations.

In addition, the Diocese has reserved meeting rooms in the hotel that will be used for parish evening gatherings as well as a main meeting point for adult chaperones.

**All participants are required to stay at the Richmond Marriott for security reasons. There is NO day-only option available this year.**

### **How do I get to Richmond?**

Transportation is the responsibility of each parish to coordinate.

### **What are the requirements for adult chaperones?**

For this event, 1 adult is required for every 8 youth who are participating in the Diocesan Youth Conference. In addition, adult chaperones must be at least 21 years of age. Each adult chaperone must be in compliance with the Diocesan Safe Environment Policies, which includes completing the following:

- Select One Screening (every 5 years)
- VIRTUS training (once)

### **How do I register and what are the registration deadlines?**

All youth must register through their parish youth coordinator, LeRoy Orie. The registration process includes three steps:

#### **Each Youth must:**

1. Complete (with parental/guardian signatures) the **THREE (3) forms**:
  - a. **YOUTH Registration Form**
  - b. **Medical Information and Release Form**
  - c. **YOUTH CODE OF CONDUCT Form**
2. Return **ALL COMPLETED FORMS** along with your registration fee (see above for your coat) to LeRoy Orie by the above mention deadlines.
3. Once all of the above is completed, LeRoy Orie will register you.

**Please note, registration will close on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 3 pm!**

**Registration for Participant Space is entered (by LeRoy Orie) via the Online Registration System. Individual registration is not available.**

### **Where do I go for questions?**

For all questions, contact:

[LeRoy Orie](mailto:LOrie@churchredeemer.org) ([LOrie@churchredeemer.org](mailto:LOrie@churchredeemer.org) or call 804.746.4911 x2216)

2018 DIOCESAN YOUTH CONFERENCE  
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RICHMOND

**YOUTH** Registration Form

**YOUTH INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Adult T-Shirt Size: \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in participating in the Youth Choir for Mass at the Youth Conference.  YES  NO

Sung part or instrument \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT / GUARDIAN INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (Father) \_\_\_\_\_ (Mother)

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (Father) \_\_\_\_\_ (Mother)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ (Father) \_\_\_\_\_ (Mother)

**EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Child \_\_\_\_\_

**OPTIONAL SUNDAY LUNCH (CHECK WITH YOUR YOUTH MINISTER)**

My parish/school is participating in the optional Sunday Lunch, please order the following sandwich for me:

Ham  Turkey  Chicken Salad  Peanut Butter & Jelly  Veggie Wrap

# 2018 DIOCESAN YOUTH CONFERENCE

## Medical Information and Release Form

All information is kept private and confidential

Name of Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

### MEDICAL INFORMATION

In many cases, our staff and volunteers are not familiar with the medical, physical, and/or emotional history of each participant. Please share **ANY** information relating to the participant in detail. **BE AS SPECIFIC AS POSSIBLE.**

Does the participant have any dietary restrictions?

YES  NO

Select any restrictions that apply to this participant:

**Gluten-free**     **Peanut-free**     **Vegetarian**

List any other dietary restrictions (i.e. vegetarian, allergies)

Is the participant allergic to anything?

YES  NO

List any details of allergies below (this may include food allergies, allergies to specific medications or chemicals, allergies to any substances):

Is the participant currently taking or has taken any prescription medication in the last 6 months?

YES  NO

List the specific prescription medications, reasons for medication, and daily dosage. Indicate if the medication is currently being administered.

Does the participant have any emotional, physical or sensory conditions?

YES  NO

List any emotional conditions that may impede participation in the event. This may include counseling, treatment for emotional conditions (i.e. depression, eating disorders), and/or family situations that may have a significant impact on the participant. List any physical and/or sensory conditions of which we should be aware of or of which need special accommodations (e.g. hearing loss, visual impairment, mobility).

### RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND MEDICAL RELEASE

As parent and/or legal guardian I remain legally responsible for any personal actions taken by the above named minor. I agree on behalf of myself, my child named herein, or our heirs, successors, and assigns, to hold harmless and defend the Catholic Diocese of Richmond, its employees and agents, chaperons, or representatives associated with this event from any claim arising from or in connection with my child attending the event or in connection with any illness or injury (including death) or cost of medical treatment in connection therewith, and I agree to compensate the Diocese, its employees and agents and chaperons, or representatives associated with the event for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses which may incur in any action brought against them as a result of such injury or damage, unless such claim arises from the negligence of the Diocese.

I hereby warrant that to the best of my knowledge, my child is in good health, and I assume all responsibility for the health of my child. In the event of any emergency, I hereby give permission to transport my child to a hospital for emergency medical or surgical treatment. I wish to be advised prior to any further treatment by the hospital or doctor. In the event of an emergency, if you are unable to reach me at the above numbers I give permission for the noted emergency contact to be notified. I will not hold the Diocese of Richmond responsible for authorizing any medical treatment beyond necessary transportation to the hospital.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### USE OF PICTURES AND/OR VIDEO

I give permission for pictures and/or video of my child (named above) engaged in activities related any Diocesan event to have their pictures posted in the Diocese of Richmond publications or websites. Names of participants **will not** be used without expressed permission from the parent or guardian. If no box is checked below, the Diocese of Richmond assumes you give permission.

YES  NO Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# 2018 DIOCESAN YOUTH CONFERENCE

## YOUTH CODE OF CONDUCT

Youth participants must read, understand, agree, sign and return this sheet with the Medical Information and Release form. Each participant is expected to adhere to the following principles while at the Diocesan Youth Conference 2018:

### SHOW LOVE AND RESPECT FOR GOD:

- ✓ Pray daily for self and others.
- ✓ Participate in opportunities to receive the Sacraments.
- ✓ Participate in the sessions, activities, and prayer experiences.
- ✓ Be open, flexible, and have a servant's attitude.
- ✓ Represent God in your words and actions.

### SHOW LOVE AND RESPECT FOR SELF:

- ✓ Remember that you are the Temple of the Holy Spirit. Present yourself accordingly.
- ✓ No alcohol, drugs, or smoking will be tolerated during the weekend.
- ✓ Dress with modesty. Bare mid-drifts, spaghetti straps, short-shorts, low cut tops, or guys without shirts are not permitted during the weekend.
- ✓ Any music you bring and listen to should glorify God.
- ✓ Drink plenty of water, obey sleeping times, and make sure you eat all meals. This will allow you to fully participate and not be tired.
- ✓ If you must leave an activity, adult chaperones should accompany you since they are responsible for you.

### SHOW LOVE AND RESPECT FOR OTHERS:

- ✓ All words and actions should be those of Christ to build up others and not injure.
- ✓ Make sure that your actions during the activities do not distract others from hearing, seeing, or praying.
- ✓ Be safe. No horseplay or other potentially harmful actions. Leave pocketknives, lighters, or other hazardous materials at home.
- ✓ No teenagers are allowed to drive to or from the conference due to limited parking and liabilities.
- ✓ Under no circumstances can a youth be in the room or hall of a member of the opposite sex.
- ✓ Allow others to sleep. "Lights Out" means that it is time to go to sleep. Do not be in the showers or halls after "Lights Out".
- ✓ No outside or unregistered visitors at the conference will be permitted.
- ✓ The facility must remain clean and undamaged. Otherwise, you will personally be responsible to pay for the damage. Don't bring food or drinks to the rooms and pick up trash if you see it.

### OTHER INFORMATION:

- ✓ Any damages caused by the participant will be charged to the participant.

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***I have read, understand, and agree to the above principles. Any violation of the above principles may result in immediate dismissal from the Diocesan Youth Conference and participants will forfeit their registration fee.***

Youth Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_