

ENCOUNTER

LIFE TEEN SUMMER RETREAT

July 18-
19

Retreat

July 20

Service Day

July 21
@ Mentor
Headlands

Beach Mass & XLT

St. Helen
Church

Location

July
5

Forms Due

Open to incoming freshman-outgoing seniors. Teens will be separated into small groups for social distancing. Forms available online at www.sthelenlifeteen.com or www.stfrancism.org/parish-life/life-teen/. Cost is \$95 per person, scholarships available. Contact Theresa at tzickert@sthelen.com or Cari at cshell@stfrancism.org for more information



June 25, 2020

Dear Parents,

It's time for a revival! We are offering our teens an opportunity to retreat and spend some much needed time with Jesus! Jesus is calling our young people back to community and back to the Sacraments! Through retreat experiences, teens come to realize and feel how much they are loved by God and His Church and they become better equipped with all that is needed to make a permanent commitment to walk in Christ's footsteps and continue a lifelong process of conversion. We are so excited to be joining St. Helen's Life Teen for our Summer Retreat. We have a God who meets us where we are at, and we believe this will absolutely be the case as we continue to adapt in response to the unprecedented circumstances in our world and in our Church.

The theme of our retreat is "**ENCOUNTER.**" Jesus is REAL! His presence in the Eucharist is REAL! He pursues and walks with us at every moment. We just need to recognize the many ways He provides for us to encounter Him and then embrace Him with total abandonment.

Elements of the retreat include daily Mass, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (including Sunset Mass and adoration on the beach!), skits, teen witnesses, talks on the faith, small and large group discussions, Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, community builders, games, meals, prayer experiences, service, food drive, music, virtual talent show for our brothers and sisters in local nursing homes, a campout and bonfire, and so much more!

We, of course, cannot guarantee that a teen will not be exposed to the Covid -19 virus or even that they will not be seriously impacted by it. We, of course, will take precautions to keep them safe, but it is important that you know we can offer no guarantees. We will break the teens into small groups of ten or less and will attempt to keep them with the same small group of people throughout the event. There will also, however, be large group events, but we will provide ample space for the teens to social distance. However, we are not in a position to strictly enforce that. We will provide the space, we will ask the teens to try to maintain a separation from others not in their small group, but we cannot guarantee that they will cooperate with that. We are attempting to help them experience "community" and that requires them being together with other teens, adult Core members, and young adult volunteers.

There are several things on the addendum permission form below that we ask you to initial. We ask also, that you sign the addendum in front of a staff member. Please carefully read through the attached Registration Package, which includes, Things to Know and Bring, Permission Form, Photo/Medical Release Form, and multiple items requiring parent signatures due to the Covid-19 situation. **Registration deadline is July 5, 2020.**

Thank you! I am so excited for this retreat and to journey in faith with our amazing teenagers! Please do not hesitate to contact me with any concerns, questions, suggestions, or offers to help! Thank you for understanding that the extensive paperwork in this package is necessary, especially at this time.

God bless you! Please pray for all of us and know that I and the Life Teen team are praying for you and your family, as well.

In the JOY of Christ,

Cari Shell, Director of Youth Ministry, St. Francis of Assisi Parish



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
LIFE TEEN

2020 Summer Retreat: ENCOUNTER

(Please return this form and payment by July 5, 2020)

Dear Youth Minister:

I, _____ am the _____ of
(Name of Parent/Guardian) (Father, Mother, Custodial Parent, etc.)

_____ a participant in the 2020 "Encounter" Summer Retreat.
(Name of Student)

I hereby request permission for the above named child to attend the St. Francis of Assisi and St. Helen Life Teen Summer Retreat July 18-21, 2020 and I consent to the child's participation in the event. I understand that my child will be camping Saturday, July 18th on St. Helen Parish Grounds and will find transportation to and from Headlands Beach on Tuesday, July 21st.

