

Holy Week Mission FAQs 2018

What is the HOLY WEEK MISSION? This Mission is an awesome four day event in which teen girls and boys join with their friends to become missionaries during Holy Week. During the preparation for Christ's passion, by placing ourselves in His service, we will create a fun atmosphere while at the same time experiencing some strong moments of prayer and retreat to foster the spiritual formation of each teen. This Mission is a great opportunity for teens to learn to give of themselves and experience and pass on the love of Jesus. Yes, this is an overnight event. The missionaries will be sleeping in the second story classrooms. The boys will be assigned to one room and the girls to another with appropriate diocesan approved supervision.

What do you do during the MISSION? As a missionary, you will be commissioned to the service of our Lord starting Wednesday, March 28 until Saturday, March 31. (That means sleeping THREE nights at church!) During this time, we will have scheduled programs related to our theme, visit our infirmed neighbors and participate in all of the scheduled services and masses for the Triduum, including visitation to local parishes Holy Thursday Night and through it all we will discover a deeper relationship with Jesus!

When is the MISSION? It starts with registration at 5:00 pm on Wednesday, March 28 followed by the 7pm Commissioning Mass. The missionaries will sleep over Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights and will be dismissed on Saturday March 31 at noon. All missionaries are then asked to return with their families to attend the Great Easter Vigil. There will be a celebration for all missionaries and their families following the Easter Vigil.

Can I just come to part of the MISSION if I'm not available from Wed-Friday? In order to be part of the Holy Week Mission, each teen must be available from Wednesday at 5pm until Saturday noon. We will be on the move and events are not always scheduled at precise times. When teens arrive late or leave early, it creates a logistical challenge for the chaperones and disrupts the bonds of the small groups. If you have a particular need or conflict, please ask one of the directors and will do our best to accommodate.

Who can participate? Any teen grades 7-12.

What do you need to bring? Bring a sleeping bag, pillow and also an air mattress or bed roll. You will be sleeping on the floor of a classroom. Bring three changes of clothing & something comfy to sleep in. Please wear modest sensible clothing. You will be attending church services throughout your missionary experience. You will also need a toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush/comb and other personal items. There will be only one opportunity to shower from Wednesday night to Saturday morning (so come showered on Wednesday). You will be able to wash your face, brush your teeth and comb your hair each day. Bring a change of socks and underwear for each day and any other necessary items in order to be presentable for all of our activities. We suggest you bring some disposable wipes in order to clean yourself. We also suggest deodorant but please refrain from heavy perfumes and colognes, we should be clean, presentable and considerate of those around us. There will be an opportunity for showers on Friday Morning at the Boyertown YMCA. Please bring a towel and necessary toiletries. It is also

suggested that you wear a bathing suit to wear You may also want to bring shower shoes.

Last, but not least, you must bring a desire to discover Christ by serving others!

What is the cost? The cost is \$25 to participate, which includes your accommodations for 3 nights, all of your food, a cross, a hoodie sweatshirt, transportation to all of our events, and an experience that will change your life!

Will the missionaries be leaving the church? How will they be transported? Yes, the missionaries will be leaving the church grounds to visit area Churches on Thursday night, visit the residents at Chestnut Knoll, to shower at the Boyertown YMCA and also to attend the ecumenical service in Boyertown. Last year we were transported by school bus, we are hoping for this same this year. If this cannot be arranged, the missionaries will be transported by parent volunteers to each event (all with appropriate clearances).

Who will be chaperoning the missionaries? The missionaries will be chaperoned by parent volunteers at a ratio of no more than 10 missionaries per adult. All adult chaperones have the appropriate clearances approved by the Allentown Diocese. If you are interested in helping, PLEASE contact Mary Cris, Megan or Heather!.

How do I sign up? Register online on our church website.

Can I ask my friends to come? Yes, absolutely. Everyone is invited to participate, whether they are Catholic or not. There is a limit to the number of teens, but as long as you sign up quickly there should be room for everyone.

What if I have questions?

Call or text:

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Megan Repko: 610-310-5661

Heather Shainline: 484-336-9200

Or email: youthgroup@stcolumbkill.org