

# GUIDELINES

## **PLEASE NOTE:**

COMING TOGETHER FOR A WEEKEND, WE, AS A GROUP, FACE THE POSSIBILITY OF AN INDIVIDUAL BOY OR GIRL WHO WE MAY DEEM BEYOND OUR PASTORAL CAPABILITIES. THIS MAY INCLUDE, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO: EMOTIONAL AND BEHAVIORAL CONCERNS OR SUSPICION OF ALCOHOL OR DRUG USE. THEREFORE, WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO NOTIFY A PARENT OR SEND A PERSON HOME IF, IN OUR ESTIMATION, WE DEEM THIS ACTION NECESSARY. IN THESE CASES, IT IS THE EXPECTATION THAT THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN PICK UP HIS/HER TEEN WHEN CONTACTED. WE HOPE THAT PROBLEMS WILL BE AVOIDED, BUT WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO FULLY UNDERSTAND OUR POSITION.

## **Registration Information**

All participants must complete the retreat registration form using this QR Code. You can also access the form through the Youth Ministry page on our website and via email.

## **Parents:**

Please fill out the medical information section carefully so that we can be sure to care for your child in the event of illness or an emergency. Please provide up to date emergency contact information for the emergency contact and the correct phone number that we can reach you at in the event of an illness or emergency.

**Register here:**



**Register VIA WEBSITE::**

1. Go to [churchofpresentation.org](http://churchofpresentation.org)
2. Click on Learn > Youth Ministry
3. Scroll down to Homeless Overnight and click for registration link.

**Questions? Call or Email:**

**Craig Johnson, Pastoral Associate for Youth & Young Adult Ministry**  
201-327-1313 x819 [cjohnson@churchofpresentation.org](mailto:cjohnson@churchofpresentation.org)

**"WHOEVER CARES FOR THE POOR LENDS TO THE LORD, WHO WILL PAY BACK THE SUM IN FULL."**

# HOPE FOR THE HOMELESS OVERNIGHT RETREAT

Learning about and caring for the Poor and Marginalized

10 | 26-27 | '24

**CHURCH OF THE PRESENTATION - YOUTH MINISTRY**

271 WEST SADDLE RIVER ROAD  
UPPER/SADDLE RIVER, NJ 07860

"Experience the Gospel, Engage Community & Encounter Christ"

**What is the Homeless Overnight:** Presentation’s Youth Ministry’s Hope for the Homeless, Homeless Overnight seeks to address the many social issues in our world, and addresses how Catholic Christians should respond to these issues. This event addresses the issues of poverty and homelessness. Along with exploring these issues in a variety of creative ways, teenagers will interact with the poor and homeless and will get a taste of homelessness themselves by eating simple “soup kitchen style” meals and by sleeping overnight in a cardboard box on the parish front lawn. By doing so, participants will come to a greater understanding of homelessness and hunger, and will learn more about our Catholic Social teaching, and will learn how to be voices for those suffering from injustices in our world.

**Who is this experience for?** Any 10th, 11th, or 12th grader that is 16 years old or older in high school may attend this weekend with parental/guardian permission. Registration forms will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis as space is limited to 30 participants.

**Who runs the overnight?** The overnight is coordinated by the experienced members of our volunteer youth ministry team and our Pastoral Associate for Youth & Young Adults.

**When and where is it?** The retreat will be held on Saturday, October 26, 2024 to Sunday, October 27, 2024 at the Church of the Presentation. Participants will be transported to and from the service experience (NYC) during the weekend. Arrival at the Church on Saturday should be at 1:00pm and will conclude at 12:00 noon on Sunday. Participants *MUST* be able to attend the *ENTIRE* retreat experience.

**What should I bring for the overnight?** Warm, comfortable clothes and shoes, Pillow, Extra socks, Outdoor clothes for sleeping overnight, Sleeping bag, Toiletries, Hat, Gloves, and a Cardboard box (refrigerator or wardrobe) for sleeping. The most important thing to bring is AN OPEN MIND and a WILLINGNESS TO SERVE!

Please leave electronic devices at home! These items detract from community interaction. Cell phones, if brought, should be used only for emergencies!

What is the cost of this service-retreat? The cost of the retreat is \$50. This number helps us to offset the cost of food, gas and tolls that we must cover for the Homeless overnight and Midnight Please make checks payable to Church of the Presentation and send it in with your registration form to the Youth Ministry Office by April 7th. The Online Registration Form may be accessed from the back cover of this brochure.

Scholarships are available for families who may have difficulty sending their teenager on this experience. Please contact Craig Johnson if your teen is in need of a scholarship.



**What is Midnight Run?** Midnight Run is a volunteer organization dedicated to finding common ground between the housed and the homeless.

Midnight Run coordinates over 1,000 relief missions per year, in which volunteers from churches, synagogues, schools and other civic groups distribute food, clothing, blankets and personal care items to the homeless poor on the streets of New York City. The late-night relief efforts create a forum for trust, sharing, understanding and affection. That human exchange, rather than the exchange of goods, is the essence of the Midnight Run mission.

Midnight Run is not a solution to homelessness. Our goal is to forge a bond between housed and homeless people by establishing a foundation of sharing and caring from which solutions may evolve. Through Midnight Run, volunteers come to see people on the streets as real people, not a commodity. And homeless men and women interact with mainstream adults and teenagers whose commitments and concerns go beyond their own lives and families.



*If there are any concerns, or further questions you may have or if you would like to know more about this program please contact us!*