I hereby assume all risks in connection with the St. Francis of Assisi and St. Helen Life Teen Summer Retreat and I further release, discharge, and/or otherwise indemnify the Diocese of Cleveland, the Bishop *or Diocesan Administrator* of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, St. Francis of Assisi Parish, St. Helen parish, employees and volunteers from all claims, judgments, liability by or on behalf of my child, myself and my spouse, for any injury or damage due to the child's participation in the event/service including all risks connected therewith whether foreseen or unforeseen. Furthermore, I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to provide adequate health insurance for my child.

I understand I have the opportunity to contact the Youth Minister, Cari Shell (Office: 440-461-0066 ext. 101 Cell: 440-725-7091, cshell@stfrancisgm.org) to inquire about the event/service. **I have read the letter, as well as additional items requiring my signature in the presence of a St. Francis of Assisi Parish staff member (attached).**

Signature of parent/guardian _____ Date _____

Parent Email _____ Teen Email _____ Grade _____

Home Phone # _____ Emergency Phone # _____

Teen Cell Phone # _____

Home Address _____ Teen's T-Shirt Size _____

Number of Family Members for 7/19 Pizza Dinner (not including retreatant) _____
Cost \$95, checks made payable to St. Francis of Assisi Parish



St. Francis of Assisi Parish

6850 Mayfield Road
Gates Mills, Ohio 44040
(440) 461-0066

2020 Life Teen Summer Retreat Permission Form Addendum

- 1) I give permission for my teen to participate in the St. Francis of Assisi and St. Helen Life Teen Summer Retreat, fully aware that the parish can offer no guarantees that my child will not be exposed to the Covid-19 virus. ____
- 2) I give permission for my teen to participate in prayer experiences, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Mass, and praise and worship, where teens will be singing and where they may be prayed over by others at their request. ____
- 3) I give permission for my teen to eat with other teens, Life Teen Core members, and young adult volunteers. ____ (*Note: Social distancing will still be encouraged during meal times.*)
- 4) I give permission for my teen to be involved in sport events (basketball, volleyball, frisbee, etc.), even though they may not be able to maintain a 6 feet distance from others at all times. ____
- 5) I give permission for my teen to be in discussions with their "assigned small group family" throughout the retreat. ____ (*Note: small groups will be assigned a pew in the church and a specific breakout location throughout the retreat.*)
- 6) I give my teen permission to participate in bonfires, swimming, and other activities on the retreat. ____
- 7) I give my teen permission to be involved in practicing and acting out a Reconciliation skit, even though they may not be able to maintain strict social distancing as they do so. (applicable to Team members only) ____

Name of Teen participating _____

Name of Parent signing (please print) _____

Signature of Parent _____

Signature of Staff Witness _____

Date of signatures _____

Health Information/Medical Release

Name of Participant _____ Adult__ / Student__ Grad Yr _____

Address _____ Participant Cell Phone _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Address _____

Parent/Guardian Phone _____ Email _____

PARENTS: WE MUST HAVE A NUMBER WHERE YOU CAN BE REACHED AT ANY TIME

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Relation: _____

Emergency Contact Phone: _____

Authorization for Medical Treatment

I, as parent or legal guardian of _____ do hereby give my consent for St. Helen Parish Staff and the chaperones, or other adult representative, in the event that all reasonable attempts to contact me have been unsuccessful, to seek medical attention and treatment deemed necessary by medical personnel. I give my permission to transfer my child to the nearest hospital.

Our healthcare insurance carrier is _____ Phone _____

This authorization does not cover major surgery, unless the medical opinion of two other licensed physicians concur on the necessity for such surgery and are obtained before surgery is performed.

Please list **allergies** and medical conditions **or dietary restrictions**

List any medications and dosage child is currently taking

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Photo Release

I/We, the parent(s) of _____, give my/our permission to St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Gates Mills to publish my/our child's photo only (no name) in publications/media forms listed below exclusively for the purpose of St. Francis of Assisi and St. Helen Parish and its parishioners. Slideshows, Parish Bulletin, Parish Website, Narthex TV, etc.

