

Holy Week Mission FAQs

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 chaperones for each room.

What do you do during the MISSION? As a missionary, you will be commissioned to the service of our Lord for 40 continuous hours starting Thursday, April 13 until Saturday, April 15. (That means sleeping two nights at church!) During this time, we will collect and pray for the intentions of our parish, we will love our neighbors by delivering Easter cards to the elderly and infirmed, we will participate in all of the scheduled services and masses for the Triduum and we will discover a deeper relationship with Jesus!

When is the MISSION? It starts Wed, April 12 at the 7 pm Mass to commission our missionaries. Our mission then continues with registration at 4:30 pm on Thursday April 13th. Missionaries will sleep over Thursday and Friday nights and will be dismissed on Saturday April 15 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 Mission, each teen must be available Wednesday evening at 7pm for commissioning, and then from Thursday 4:30 pm 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 two 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 no opportunity to shower during from Thursday night to Saturday morning (so come showered on Thursday) but you will be able to wash your face, brush your teeth and comb your hair. Bring the necessary items in order to be presentable for all of our activities. Last, but not least, you must bring a desire to discover Christ by serving others!

What is the cost? It only costs \$10 to participate, which includes your accommodations for 2 nights, all of your food, a cross, an awesome t-shirt, 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, to visit Chestnut Knoll and also to attend the ecumenical service in Boyertown. 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 5 missionaries per adult. All adult chaperones have the appropriate clearances. If you are interested to help, PLEASE contact Mary Cris, Megan or Heather!

Must I watch the Passion of the Christ movie? We will be watching the movie the Passion of the Christ together as a group and we feel that this is an important part of the journey. The adult leaders will be available for questions throughout the movie. If anyone feels strongly that they are unable to view this movie they would be excused to participate in alternate activity.

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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Or email: youthgroup@stcolumbkill.org