



# The Emmaus Retreat

## October 21-22, 2016

Dear Candidates & Parents,

We are very excited to host an overnight retreat for all of our Confirmation Candidates this fall! In the previous years, this retreat has been a highlight of the program and a positive experience for the candidates. Because it is also a requirement from the Archdiocese of Chicago, we hope to have your support! **Registration forms & fees are due October 5th.**

Here are the essential informational items regarding the retreat for the Confirmation Candidates:

**When:** Friday, October 21 – Saturday, October 22, 2016.

**Time:** 7:00 pm on Friday – 6:30 pm on Saturday (pick-up and drop-off at St. Patrick Church O'Gara Center) Please, be prompt, as buses will be waiting.

**Where:** Techny Towers Retreat Center in Techny, Illinois (a 20 minute drive from St. Patrick Church)

**Cost:** \$150. This includes bus transportation, food & lodging, supplies, & t-shirt. Please, make checks payable to St. Patrick Church

**What to Bring:** See attached packing list

For many of our candidates, this will be their first overnight retreat experience. The Church has employed the tradition of retreats since her institution over 2,000 years ago. The picture perfect example of this: Christ praying in the Garden of Gethsemane. Even the Son of God needed time to step away from the chaos of normal life and prepare Himself for the most significant thing He would ever do: die for our sins and rise to new life.

With that being said, it is of the utmost importance for each candidate to attend this retreat. The Archdiocese requires every Confirmation candidate to attend a retreat prior to receiving the sacrament. We are working very hard to ensure that this retreat is spiritually and socially enriching for each teen and ask for your prayers for your child and their peers as they embark upon what will hopefully be a meaningful experience for them!

Please return the attached registration form & check made payable to St. Patrick Church no later than **Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016**. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call or e-mail us (the sooner, the better)!

God Bless,

Michael Bannon  
St. Patrick Church, Youth Minister  
Office: 847-234-1401 ext. 203  
[MBannon@StPatrick-LakeForest.org](mailto:MBannon@StPatrick-LakeForest.org)



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Please, return this form with a check for \$150 (payable to St. Patrick Church) by October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

Candidate Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City & State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby give permission for my son/daughter \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in the Emmaus Retreat on October 21-22, 2016.

I hereby release and indemnify the Catholic Bishop of Chicago, a corporation sole, the Archdiocesan Office for Catechesis and Youth Ministry, St. Patrick Parish, its staff and volunteers from any and all liability arising from claims of any kind or nature whatsoever from my teen's participation in this event.

I understand that if my son/daughter violates any laws regarding alcohol or drugs, or rules governing the event, arrangements will be made to immediately send my teen home at the cost of the parents/guardians.

In the event that the undersigned cannot be reached and in the judgment of the responsible adult at this event or other staff member, there is a necessity for immediate examination and/or treatment of my teen, I hereby authorize any of the aforesaid personnel to obtain for my teen such medical services as are deemed necessary.

I authorize the Office for Catechesis/Youth Ministry of the Archdiocese of Chicago and St. Patrick Parish to use photographs and videos of my teen for productions, publications, website, etc.

**YES** \_\_\_\_ **NO** \_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Full Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Teen: \_\_\_\_\_

Please, list any allergies, medications, or concerns. If you have any specific dietary needs (vegetarian or dairy/gluten-free), the kitchen will provide a tasty alternative for you!

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### Retreat Packing List:

- Comfortable clothes for 2 days (please, dress warmly, as some of the rooms may be a bit cool).
- Shoes (sneakers, slippers, comfy shoes)
- Jacket (Depending on the weather, you may also want to bring a hat and gloves)
- Pajamas/Sweat shirt and pants
- Undergarments
- Toiletries (toothbrush and toothpaste, contact case and solution, soap, shampoo, conditioner, hairbrush and comb, lotion, deodorant, razor, hair dryers, etc.)
- Favorite snack to share for our snack table
- Games (Catchphrase, Apples-to-Apples, etc.) for free time
- Devotional Items (Rosaries, Journals, spiritual reading, etc.)
- Your Bible (If you do not already have one, we will provide one for you)

Bath towels, washcloths, a pillow, and bedding will be provided for you! These rooms are very comfortable!

### Behavioral Guidelines:

During the retreat, you are accountable for upholding the same "Candidate Expectations" discussed at the beginning of the year (respectful behavior and attitudes, listening, acting with Christian virtue, etc.). At the beginning of the retreat, we will carefully explain the standards for acceptable behavior. We are prayerfully designing this retreat to be a spiritually awakening and fun experience! We ask that you cooperate with us by being respectful, participating, and acting with Christian charity unto everyone present (peers, small group leaders, retreat leaders, Techny staff, etc.)

We will not hesitate to ask you to leave the retreat if your behavior is detrimental to others' experience. We are upholding a "One-and-Done" policy, in that you will be sent home for your first offense. If such happens, your parents will have to come pick you up at your expense and theirs.

### **Candidates, you will be asked to leave the retreat immediately if you...**

- Bring alcohol, drugs, pornographic materials, or any weaponry.
- Break the curfew policy.
- Leave the premises without permission/supervision.
- Bully others.
- Display an intentional level of disrespect or apathy.