Signature _____ Date _____

Parents, here are some things you need to know:

SATURDAY, July 18

- Check-in will occur under the canopy at the St. Helen's Church main entrance at **10am**. Teens will be setting up camp once they have checked in and had their temperatures taken.
 - St. Helen's Church 12060 Kinsman Rd. Newbury Township, OH 44065
- Teens must provide their own tent and sleeping gear. Teens are permitted to share a tent with friends with a parent's permission only. Please initial this item in the attached waiver form as well as provide the name(s) of those of the same gender sharing a tent.

SUNDAY, July 19

- Please join us for **5pm Mass** followed by a pizza dinner for families until **7:30pm**. Please provide the number of people in your family who will be attending the pizza dinner, excluding retreat(s) on the enclosed permission form.

MONDAY, July 20

- Please arrange for your teen(s) to arrive at St. Helen Church by **7:45am** for check-in and to have their temperature checked before being seated for morning Mass (far right and middle right sections of pews).
- Teens must wear a mask during the 8am Mass in order to protect the seniors who normally attend morning Mass. Each teen will be decorating his/her own mask on Saturday for this purpose.
- Teens that would like service hours signed off can bring forms with them, or have them signed at a Life Teen event or drop them off in the office.
- Pick-Up from the service day is at **9:00 pm**.

TUESDAY, July 21

- Please provide or find transportation for your teen to/from Mentor Headlands Beach (9601 Headlands Rd, Mentor, OH 44060).
- Adult chaperones will arrive at **1:00 pm**. Please note the time, as there will be no supervision before 1:00 pm.
- We will provide a cookout dinner for retreatants in the main pavilion at **5:00 pm**
- Please bring beach chairs and join us for Mass and Eucharistic Adoration 7-8:30pm on the beach!

Commitment to the entire event is so important, not only for each participant, but for the benefit of the small group families. Therefore, PLEASE make arrangements with coaches, employers, doctors, etc. to avoid conflicts. THANK YOU!

Teens: Here are a few things to bring with you:

- Tent, sleeping bag, pillow (Saturday only)
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen (with an SPF higher than 15), and insect repellent
- One or two handheld weeding tools and work/gardening gloves labeled with your last name for service on church grounds (Monday only).
- Tennis shoes are recommended for Monday - No flip flops please, since we will be working outside and in storage spaces at the church. You can bring flip flops/sandals to wear later in the day
- Swimsuit/Beach towel/Toiletries/Change of clothes (Deodorant please!). We will have a water activity Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday
- Instruments for music during break times and virtual talent show
- Beach blanket or chair for Mass and Adoration (Tuesday only)
- Note: Cell phones are not permitted during the retreat except for taking pictures or recording video for the virtual talent show during appropriate and designated times ONLY!

MODESTY POLICY:

- **Appropriate Dress and Speech:** All participants are expected to dress in a fashion that represents modesty and good taste, respecting others and our Lord. Clothing must cover all undergarments and midriffs. **GIRLS** - Bikini tops, low cut tops, and spaghetti strap shirts are not allowed. Shoulder straps should be at least 1 inch wide. T-shirts are your best bet! Shorts should be at least as long as your fingertips when to your side. Please choose modest bathing suits – one piece and tankini-style bathing suits are appropriate. Please do not wear bikinis. If you own only a bikini, you must wear a colored t-shirt for water activities. **GUYS** are required to wear shirts at all times.
- You are expected to use only positive and up-building speech. Foul and abusive language will not be tolerated. Clothing that displays profane or offensive messages or images, is not allowed.

Contact Cari Shell, Director of Youth Ministry with any questions.

Office: 440.461.0066 x101 Cell: 440.725.7091 Email: cshell@stfrancism.org