



CENTER *for* FAMILY LIFE FORMATION

GROUP LEADER INFORMATION

For those in charge of organizing a group from their school/parish.

Pilgrimage Overview

Dates: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 - Monday, January 30, 2017

Departure Hubs: Norfolk and Omaha

Itinerary:

- Life Is Very Good Evening of Prayer
- Basilica Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
- The 2017 March for Life
- Independence National Historical Park
- Shrine of Blessed John Henry Neumann
- Shrine of St. Katherine Drexel

Eligible Ages: Youth grades 9-12. Chaperones 21 or older.

Financials

Cost: \$500 + \$3.40 registration service fee

- \$28.40 nonrefundable deposit to hold spot
- \$503.40 due by last day of registration

Aid: RespectLifeOmaha.com to apply

- Deadline: October 17, 2016
- Results: October 24, 2016

Fundraising:

- Parish Knights of Columbus often offer scholarships.
- Money fundraised after the registration deadline should be redistributed to your group as you see fit.

Registration

At: RespectLifeOmaha.com

Start Date: September 1, 2016

Deadline: November 14, 2016

- Spots for all youth/chaperones who have not paid in full by the end of this date will be given to those on the waitlist.

Youth Registration Completed By: Parent or legal guardian

Confirmation: Pilgrims are registered once they have received an email confirmation with "Registration ID" and have paid the \$28.40 deposit.

Waitlist: Seats typically fill before the registration deadline. Pilgrims can email wabradley@archomaha.org to be added to the waitlist.

Cancellations: Before the deadline all money except the \$28.40 deposit will be refunded. After the deadline no refund is available.

Substitutions: A youth/chaperone who wants to cancel after the registration deadline may call 402.551.9003 x1306 for a replacement from the waitlist. If one is available, the canceling pilgrim will receive a refund after the waitlist pilgrim has paid. If no replacement is available, the youth/chaperone may through their own efforts find a substitute **of the same gender**.

Substitution Deadline: January 6, 2017 (December 2, 2016 for Chaperones)

Chaperones

Ratio: 1 to 8

Gender: Same as the majority of the youth in their group.

Requirements:

1. Practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church
2. High school graduate
3. 21 years of age
4. Currently certified in the Archdiocese of Omaha Safe Environment Training
(See <http://archomaha.org/ministries/safe-environment/training/> for training dates.)
5. Available to attend the Leaders' Retreat in Columbus, NE on December 3, 2016
6. Willing to contact each pilgrim and parent/guardian in their chaperone group before departure.
7. Available via text and/or phone call to their Bus Captain and Chaplain throughout the entire pilgrimage; answering in a reasonable time frame and following directions as instructed
8. Prepared to participate in the entire pilgrimage including:
 - a. Monitoring 6-8 youth pilgrims
 - b. Bus journeys to and from Omaha and/or Norfolk.
 - c. One night of hotel hall duty and nightly youth room checks
 - d. One night of sack lunch assembly
 - e. Regularly Scheduled Meetings with Bus Team
 - f. Other duties as requested

Interview: After registering, each chaperone will be contacted by the Respect Life Apostolate for a brief interview.

Leader's Book: A book containing detailed pilgrimage information will be emailed by January 18, 2017. Chaperones are expected to be familiar with the information. A hard copy will be provided at registration.

Leaders' Retreat: 9am-2pm, Saturday, December 3, 2016 at St. Bonaventure Parish (1565 18th Ave. Columbus, NE 68601). This retreat is mandatory. Please, check that your chaperones can attend before asking them to register.

General Information

Parent and Student Formation: The Respect Life Apostolate requires that each parish or school attending the March for Life hosts at least one information/formation night before the pilgrimage for students attending, their parents, and chaperones. We will provide materials such as the itinerary, movies which will be watched, discussion questions, the packing list, etc. to help you facilitate this meeting.

Youth rooms: Four to a room according to gender. Youth can designate one roommate.

Adult rooms: Two per room according to gender. Adults can designate their choice of roommate.
Please understand that not all requests can be accommodated. Married couples attending as chaperones are not guaranteed a room together, but reasonable attempts will be made to accommodate them sharing a room.

Final Itinerary: will be e-mailed to all participants in mid-December.

Packing List:

1. Suitcase for below the bus.
2. Small bag/purse with necessities for on the bus.
3. Small blanket and pillow for the bus
4. 5 changes of warm, versatile clothes (we will be outside every day)
5. Pajamas
6. Rain Poncho
7. Winter coat, hat, gloves, scarf, and winter boots
8. Hand and foot warmers (for the day of the March and walking tour of Independence Park)
9. Hygienic Items – These should fit in your purse/small book bag and carried on the bus

10. Medications - Youth are responsible to bring and take any essential medications.
11. Activities - Bible, homework, books, playing cards or small games, etc.
12. Cell Phones, Electronic Games, iPods, etc.
 - Participants may bring iPods with headphones or portable electronic games for the bus journey. They will not be allowed to use these when visiting sites. If these technologies become a barrier to participation, they will be confiscated for the pilgrimage. Cell phones should be used discretely and infrequently. Constant texting is discouraged.
13. Meals & Spending Money
 - We recommend that you bring around \$125 to cover 9 meals and souvenirs, etc.
14. A sack dinner for the first night on the bus.
15. Snacks share with 15 people
 - Individually packaged items are strongly encouraged. Homemade products must be packaged in sturdy containers that need not be returned. No snacks containing nuts are allowed.
16. Adult pilgrims: Photo ID and health insurance card
17. **Do Not Bring**
 - Netbooks and Laptops
 - Swimsuits

Important Dates

Date	What	Notes
September 1	Registration Start Date	
October 17	Financial Aid Application Deadline	
October 24	Financial Aid Awarded	
November 7	Exchange Student Application Deadline	
November 14	Registration Deadline Final Payments Due	\$500 + \$3.40 registration service fee
December 2	Last Day for Chaperone Substitutes	
December 3	Mandatory Leaders' Retreat	9:00 am – 2:00 pm St. Bonaventure 1565 18 th Ave. Columbus, NE 68601
Mid-December	Pilgrim Letter	Sent to all pilgrims, adult and youth
January 6	Last Day for Substitutions	
January 18	Leader's Book	Bus Captains will be mailed this book. Chaperones will receive it through email, and a hard copy will be provided at registration.
January 25-30	March For Life Pilgrimage	

For more information, contact Whitney Bradley, Coordinator of the Respect Life Apostolate, wabradley@archomaha.org or 402-551-9003 ext. 1306.