



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

**Packing List and Expectations**

**\*Updated June 14, 2017\***

**Dress Code**

- Participants should bring clothes appropriate for the season.
- There are some events, such as the Immersion Retreat, where t-shirts will be handed out. If an event is slated to include t-shirts, group leaders (youth minister, DRE, CRE, Priest) will be notified in advance and asked to get the sizes of his/her participants. If the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries does not receive the request for sizes by the stated due date, those participants may not receive a shirt in their size, or at all.
- Shirts must completely cover the shoulders and midriff.
- Pants must be hole/rip free above the knee. Pants also must not fall below the waist (i.e. revealing boxers or any other undergarments).
- Shorts and skirts must fall no higher than three inches above the knee when standing.
- Pants/shorts/skirts must not have any wording on the seat of the pants/shorts/skirt.
- Shirts must not have any writing or pictures that are offensive, promote offensive behavior (i.e. drinking, drugs, swearing, lude behavior, etc.)
- Shirts must also not be too low cut from the neck area.
- No clothing should be too tight, drawing attention to the shape of the body.
- At events where Mass will be part of the schedule (most events), every effort must be made to wear clothes that are more appropriate for Mass.
- During liturgies and prayers, all participants, youth and adult, must remove any headwear. This includes all hats, visors, bandanas, etc. This is done out of respect.
- Regarding swimsuits:
  - Males must wear swim trunks that fall no higher than three inches above the knee when standing.
  - Females must wear a one-piece bathing suit; the only exception is a “tankini” (a two piece swimsuit that covers the midriff).

**What Not To Bring**

- Absolutely no texting during the event.
- Anything illegal such as cigarettes, alcohol, narcotics/drugs, explosives, weapons, etc.
- Prescription and over the counter medications must be listed on the medical release form and kept with the chaperone or group leader.

### **Youth Expectations**

- Under **NO** circumstance should males be in female sleeping quarters, and females be in male sleeping quarters.
- While we realize that there may be a situation where a young man and a young woman are dating, there should be **NO** public displays of affection. It is most important that they both spend the time at the event focused on their relationship with Christ, and with their fellow participants, not each other. This is to promote healthy relationships shared in the context of everyone.
- The actions and attitudes of the young people will affect the actions and attitudes of their fellow participants. Therefore, all participants are expected to participate in and have a good attitude in and about all aspects of the event.
- At such events where music is being played, many people often feel moved to dance. While we definitely encourage this, we feel it is necessary to remind you that no moves that appear tasteless and vulgar will be permitted.
- Participants are expected to use positive and up-building speech during events. Cursing, swearing, and other forms of foul and abusive language will not be permitted.
- All participants, youth and adults, must follow all rules set for the event.
- Cell phones must be turned off during the event. Use of cell phone should only be used when absolutely necessary during breaks.
- The use of MP3 players, iPods, etc. is discouraged, and, if brought, should only be used during travel, and even that should be kept to a minimum.

### **Consequences For Not Following Policies and Rules**

- If a young person is found to be deliberately breaking rules and/or not following policies, he/she will be asked to leave the event immediately, and may not be able to participate in Diocesan and Parish Youth Ministry events for a minimum of one year, or longer, depending on the severity of the infraction. A phone call will be placed by the Group Leader immediately to the parent/guardian to inform them of the situation, and to discuss arrangements to pick up their child. All transportation arrangements and expenses will be the responsibility of the parents/guardian of said young person.
- The severity of the consequences, for youth and adults, will be reviewed by the Director of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, and other appropriate staff. Consequences will be reported back to the appropriate parish staff person (Group Leader, Youth Minister, DRE, CRE, Priest, etc.).