



ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA DIOCESE OF NEW YORK & NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH MINISTRY – RETREAT DETAILS

Annual Teen Retreat ~ April 3-5, 2020 ~ Greenkill YMCA Retreat Center, Huguenot, NY

RETREAT DETAILS

The Annual Teen Retreat is scheduled for **April 3-5, 2020 at Greenkill Retreat Center located on the New York City YMCA Camp property at [160 Big Pond Road in Huguenot, NY](#)**. There is **no charge** to participate in this three-day event. Participants may start arriving for check-in on Friday, April 3rd at 6:30pm. The weekend will officially kick-off around 8pm following dinner. Our weekend discussion will focus on Prayer and the life of Saint Herman of Alaska.

Venue: [Greenkill Retreat Center](#) sits on 1,000+ acres and is nestled in between the Delaware Water Gap and the Catskill Mountains, just 90 minutes from NYC. The venue is accessible through public transit from NYC via the MTA Metro North Port Jervis Line and Coach Shortline Bus from Port Authority. The facility offers excellent accommodations, teambuilding and challenge activities (high ropes and low ropes), archery, a huge fieldhouse for sports, and many opportunities to enjoy the great outdoors with hiking, campfires, etc.

Sleeping arrangements and attire: All members of the group will be staying in a dorm-style buildings split by gender. **Participants and chaperones must bring their own bedding and towels**. We will be traveling outdoors, so be sure to pack appropriate seasonal clothes and a jacket. Casual or athletic attire should be brought for Saturday's daytime and outdoor activities, and church clothes for Sunday Liturgy. **See suggested packing list included in this packet.**

Duration of stay: Participants are highly encouraged to stay the full weekend from Friday-Sunday in order to get the full experience. However, if they need to be picked up early you must email nynjocayouth@gmail.com BEFORE March 19, 2020. **Note: Chaperones are required to stay the entire weekend.**

Parental Information: This year's Retreat **will be an "unplugged" event**, meaning that participants' cell phones will be collected and securely stored until they depart on Sunday (unless they leave them home). This is being done in order to foster closer relationships with each other and to be fully present throughout the weekend. All adults associated with our group will be able to be reached in case of an emergency, and you will receive their phone numbers.

- **Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend Sunday's Divine Liturgy at 8:30am in the Thorne Room. Danielle Geeza will remain on-site until 11:30am for participant pick-up – please be prompt!**
- For parents who are coming from a distance, consider staying close by at either the [Hampton Inn Matamoras/Milford](#) or [Best Western Inn at Hunt's Landing](#). Alternatively, there are additional hotels in Middletown, NY which is a more built-up area.

Chaperones: **Chaperones are required to stay the entire weekend.** Please read the next page for additional information on chaperoning. This retreat will be strictly aligned with our Diocesan Policy of having 1 chaperone for every 6 participants, and chaperones will be selected on a first come, first served basis: 5 women and 5 men.

DEADLINE: Registration forms **must** be filled out for each participant and chaperone no later than **THURSDAY, MARCH 19th, after that date, we cannot guarantee your participation.**

Contact Danielle Geeza with any questions or concerns!

Phone: 914-768-3735

Email: nynjocayouth@gmail.com



ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA DIOCESE OF NEW YORK & NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH MINISTRY – RETREAT DETAILS

Annual Teen Retreat ~ April 3-5, 2020 ~ Greenkill YMCA Retreat Center, Huguenot, NY

CHAPERONE INFORMATION

We welcome parents and youth leaders to accompany the participants and act as chaperones, however our Chaperone Policy will be strictly aligned with the Diocesan Policy of having 1 chaperone for every 6 participants (ex: 30 participants, only 5 chaperones).

