

## *A Note to Adult Participants...*

Welcome to the 2017 Catholic Youth Convention! *Thank you* for all you do for the young people of our diocese! We look forward to a safe, exciting and joyful time together!

Here are some helpful and important pieces for your preparation...

- ✓ Convention is a time of gathering and celebration of the young Church of Maine. We gather to celebrate our faith and the gifts young people bring to the life of our Church, to build community and pray together, to grow in our faith and to be sent forth as missionary disciples of Jesus.
- ✓ **Join us for the Winter Regionals! This afternoon event, near you, is an excellent opportunity to help set the tone for the Convention. All youth and adults planning on participating in Convention should participate in one of the Winter Regionals (flyer enclosed). These are free of charge, though registration is required by March 10<sup>th</sup>: <https://winterregionals2017.eventbrite.com>.**
- ✓ Please remind the young people and adults from your group that our standards of behavior and cooperation are set in accordance to what we value, teach and believe. This extends throughout all segments of the weekend, including onto the dance floor and hang out areas.
- ✓ The adult role at Convention is two-fold: (1) responsibility for the young people they bring to the event and (2) to accompany their young people throughout the weekend. Adults are expected to be with their youth at all times - including free time. We ask that you enjoy the weekend and experience it alongside your youth, not on the sidelines. We recognize all adults as those who minister to and with youth (youth ministers), not merely chaperones. Through your witness, these young people come to grow in their faith! We journey together!
- ✓ Please communicate to parents of your pick up and drop off locations and times, as well as your group leader's contact information, in case of emergency. Also, **parents and families are welcomed to join us for the closing liturgy on Sunday, with Bishop Deeley, at 10:30 am.**

- ✓ Smartphones are allowed during the weekend, though we ask that they be silenced and kept out of sight during sessions, though they may be on their person. Checking-in with parents is encouraged during break times.
- ✓ Please pack lightly! Jeans are appropriate wear during the weekend. Everyone should pack one semi-formal outfit for the banquet/dance and one for the closing liturgy on Sunday morning. Don't forget a bathing suit!
- ✓ **The group/parish leader will register the entire parish group (as well as any other youth for whom you will take responsibility over the weekend) through Eventbrite (directions enclosed). No individual registrations will be taken. Registration is live! All registrations close April 5th at 5 pm. No exceptions, due to hotel requirements - please make special note of that! Financial scholarship forms are enclosed and, also, due by April 5th.**

**Below are a few important items for the weekend:**

- All youth participants must be accompanied by an adult leader. No individual registrations are accepted. One adult (either male or female) should accompany every 7 youth. No one under the age of 21 is allowed to drive.
- Many of you minister to the young people gathered here this weekend throughout the year - **you know these young people better than the Diocesan staff and security.** Please know that we will be relying on you as our primary "security." All adults are responsible for monitoring youth by keeping them safe, and ensuring appropriate behavior, as outlined in the code. No one is allowed back to their rooms unless accompanied by an adult (please use the 3-person rule).
- We are here to celebrate and evangelize - to witness the Gospel of Life and invite young people to come to know the Lord in real ways for discipleship. We ask that you encourage and assist your parish youth to process their experience by engaging them in conversations throughout the weekend about what they are hearing, witnessing, learning; how they are experiencing God's love and mercy in action through their experiences of Convention. Meeting over breakfast each day is encouraged.
- Eucharistic adoration will be available during the block of free time on Saturday in the Monhegan Room, off the lobby. Please remember that young people, during the free time activities, should be accompanied by their adults. We journey the weekend together!

- The Samoset Resort has balconies attached to all rooms. **Youth are NOT allowed on the balconies at any time**, for any reason. This is a safety precaution.
- **Please be helpful in keeping to curfew!** Diocesan staff/security will begin circulating the floors at 12:45 am. **Adults must check all youth into their rooms by 12:30 am – this means the check-in process should begin no later than 12:15 am.**

### **Room Check Procedure:**

- ✓ Adult leaders should knock on the door, though not entering the room.
- ✓ Verify the youth from their parish (they **MUST** be in assigned rooms per fire code regulations) which must match the master list being used by staff/security. There are no exceptions.
- ✓ Adult leaders should collect name tags until the morning.
- ✓ Adults should not retire to their rooms until all rooms of their youth have been checked and name tags collected.
  - Lights out is at Midnight – which means there should be no noise, which can keep other participants awake. This applies to youth and adults alike. Please be mindful that we are not the only guests in the hotel.
  - Should there be any issues during the night, security will be told to:
    - ✓ Wake up the group leader to address the issue(s) at hand.
    - ✓ Decisions concerning serious infractions will be made between the diocesan coordinator and the parish group leader.

### **Morning Wake-Up Procedure:**

- ✓ Adult leaders should knock on door no later than 7:15 am to ensure wake-up of all youth.
- ✓ Adult leaders should return name tags to each participant at that time.
- ✓ Adult leaders should inform their group of a time/location to meet in the morning for all of their participants, even for those choosing not to have breakfast. This will ensure all will be in attendance for the opening session and out of their rooms. *Please remember that an adult must stay on the floor until all youth of their parish group are out of their rooms.*

**Contact Information Notice:** Your group members should know the room number of their group leader in case of emergencies – please make sure you communicate this information to them.