

St. Christopher Catholic Church
Office of Youth Ministry and CCE
8150 Park Place Blvd.
(713)645-6142

Confirmation Retreat April 7-9, 2017 Information Page

One of the requirements for the preparation to the sacrament of Confirmation is a retreat experience. Going on a retreat is essential to sustaining a prayer life and to understanding the work of the Holy Spirit in a person's life. The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston mandates that confirmation candidates attend at least one retreat specific to the preparation of Confirmation. For the 2016/2017 school year, St. Christopher's confirmation retreat will be held at Camp Kappe in Plantersville, Texas from **April 7 to April 9, 2017**. The theme of the retreat will be on the shield and armor of David. Our goal is to help students discern the movement of the Holy Spirit in their lives and to be passionate about their faith through the work of God in the Church.

In order to make this retreat an effective, spiritual, and safe experience, we ask that students and parents be aware of the following guidelines:

- Students may not carry more than one backpack (or small carry-on suitcase) worth of clothes and/or supplies unless they are given special permission to do so. This restriction allows for more seating on the bus.
- No electronic devices allowed. **Cell phones and media devices will be collected upon arrival to retreat** sight and will be returned at the end of the retreat. Only hygienic devices (blow dryer, electric shavers, etc.) may be used during retreat if needed.
 - Participants may bring cellphones to use before and after the retreat to call home. However, they must turn in their phones at the retreat location.
 - Any electronic devices found during the retreat period will be confiscated and will accrue a \$20 fine for repossession
- For safety and security purposes, backpacks may be checked before boarding the bus. Parents have the option of checking their own child's backpack in front of a youth leader.
- All medications must be turned in to the designated leader. A note is required for permission to consume any medication at retreat sight.
- Misconduct or the inability to follow instructions can lead to a student being removed from the retreat center. In such a case parents will be responsible for picking up their child. No reimbursement
- No Skirts. Shorts must be no more than 2 inches above the knee and shirts must cover the torso adequately

Items to bring:

- Flashlight
- Sandals/shower shoes
- Hygienic items (soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrush, etc.)
- Sleeping bag or sheet and blanket
- Pillow
- Towel
- Jacket
- One pair of Jeans, T-shirts, undergarment, etc.
- Earplugs (helps block snoring noises)
- Tennis shoes for outdoor activities (they may get dirty)

Drop-off and Pick-up Instructions

On Friday **April 7, 2017**, students need to be dropped off at St. Christopher's parking lot (by Mary statue) no later than **5:30pm** for check-in. Buses will leave for Camp Kappe at 6:00pm. Since cell phones will be collected, parents may contact their child by calling Lam Hoang's cell phone at **(713)834-5420** in case of emergency. If there is no signal, please leave a voicemail message. Parents are expected to pick up their you at the same drop off location on Sunday **April 9, 2017** at **2:00pm**.

For those participants who are not students of St. Christopher Church, we ask for **\$150** to cover the cost of food, supplies, transportation, and lodging. Check or cash is to be written out to **St. Christopher Catholic Church** and sent to Lam Hoang at **8150 Park Place Blvd. Houston, TX 77017**. Those who cannot attend this Confirmation retreat will be required to make it up at other parishes. A catalog of available locations and times will be provided upon request. Students CANNOT be confirmed without attending a Confirmation retreat. School retreats and other parish retreats CANNOT substitute for Confirmation retreats.

For questions or concerns please contact St. Christopher's CCE office at **(713)645-6142** or email Lam Hoang at lammhoang@gmail.com. Cell phone: **(713)834-5420**.