Priority retreat attendance is given to all youth who wish to attend **with the minimum number of chaperones necessary to ensure that we have a safe weekend**. The number of chaperones from our Diocese over our past few events has overwhelmed our participants, and will be addressed as follows:

1. **All chaperones must stay for the entirety of the Retreat.** By registering, you are committing to stay until the event concludes after Sunday's Divine Liturgy.
2. **We are only requesting 5 women and 5 men at this point in time.**
 - ✦ Chaperones will be selected on a first come, first served basis.
 - ✦ Parents of attendees and parish youth leaders are given priority, **especially those traveling from a long distance and outside of the OCA Diocese of New York & New Jersey.**
 - ✦ If the projected number of attendees increases, this number will increase.
 - ✦ **If parishes are sending multiple youth to the event, we ask that parishes limit the number of adult chaperones staying the weekend by carpooling.** *Exceptions can be granted at the discretion of the Youth Department Chairperson.*
3. **All chaperones will go through a background check**, per the Orthodox Church in America and Diocese of New York and New Jersey's policy, if they have not done so within the past three years.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this, please bring it to Danielle Geeza's attention by emailing nynjocayouth@gmail.com or calling 914-768-3735.



ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA DIOCESE OF NEW YORK & NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH MINISTRY – RETREAT DETAILS

Annual Teen Retreat ~ April 3-5, 2020 ~ Greenkill YMCA Retreat Center, Huguenot, NY

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Friday, April 3, 2020

Check-in starts at 6:30 PM.....Pizza will be served!

****Volunteers & Chaperones, please arrive between 4:30-5:30 PM, if possible****

8:00 PM.....Welcome & Icebreakers (Thorne Room in the Mary French Rockefeller Environmental Education Center)

9:30 PM.....Evening Prayers

10:00 PM.....Free time

10:00 PM.....Chaperone Meeting with Youth Director and Chaplain

12:00 AM.....Lights Out

Saturday, April 4, 2020

8:00 AM..... Breakfast (Dining Hall)

9:45 AM..... The Akathist Hymn to St. Herman of Alaska (Thorne Room)

10:00 AM.....Q&A with Archbishop Michael

10:45 AM.....Session 1 on Prayer and Saint Herman of Alaska

12:00 PM.....Lunch

1:00 PM.....Free Time: Adventure Course, Gym, Archery, Hike, etc.

5:15 PM.....Confession available

5:45 PM.....Vespers (Thorne)

6:30 PM.....Dinner

7:30 PM.....Session 2

9:00 PM.....Free Time, Campfire, Fellowship!

12:00 AM.....Lights Out

Sunday, April 5, 2020

8:30 AM.....Divine Liturgy for Youth & Parents (Thorne)

10:30-11:30 AM.....Brunch and Departure by 11:30 AM

Participants must be picked up by 11:30 AM – Please plan accordingly!



ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA DIOCESE OF NEW YORK & NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH MINISTRY – RETREAT DETAILS

Annual Teen Retreat ~ April 3-5, 2020 ~ Greenkill YMCA Retreat Center, Huguenot, NY

Suggested Packing List

<p><u>The Basics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping bag (or twin sheets & blanket) <input type="checkbox"/> Pillow <input type="checkbox"/> Towel & Washcloth <input type="checkbox"/> Pajamas <input type="checkbox"/> Socks & sneakers (hiking) <input type="checkbox"/> Casual clothes for Saturday (jeans, t-shirt, sweatshirt, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Church clothes for Sunday <input type="checkbox"/> Jacket <input type="checkbox"/> Hat & Gloves <input type="checkbox"/> Shower shoes (flip flops) 	<p><u>Other Suggestions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Notebook, Pen <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight <input type="checkbox"/> Earplugs <input type="checkbox"/> Water bottle <input type="checkbox"/> Umbrella <input type="checkbox"/> Snow boots (in case of winter weather)
<p><u>Toiletries</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Soap/Shower Gel <input type="checkbox"/> Shampoo <input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush & toothpaste <input type="checkbox"/> Deodorant <input type="checkbox"/> Brush, comb, hairdryer <input type="checkbox"/> Prescription Medication 	<p><u>PLEASE DO NOT BRING</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Drugs, alcohol, cigarettes <input type="checkbox"/> Any valuables <input type="checkbox"/> Electronics <input type="checkbox"/> Cell phone <div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>(This retreat will be our FIRST “unplugged” event. The Chairperson, Chaplain, and adult chaperones will have their cell phones on-hand in case of emergencies, for picture taking, or if you need to reach your child. Focus on spending time with fellow participants and God!)</p> </div>

NOTE: There aren't safes at the New York YMCA Camp's Greenkill Retreat Center, nor locks on dorm doors – do not risk getting items lost or stolen. The New York YMCA Camp and the OCA Diocese of New York & New Jersey are not responsible for lost or stolen items.