



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

August 2018

Greetings from the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry!

I hope you had a great summer! I am writing to let you know about the upcoming **Immersion Retreat** at the **Chula Vista Resort in the Wisconsin Dells** that will be held **November 9-11, 2018**. The Immersion Retreat is a time for young people in **grades 9-12** to come together to grow closer in their relationship with Jesus Christ, to understand their faith on a deeper level regardless of where they are in their faith journey, and to connect with other Catholic young people from around the Diocese of La Crosse and beyond. The theme for this year's retreat is "**150.**" The reason for this theme is two-fold: 1) It is to honor our diocese's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. 2) Psalm 150 talks about praising our Lord with everything that we have. We encourage all attendees to reflect upon Psalm 150,

Praise the LORD! Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him in His mighty expanse. Praise Him for His mighty deeds; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness. Praise Him with trumpet sound; Praise Him with harp and lyre. Praise Him with timbrel and dancing; Praise Him with stringed instruments and pipe. Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with resounding cymbals. Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD!

### **Keynote Speakers**

**Bob Perron.** Bob's blend of humor and education has made him a highly sought-after speaker. Bob's presentations leave his audiences laughing, smiling, deeply thinking, and perhaps even shedding a tear or two. His excitement, enthusiasm, and love have motivated and inspired thousands of young people and adults. He has served as a parish youth minister, parish director of religious education, camp director and diocesan youth director. Bob is currently the Director of the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. He has spoken at hundreds of diocesan youth conferences in over 40 states along with several countries. He has recently been the MC at the National Mass and Rally for Life in Washington, DC, spoke at the Los Angeles Congress youth day and was a keynote presenter at NCYC 2014 in Indianapolis.

**Paul J. Kim.** Paul is one of the most sought-after Catholic speakers in America. The way he presents is a rare gift to witness and has impacted people of all ages in nearly all 50 states and in several countries over the past decade. Moving his audiences from laughter in one moment, to deep reflection and prayer in another; Paul utilizes his many talents (i.e. music – beatboxing, comedy, inspirational talks) to communicate the Gospel message of Christ to people in a way that is engaging, entertaining, and altogether life-changing.

**Sister M. Bernadette Morse.** Sister Bernadette is a Sister with the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George. Currently she is teaching high school in Rock Island, IL, however she spent time with the Sisters here in the Diocese of La Crosse as a Novice on mission. Sister Bernadette is a captivating speaker who radiates joy in her vocation and the Catholic faith.

### **Cost**

**The “Early Bird” Price:** The “Early Bird” price is **\$160 per person**. This applies to each person in your group whose forms, money, and adult background check dates are in our office by the **October 29, 2018 deadline**. So if you have people register late, for whatever reason, only those late registrations will forfeit the “Early Bird” price and not the entire group. This cost includes: lodging, t-shirt, water park pass, meals, and the retreat itself.

**Regular Price:** Forms, money, and background check dates that come in **after October 29** will be charged the regular price of **\$180 per person**. These people will not be guaranteed a t-shirt, and may be required to bring a sleeping bag to sleep on the floor depending on room capacity.

**The individual parishes will need to provide:** transportation to and from the Chula Vista Resort - dinner Friday, breakfast and dinner on Saturday, and breakfast on Sunday. The room you will be staying in sleeps 13 people (must be the same gender) and is equipped with a full kitchen. To keep costs down, many parishes arrange to bring their own food and prepare meals as stated above, in their suites rather than eating at the restaurants at the resort. Parish leaders may want to increase their price to cover transportation and food costs. Two adults of the same gender must be present in each room. If you are bringing a smaller group, you may be asked to share a suite with another parish and the meals for that suite can be worked out with the parish group leaders.

To register, please first read the Event Registration Policy found on the website. Each parish or school will register as a parish or school. Please fill out the Parish/School Registration Form that is also located on our website and email the completed form back to Paula Boyle at [pboyle@diolc.org](mailto:pboyle@diolc.org). Please mail all Adult/Child Comprehensive Medical Release Forms and money to our office at 3710 East Avenue South La Crosse, WI 54601. Background check dates for adults may also be emailed to Paula Boyle at [pboyle@diolc.org](mailto:pboyle@diolc.org).

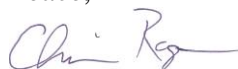
**Please visit our website at:**

**<http://diolc.org/yya/youth-opportunities/immersion-retreat/>**

**Here you will find all of the registration materials, forms, and poster to promote retreat.**

Please keep this retreat in your prayers as well as the participants who will be there. Thank you for all you are doing and know that my prayers are with you and the ministry that you do. Please call or email us with any questions.

Peace,



Chris Rogers

Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry