



2011 group to Davison, MI

Catholic HEART Workcamp

Summer 2012

Memphis, TN: June 9-15

and

Betsy Layne, KY: July 7-14



*2011 group dancing during evening
Program at Twin Cities, MN*



2011 group to the Twin Cities, MN

Dear Parents and Students,

You are invited to spend a life-changing week serving the poor with 300-400 other teens from around the United States during the summer of 2012. I will be taking a group of teens and adults to **Catholic HEART Workcamp** in **Memphis, TN** from **Saturday, June 9th to Friday, June 15th** and a second group to **Betsy Layne, KY** from **Saturday, July 7th to Saturday, July 14th**. Both camps are open to anyone entering 8th grade or older. (For both camps, we will drive on Saturday, stay overnight at a hotel close to the camps and then arrive at camp on Sunday afternoon to start the week at CHWC.)

This will be the tenth summer our teens have gone to a *Catholic HEART Workcamp* and we can't wait to go again! The trip combines a retreat experience with fun, hard work, service, and prayer. We are able to meet families whose needs are much greater than ours and to experience the joy of helping in simple ways. In serving these families, we not only touched their lives, but profoundly touch our own. Because it is a Catholic camp, there is an opportunity to attend Mass daily and also to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the week.

Please understand that **these camps fill up quickly**, so it is important to let us know of your interest as soon as possible by returning the application with the \$85 deposit. Once all the spots are filled, a waiting list will be started and we cannot guarantee anything. I look forward to talking with you and hope you will consider this powerful experience. I can't tell you the number of teens who started out with us a bit reluctant but have come home "on fire" and already planning for next summer's trip! We hope you will be with us!

God's blessings,

Cathy Swanson

Junior High Youth Ministry Coordinator

frequently asked questions



WHAT IS THE CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP?

Catholic Heart Workcamp is based in Orlando, FL. The founders are Steve and Lisa as Youth Ministers for their parish were encouraged by their pastor to begin *CHW Workcamp* was held in Orlando in 1993 with 100 participants based out of their home parish, St. Margaret Mary. In the summer of 2011, over 450 parishes participated, bringing over 12,000 adults and teens to camps held in 47 cities around the United States and even one in Jamaica. Steve and Lisa's vision for the future is clear, to listen closely the direction that God desires as they continue offering quality camps, serving people in need, and spiritually enriching the lives of Workcamp participants. Whenever possible, *Catholic Heart Workcamp* works hand in hand with the diocese and the social service agencies in the host city. Each workcamp is equipped with at least ten staff members, adult associate staff members, a nurse, a Priest, and a camp manager to guarantee the workcamp will run smoothly.

WHO IS INVITED TO THIS CAMP?

Anyone currently in 7th grade through high school is encouraged to participate in either camp. We also need chaperones (over 21 years old) to accompany us and who are willing to work, play, and pray alongside our youth.

WHERE DO WE STAY WHILE AT WORKCAMP?

We will leave for camp on Saturday and drive to a hotel most of the way to camp where we will sleep Saturday night. Then Sunday morning we will finish the drive to the local high school which will be used for lodging, programs, showers and food service for the week at camp. Bring your own sleeping bag and air mattress as we will be sleeping on classroom floors. There are separate sleeping areas for girls and guys.

WHAT KIND OF WORK WILL WE BE DOING?

Each day will be spent doing such things as painting, yard work, indoor/outdoor clean-up, home maintenance and repairs on existing homes, building wheelchair ramps, helping at daycare centers, or helping at food pantries.

HOW ARE WORKSITES SELECTED?

We work in cooperation with local social service agencies in Memphis and Betsy Layne to choose the sites and write the work descriptions. These agencies work to improve the lives of low-income families, children and the elderly.

HOW WELL-SUPERVISED & SAFE IS THE WORKCAMP?

The *Catholic Heart Workcamp* staff takes supervision and safety very seriously. Besides the workcamp adult staff, each group is required to bring one adult sponsor for every six young people to provide supervision at the work sites and the schools. Participants are asked to bring protective safety gear. Every effort is made to match the campers with projects they can handle. To compensate for the hot weather, campers are encouraged to drink plenty of water and given frequent breaks. Each worksite is inspected beforehand. Home repair projects are well organized and prepared. First-aid kits and emergency care instructions will be available at every worksite. Medical facilities are located a short distance away.

TELL ME ABOUT MY WORK GROUP

You will be divided into seven member work teams. Each team will have an adult leader. Being in work teams with people from different Catholic youth groups will give you an opportunity to meet other teenagers and develop new and lasting friendships. We will do our best to balance males and females, and experienced and inexperienced people on each team. During orientation on the first day of camp, you will spend time getting to know your team and going over work assignments for the coming week. For many, your work team will be the most memorable part of the Workcamp.

WHAT WILL THE PROGRAMS CONSIST OF?

The programs will be filled with activities, music, skits, videos, slides of the work day, and testimonies from teens, motivational speakers and prayer. You will not be bored by any means! Each morning and evening program will be different and special.

HOW WILL THE WORKCAMP HELP YOUNG PEOPLE GROW IN THEIR CATHOLIC FAITH?

Young people and their leaders will be spiritually renewed after participation in the workcamp. By putting their faith into action, they will be living out Christ's command to love and serve others. The workcamp promotes the signs, symbols, stories and rituals affiliated with the Catholic Church. The sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist, as well as the Rosary and other prayer services will be offered throughout the week to help young people become more aware of the presence and love of God in their own lives.

HOW DO WE TRAVEL TO THE WORKCAMP?

Our group will use rented minivans. These same minivans will be used to transport teams to their worksites each day. In order to abide by diocesan mandates and state law, the vans will be equipped with seatbelts for all riders. Participants will not be allowed to ride in any vehicles without seatbelts.

HOW ARE THE ADULTS FROM EACH PARISH USED?

Every adult is assigned to a work site. This adult is part of the overall team. We depend on adults to work side by side with the young people in accomplishing the work projects. For the safety of the teens, each parish must have at least one adult chaperone in each sleeping quarter. *Catholic Heart Workcamp* also depends on adults to supervise their own parish young people during the free time and programs.

WHAT ABOUT LIABILITY AND INSURANCE?

Catholic Heart Workcamp does not allow any participants without personal medical insurance. In the unlikely case medical attention is needed, the participant's personal health insurance is needed to cover any expenses that occur. *Catholic HEART Workcamp* will employ reputable staff members and take reasonable precautions to safeguard the workcamp participants during the week of workcamp. However, neither *Catholic Heart Workcamp*, St. Michael Parish, the social agencies nor the host school, acting as "home base," will be liable for loss or damage to property of participants prior to, during, or following the workcamp due to theft, fire, accident, or any other cause beyond its control. It is the sole responsibility of the participants to obtain insurance at their own expense against property loss, damage, or injury and against liability for personal injury. *Catholic Heart Workcamp's* liability for injury to persons or loss or damage to property shall be limited to such as may be caused by negligence. The workcamp participants assumes responsibility and agrees to indemnify and defend the workcamp, employees and agents associated with the workcamp against any claims and expenses arising from negligence, theft, loss, damage, or personal injury. *Catholic Heart Workcamp* has limited General Liability coverage.





Catholic Heart Workcamp 2012

The deposit and fees cover transportation to and from camp, meals while at camp, parish t-shirt, Catholic Heart Workcamp t-shirt, housing, and many of the supplies needed at the worksites. Campers will need to bring some additional money to cover meals as we travel, any free day activities, and any souvenirs they wish to purchase.

TEENS:	Deposit	+	Fees	=	TOTAL
Deposit received by December 15 th	\$85	+	\$330	=	\$405
Deposit received Dec. 16 th – Feb. 15 th	\$85	+	\$345	=	\$420
Deposit received Feb 16 th – May 1 st	\$85	+	\$360	=	\$435

We realize that going on this mission trip may be quite a sacrifice for many families and so you have the option of paying in full with your application, or sending in a deposit and then making installments as follows:

	<i>Deposit received by: Dec 15th</i>	\$85	<i>Deposit received: Dec 16-Feb 15</i>	\$85	<i>Deposit received: Feb 16-May 1</i>	\$85
Payment due	Feb 1 st	\$80	Mar 1 st	\$110	May 15 th	\$350
Payment due	Mar 1 st	\$80	Apr 1 st	\$110	TOTAL	\$435
Payment due	Apr 1 st	\$80	May 1 st	\$115		
Payment due	May 1 st	\$80	TOTAL	\$420		
	TOTAL	\$405				

ADULT CHAPERONES:	Deposit	+	Fees	=	TOTAL
Deposit of \$85	\$85.00	+	\$0.00	=	\$85.00

One additional adult chaperone (including our parish staff member) is needed for every six teens each week at Catholic Heart Workcamp. We ask our adult chaperones to fill out an application form and return it with the deposit. The total cost for adult chaperones is \$85.

Teens and adult chaperones are encouraged to participate in some FUND RAISING activities to cover the additional \$100 it costs to take each participant beyond the fees we charge. Those that help with the fund raising efforts will have a portion of the profits credited towards that individual camper's fees. Our biggest fun raiser is the Barone's Pizza sale just before Ash Wednesday. We need everyone to participate. Details will be distributed throughout the year to those who have sent in an Application and the \$85 deposit.

Our parish has reserved a limited number of spots for each Catholic Heart Workcamp week. We cannot guarantee that there will be room left in camp after these spots have been filled. We will be happy to take as many campers who return their application with a deposit and who qualify in terms of demonstrating good behavior and responsibility until the camp is full and Catholic Heart can no longer accept more teens. We encourage all those interested to get their application and deposit in now and then plan on helping with our fundraising activities to earn money to pay for this trip. Other ways you can earn money on your own might be to rake leaves, shovel snow, baby sit, wash windows, or save birthday and Christmas money.

We will review all applications. We reserve the right to ask for teacher recommendations in choosing our group. We expect to include students who have demonstrated good behavior and a strong sense of responsibility at school and in other social settings. Deposits for any teens that do not fit this criterion will be returned and the teen will not be invited to join our group. All other deposits are non-refundable.

For further information or details, please refer to the information packet. Also, check out the Catholic Heart Workcamp website at: www.heartworkcamp.com.

If your plans change and you discover that you cannot go on the trip, you should notify Mrs. Cathy Swanson in the Faith Formation Office (317 W. Willow Avenue, Wheaton, IL 60187) in writing or by e-mail: cathyswanson5044@gmail.com before May 1st for the Memphis trip and before June 1st for the Betsy Layne trip. All your payments except your deposit will be refunded. After those dates we cannot refund any money unless you find a replacement camper.

Checks should be made payable to [St. Michael Parish](#) and mailed or dropped off at the Faith Formation Office, Attn: Mrs. Cathy Swanson, 317 W. Willow Avenue, Wheaton, IL 60187.

TEEN Application

Catholic Heart Workcamp Summer 2012

_____ June 9-15: Memphis, TN *OR* _____ July 7-14: Betsy Lane, KY

Application should be returned to the Faith Formation Office with your deposit to be considered.

Please print clearly. Be sure to fill in BOTH sides of this application.

Name _____ Male___ or Female___

Address _____ City _____, IL Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (*while on trip*) (_____) _____

Watch for communication updates via your e-mail:

E-Mail (your e-mail address) _____

E-Mail (your parent or guardian's address) _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____ Age (*at CHWC in 2012*) _____

What school do you attend? _____ Grade (*2011-12*) _____

T-Shirt Size: ___Adult Small ___ Adult Medium ___ Adult Large ___ Adult X-Large

Please list any extra-curricular activities or clubs that you are or will be participating in during this school year or into the summer of 2011:

Have you ever gone on a mission trip? _____ or retreat? _____ If yes, tell me a little bit about it.

Why do you want to go on this mission trip?

We expect only the very best behavior while on this trip. Teens must have demonstrated an attitude of respect, willingness to serve others, trustworthiness, and self-control. Are you willing to act accordingly during this mission trip? _____

Are you willing to participate fully in all the activities, work day projects, morning, and evening programs? _____

Emergency Contact Information while on trip:

Parents' names _____

Father's work phone _____ Father's cell phone _____

Mother's work phone _____ Mother's cell phone _____

Other Emergency Contact Person while on trip:

Name _____ Relationship _____

Address _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____



I would very much like to join the group from St. Michael Parish for the trip/s indicated:

♥ Signature of student _____ Date _____

I would very much like my son / daughter to join the group from St. Michael Parish for the trip/s indicated:

♥ Signature of Parent _____ Date _____

Deposit enclosed: Check # _____ (Payable to **St. Michael Parish**) or Cash _____

Teens are encouraged to earn all or part of the cost to go to Catholic Heart by helping with fund raising activities here at the parish, finding odd jobs at home or in the community, or saving birthday or Christmas money to pay for the trip.

Limited scholarship money is available for those who otherwise cannot afford to go on these trips, but would like to participate. Would you appreciate some scholarship assistance? _____

Are you willing to help with fund raising events to help pay for your trip? _____

Cost	Deposit	+	Fees	=	TOTAL
<u>If your deposit is received:</u>					
Before Dec 15, 2009	\$85	+	\$310	=	\$405
Dec 16 - Feb. 15, 2010	\$85	+	\$325	=	\$420
Feb 16 - May 1, 2010	\$85	+	\$340	=	\$435

Adult Chaperone Application

Catholic Heart Workcamp

Summer 2012

_____ June 9-15: Memphis, TN *OR* _____ July 7-14: Betsy Lane, KY

Application should be returned to St. Michael Parish Faith Formation Office with your \$85 deposit.

Please print clearly.

Adult's Name _____

Address _____ City _____, IL Zip _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

E-Mail *(only if you use it regularly)* _____

Birth Date _____ *(Must be over 21)* Male _____ or Female _____

Are you willing to drive a rented vehicle with some of the teens? _____ *(Rented vehicles will be fully insured.)*

Name of your Automobile Insurance Company _____

Do you have a valid Driver's License? _____ *(Rented vehicles will be fully insured.)*

Driver's License Number: _____ Expiration Date _____

T-Shirt Size: ___Adult Sm ___Adult Med ___Adult Lg ___Adult X-Lg ___Adult XX-Lg

Other Emergency Contact Person while on trip:

Name _____ Relationship _____

Address _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____

I would very much like to join the group from St. Michael Parish for one of the trips this summer:

♥ Signature _____ Date _____

We ask adult chaperones to only pay the \$85 deposit.

(Since Catholic Heart charges us \$310 per adult, any additional donation is greatly appreciated, but not necessary.)

Please include your deposit with this application. Checks made payable to: St. Michael Parish.

All Adult Volunteers must follow St. Michael Parish and the Diocese of Joliet and the Catholic Heart Workcamp guidelines for adults working with children before any involvement with the trip, including:

1. Completing a *Volunteer Profile Form*
2. Completing a *Volunteer Release Form* (to do a background check and driving record check)
3. Attending a *Protecting God's Children* workshop
4. Face-to-face interview with the coordinator of the event

If any of these have been completed previously, they do not have to be done again.

Forms are available from Cathy Swanson in the Faith Formation Office, 317 W. Willow Avenue, Wheaton