



Steubenville East I

July 24-26, 2009

URI, Kingston, RI

Holy Cross Participant Information

Please remember to bring the following:

- A sleeping bag and pillow
- A flashlight
- Insect repellent
- A change of clothes or two
- Toiletries
- BreatheRight strips work well for preventing snoring, guys...
- Washcloth and towel
- Small umbrella and/or rain poncho
- Water bottle (Water bottles will NOT be provided this year)
- Bible, notebook and pen
- Spending money for the shrine's gift shop, bookstore and concession stands
- **A COMPLETELY FILLED OUT AND SIGNED LIABILITY RELEASE FORM.**

Please do not bring CD/MP3 players, radios, etc. In order to prevent theft and loss, please do not bring any valuables that cannot be carried with you at all times.

Some Basic Conference Rules and Information

- It can get hot and humid in July—remember to drink plenty of water (supplied at the conference) and dress appropriately.
- All conference participants are expected to dress in a fashion that represents modesty and good taste. The conference rules state:

"Clothing must cover all undergarments and midriffs. Bikini tops, low cut tops, min-skirts, short skirts or other inappropriate attire are not to be worn at any time during the conference. Clothing with vulgar or offensive language or pictures is also not appropriate. We ask that sandals not be worn and that each participant wear shoes in order to prevent injury to the feet or ankles."

- All buildings are smoke free.
- **In case of emergency, please call 1-860-208-8836.** The caller should request a participant by their full name and registered Group Leader's Name (George Strout/Holy Cross).

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July 24-26, 2009
University of Rhode Island - Kingston, RI

Parent's Information

Dear Parents,

Thank you for the wonderful gift you are giving your child—the chance to experience our faith as never before—the opportunity to attend a Steubenville Catholic Youth Conference.

We have tried to assemble all of the information and permission/liability forms in this one package. But you can be sure that the organizers of the Conference will most likely send us additional forms to sign before July. As soon as we get them, we'll be sure to get copies to you.

The Liability form needs to be completed and returned before your child can attend the conference. **Without it, we will be unable to register your child, so be sure we receive your completed form as soon as possible.**

We would like to give you a special opportunity to be involved in this retreat by writing a card or letter to your child. This should be a letter of love and encouragement that expresses your feelings and lets your child know how much you support their decision to attend the conference. This type of letter is called *Palanca* and the distribution of these letters Sunday afternoon before we return home is one of the highlights of the conference. *Palanca* is a Spanish word for lever because *Palanca* is meant to "lift up your" teen. *Palanca* takes the form of card and letters from you and others who are important to your teen, so be sure to solicit their support and *Palanca* as well. These letters are private and are not meant to be shared with others at the conference. During every conference we have attended, the teens have expressed how moved they were to receive their *Palanca* and how important it was to receive them.

While the teens may know that *Palanca* is a part of the retreat, they do not know how many cards and letters they will be receiving and who in their family and circle of friends may have sent them. **Please try to keep the activity of creating the *Palanca* from your family a secret from your teen so that the distribution of these items can be somewhat of a surprise for them.**

Please bring all the *Palanca* you have gathered with you on Friday morning and drop them off with me before we board the busses. And please feel free to contact me should you have any questions about this, or any other activity associated with the conference.

Sincerely,

George A. Strout

George Strout
Director of Religious Education and Youth Minister
Holy Cross Church, Derry, NH



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IMPORTANT INFO

Depart for Kingston, RI
July 24th, 11:00 AM
Holy Cross Parking Lot

The busses will pick us up in the Holy Cross parking lot. Be there no later than 10:15am for a quick send-off from Father Roger. Bring a bag lunch for the trip.

Return from Kingston, RI
July 26th, ~4:00 PM
Holy Cross Parking Lot

The busses will return us back to the parking lot around 4:00pm

Steubenville Prayer

We ask that you take a few moments each day as the retreat draws near and during the week-end of the retreat to pray for those attending the conference.

Father, be present in the lives of our teens this weekend. Deliver them safely to their destination and home to us again. We offer them to You with open hands. Through the example of Jesus, teach them to surrender their lives fully to You. Bless them with the knowledge that they are Your beloved ones and that they truly belong to a community of love and mercy. Open their hearts so that the seed of the Word and the power of the Eucharist can be planted, take root and transform their lives. Give these teens to the world with the power of the Holy Spirit to witness to the love of Jesus and serve Him in each person they meet. Amen.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

Just in case you need to contact us while we're on retreat, please use the following numbers:

George Strout Cell: 603-867-3104
Geri Strout Cell: 603-560-1304

The reception inside the Ryan Center is not always that great.

If you cannot reach your child, George or Geri and there is an emergency please call:

1-860-208-8846

**for EMERGENCIES during the conference
- this is the Steubenville East
Emergency Cell Phone Number**