Teen ACTS Retreat

June 25-28, 2015

"Do not be afraid; just have faith."
(Mark 5:36b)

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Dear Parent(s):

We are very excited to have your teen on our upcoming Teen ACTS Retreat!! Our team has been preparing for this retreat since the beginning of June! Your teen has received some of the information on this letter, but there are other things you should also know.

When should I arrive? Check in will at 6:15pm on Thursday evening June 25, 2015 at St. William's Parish Center (middle building - rear entrance). You can pay any remaining balance of the retreat fee and fill out any forms you have yet to complete. We will tag your teen's luggage and transport it to the retreat center. The send-off prayer service will begin at 6:30pm. Transportation will be provided by mini buses. The buses will leave the church at 7:00pm. We will have a light meal when we arrive at the retreat center.

What should they bring? The Espousal Center is a full service retreat center so they don't have to bring much besides comfortable/casual clothes, comfortable shoes and toiletries. They are welcome to bring anything that may make them feel more at home: pillow, fan or a musical instrument. We'll also have some free time for outdoor activities and games so they may want to bring a Frisbee or football along.

What not to bring? We suggest that they leave all electronics including watches and cell phones at home. Time away from distractions will serve to enhance the retreat experience. We have provided you with several contact numbers in case of emergency.

They also will not need any food or snacks for the weekend as everything will be provided for them.

When do we return? We return Sunday, June 28, 2015 to St. William's Parish. We will celebrate Mass together at 11:30 and your family and friends are encouraged to attend Mass in support of your teen. There will be a luncheon reception in the lower church following Mass.

Love Letters and Candlelight Ceremony: (Sshhh, don't tell them about this, it's a secret): love letters, this is a little note, card or expression of love and support from family and friends written to your teen. They can be dropped off at St. William's rectory before the retreat or you can bring them with you at the send-off. (Don't let your teen know – this is a surprise!)

A Candlelight Ceremony will be at held at the Espousal Center on Saturday evening, June 27th. It's very special and moving ceremony and the presence of family and friends is so important for the teens. Please make every effort to have family and friends attend to support your teen. You should plan to arrive between 8:00 and 8:15 p.m.

The following page contains important phone numbers and address and contact information for St. William's Church and the Espousal Center.

Please don't hesitate to call me with any questions or concerns and thank you for trusting us with your teen.

Blessings,

Patricia KozikMonica ModrichJimmy CoppingerZach StueveAdult DirectorTeen DirectorTeen Co-DirectorTeen Co-Director

Important Phone Numbers:

Patricia Kozik – Adult Director 978-8407-6032

Monica Modrich – Teen Director 978-995-1600

Jimmy Coppinger – Teen Co-Director 603-475-0138

Zack Stueve – Teen Co-Director 978-979-3312

Address/Contact Information:

St. William Church 1351 Main Street Tewksbury, MA 01876 978-851-7331

Espousal Retreat House 554 Lexington Street Waltham, MA 02452 781-209-3120