



DIOCESE *of* LACROSSE
OFFICE OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

October 2017

Dear Pilgrim:

Your participation in this year's Pilgrimage for Life is vital! We are so very grateful that you are considering to travel, pray, and walk this journey for an end to the culture of death. A pilgrimage is not just a trip, it is a journey. Pilgrimages have been happening since the Old Testament! Those making the journey have always walked to celebrate their Faith in places that indicate a memory of our Lord or in sites representing important moments in the history of the Church. From Adam to Abraham to Moses and the prophets to Christ, all were on pilgrimage. Therefore, we join with the ranks of them all and make this journey for a specific purpose, **TO DEFEND ALL HUMAN LIFE FROM CONCEPTION TO NATURAL DEATH!**

I encourage you to make this pilgrimage not just a fun experience where you will get to SEE A LOT, but a time for YOU to grow in YOUR FAITH and in a greater zeal to pray for the millions of babies whose lives have been taken by abortion. PRAY also, for the conversion of all those who support, administer, and advocate abortion and contraception in all its forms. We also keep in prayer the handicapped, those born with abnormalities, and the aged who are not always protected and given the right to life.

With this letter is an "Information Page" and "Tentative Itinerary" for the Pilgrimage. Please see these pages for all of the details. You can find all of the necessary forms on our website at <http://diolc.org/yya/youth-opportunities/pilgrimage-for-life/>

Please sign up with a parish or school group nearest your location. All youth must be accompanied by adults and all adults, age 18 and out of high school and older, must complete a background check and the Safe Environment Training.

If you need financial assistance, please contact us ASAP!!! **You must** try some means of fundraising before applying for scholarship from the Diocese. Many individuals pay very little because of fundraisers so we encourage your group to let others know why you are going in January! Thank you for joining us on this journey and may God bless you for the sacrifices and prayers you will make for all those who cannot defend themselves.

Peace,

Chris Rogers

Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry
Diocese of La Crosse

**Diocese of La Crosse
PILGRIMAGE FOR LIFE 2018**



Information Page

- When:** Leave **About 4:00pm** on Wednesday, January 17, 2018
Return Sunday, January 21, 2018 to Wisconsin
Details of pickup points will be available upon receipt of your registration form.
- Who:** Anyone 13 years old to Adult. (Please know that we do a great deal of walking and ride a charter bus overnight to and from D.C.)
- Where:** This is an opportunity to be a witness in Washington, D.C. to the dignity of life for the unborn, elderly, and those who society regards as useless.
- Cost:** The “Early Bird Price” is **\$355 per person/\$315 for chaperones (A chaperone is someone 21 years or older, and responsible for minors.)** This price will be valid for each person in your group whose forms and information: including medical release form, current background check dates (age 18 and out of high school & older only), current Safe Environment Training dates (age 18 and out of high school & older only), and full payment are **ALL** in our office by the **January 3, 2018 deadline.** A person is not considered to be registered until **ALL** of these items are in our office.

Therefore, if you have people who register late, delay in turning their paperwork, money, etc. for whatever reason, only those late registrations will forfeit the “Early Bird” price. **The “Regular Price” is \$375 per person/\$335 for chaperones (A chaperone is someone 21 years or older, and responsible for minors.)** This price will be valid for each person in your group whose forms and information: including medical release form, current background check dates (age 18 and out of high school & older only), current Safe Environment Training dates (age 18 and out of high school & older only), and full payment are **NOT ALL** in our office by the **January 3, 2018 deadline.** A person is not considered to be registered until all of these items are in our office.

PLEASE NOTE:

- These prices include the red Dioceses of Wisconsin Sweatshirt. If you do not need a sweatshirt, please subtract \$25 from your total price.
- There will be no refunds given after **January 3, 2018.**
- The cost includes 5-day trip by motor coach, 2 nights at Hotel, & more!
- *Priests and Religious go for free!
- Please make checks payable to: Diocese of La Crosse.

INTERESTED? Please call:

Chris Rogers at 608-791-2659/crogers@diolc.org or Paula Boyle at [608-791-2652](tel:608-791-2652)/pboyle@diolc.org

Chaplains, Pastors, Deacons, Youth Ministers and Deanery representatives!
If you wish to gather a group from your parish and join us, please contact us to work out pick up points.

**Diocese of La Crosse
PILGRIMAGE FOR LIFE 2018**



Tentative Schedule

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

Bring lots of snacks and water!!!

Load bus at destinations at **about 4:00pm**

- We encourage all groups to have Mass before departing for Washington, DC.
- Please eat before getting on the bus, or bring a sack dinner to eat on the bus.
- The bus will stop at about every 4 hours to do a driver change.

Thursday, January 18, 2018

8:30am Breakfast in Breezewood, PA
10:00am Depart Breezewood, PA
12:45pm Arrive at Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
*You can eat lunch here if you wish.
2:00pm Depart Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
2:15pm Arrive at Saint John Paul II National Shrine
3:30pm Mass at the Saint John Paul II National Shrine
5:00pm Depart Saint John Paul II National Shrine
5:30pm Dinner at the Pentagon City Mall Food Court
7:00pm Check in to Hotel
Our Hotel is: Sheraton National Hotel
900 South Orme Street Arlington, VA 22204 / 703-521-1900
11:00pm Everyone in your assigned room and lights out please!

Friday, January 19, 2018

5:15am Eat breakfast – Breakfast Sandwiches and fruit will be available for pilgrims to eat.
*This is included in the cost.
6:00am Depart Hotel for Youth Rally and Mass for Life
11:30am Eat lunch at the Air & Space Museum or at a restaurant on the way to the National Mall before the March.
1:30pm March for Life to Capital
*After the March, walk to Congressman Sean Duffy's Office for reception.
*After the reception you will have dinner on your own with your tour group, then make your way back to the Pentagon City Mall where there will be shuttles to bring you back to the hotel.
7:30pm Come hear Pro-Life speakers in the conference room at our hotel.
9:00pm Free Time in our Conference Room or your hotel room
11:00pm Everyone in your assigned room and lights out please!

Saturday, January 20, 2018

- 8:00am Eat breakfast – Breakfast Sandwiches and fruit will be available for pilgrims to eat.
*This is included in the cost.
*Load all luggage onto buses.
- 9:00am Buses drive groups to Planned Parenthood site to pray.
• Buses drive groups to pray at Planned Parenthood **The Carol Whitehill Moses Center 1225 4th St. NE, Washington, DC 20002**
- 10:00am Everyone will go to the National Mall where touring groups will gather to tour Museums.
• Lunch will be on your own as tour groups.
• Depending on how much travelling around the city you do via metro, it may be wise to have each person in your group buy an all-day pass to speed up your travel time and be more cost effective.
• Most museums hours of operation are 10:00 am – 5:30 pm
- 5:00pm Meet at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception for Mass in the Upper Church.
- 5:15pm Mass in the Upper Church.
- 6:45pm Load buses to travel to Union Station for supper.
- 8:00pm Load Buses at Union Station to begin the journey home.
- 12:00am Bathroom Stop then Lights out! Time for sleep!

Sunday, January 21, 2018

Arrive back at original pick up points early afternoon.

Upon arrival at your point of origin we invite you to organize a Thanksgiving Holy Mass. Please see arrival times on the “Diocese of La Crosse Bus Itinerary” Sheet when it becomes available.

Thank you for being witnesses to Life!

Times and events may be subject to change.

***Updated: 10/17/2017**