

## **Little Flower High School Summer Service Trip**

**"Seeing the Face of Jesus"**

**New York City June 23-28, 2019**

<https://www.lfparish.org/parish-activities/youth-ministry/summer-service-trip-application>

### **Overview**

The High School Youth program from Little Flower has designed their own week-long service retreat called "Seeing the Face of Jesus". Over 5 nights and 6 days in New York City, students will be on a mission to encounter Christ through meaningful hands-on service, fellowship, spiritual reflection and cultural experiences.

Fr. Patrick Lewis will lead the religious activities and discussions. Adult chaperones from our parish will supervise the students and manage all logistical aspects of the retreat. As schedules permit we hope to have other priests and any seminarian assigned to our parish for the summer join us as well.

### **Meaningful Service Work**

New York City provides countless opportunities to see the face of Jesus in the hungry, the homeless, the lonely and the immigrants. Students will be inspired by the people and organizations who dedicate themselves to easing the burden of those less fortunate.

Each day we will divide up into small groups and travel by subway/bus to a different service site. Students will have a chance to learn about and work at each of the following organizations:

- Missionaries of Charity Soup Kitchens, The Bronx and Harlem - Helping the Sisters from Saint Teresa of Calcutta's order to serve over 200 lunches daily
- Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen, Chelsea - Serving nutritious meals to 1,000 homeless and hungry at NYC's largest emergency food program
- St. Francis Youth Center, The Bronx - Helping the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal clean/prep their facility for summer camp the neighborhood kids
- Cabrini Immigrant Services, Lower East Side - Helping ESL adult students practice English, Stocking and operating the food pantry that serves 700 immigrant families

### **Faith-Building Activities**

In addition to encountering Christ by serving those in need, this retreat will offer:

- Daily Mass with the homily geared toward high school students by our own priests at a variety of churches
- Time for daily prayer, journaling and private reflection
- Meet and hear from the Missionaries of Charity and the Franciscan Friars & Sisters of the Renewal about their own mission work and spiritual journeys
- Retreat will culminate with an evening of song, confessions, adoration at The Basilica of St. Patrick's Old Cathedral ("Old St. Pat's"; the oldest cathedral in the city—200 years!).

### **Educational Enrichment & "Only in NYC" Attractions**

After putting in an honest day's work, we will have the chance to take in NYC's culture, history and fun! Students, again, can look for the face of Jesus in NYC's churches, art museums, historical sites—as well in each other as we navigate the streets and subways of NYC together! Plans are in the works for special "only in NY" excursions such as:

- A guided tour of the Tenement Museum to learn and see how various immigrant groups lived and worked in NYC's Lower East Side neighborhood
- A New York Yankees game
- Hudson River boat tour
- Walking tour and activities in Central Park
- Visit to St. Patrick's Cathedral

### **Housing and Meals**

Our home-base will be private retreat center that is part of a local Catholic church in the upper-most section of Manhattan. It is safe, clean and everyone will have his/her own twin bed! There is no service staff, so this will be an

opportunity for teamwork and self-agency. Students will make and pack their own lunches (food provided), teams will be assigned to set out and clean up after dinner (provided by caterer). On the last day, we will have all hands on deck to leave the retreat house as clean as we found it (or even cleaner!)

San Damiano Retreat House at Church of the Good Shepherd; 630 Isham Street, New York, NY 10034

- Students will stay in dorm-style double rooms (2 twin beds)
- Floors separated by gender;
- Shared hall bathroom on each floor (boys' bath on one floor, girls' on another)
- Kitchen on-site, but we are required to stock with food, prepare some meals, and clean (good exercise in teambuilding!)

#### Application Process

Due to the limited number of spots available (minimum of 18 students; maximum of 36 students), as well as the serious nature of the trip, the students will be selected by their parish priests and youth minister through an application and interview process as needed. In addition, once selected, students will be required to attend an informational session prior to the trip to learn about and prepare for the service work.

Who should apply:

- Mature, responsible students who have a sincere desire to participate and are looking to achieve new personal growth.
- Rising Sophomores and above; must be at least 15 years old. Students over 18 at the time of the trip will be required to complete ADW Virtus certification.

How to apply:

- Complete and then submit the [online application](#) or the paper form to the parish rectory (ATTN: HIGH SCHOOL SERVICE TRIP on the envelope)
- Applications should be submitted as soon as possible, but no later than March 30, 2019.
- Upon receipt of your application, you will receive an email to set up an interview.
- Acceptances will be given on first come basis with priority to LFS parishioners.
- Once accepted, a \$200 deposit will be required. Deposit will be non-refundable after May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Cost

- \$ 600 ALL INCLUSIVE— housing, meals, subway/bus pass for the week, transportation by chartered bus there and back, and all fees for activities and excursions. (The only out-of-pocket expenses would be for any snacks/souvenirs purchased separately)
- Need-based scholarship may be available: *Financial hardship should not exclude any interested student from applying. Please contact Fr. Lewis if you need financial assistance.*

Basic Itinerary (*not set in stone; expect slight variations*)

Sunday, June 23

- 9:00 am Sunday Mass
- 10:30 am departure by chartered bus from Little Flower School
- 3:00 pm arrival NYC, San Damiano Retreat House
- Dinner
- Orientation/ evening activity

TYPICAL DAY's ITINERARY (Monday – Thursday)

- 6:30 am Wake up
- 7:00 am Breakfast and group prayer
- 8:00 am Depart with assigned group to service sites
- 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Service work (lunch at sites)
- 2:30 pm Return to Retreat House or continue to NYC excursion
- Most days will allow free time or group outing/sightseeing
- Evenings will include Dinner (kitchen duty), Mass, Community Sharing/Reflection and fun time!
- 11:00 pm Lights Out

Friday, June 28

- Group cleanup of facility
- Early afternoon departure back to D.C.
- Return by chartered bus to Little Flower between 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm

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**APPLICATION**

**STUDENT INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Nickname (if preferred): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish your family is registered with: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION**

Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address if different than student:

\_\_\_\_\_

Address if different than student:

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be interested in attending as chaperone: Y N

Would you be interested in attending as a chaperone: Y N

**Signature of parent/legal guardian granting permission to apply:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**REFERENCES: Please list two non-family members who could recommend you for this trip.**

Reference 1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Reference 2 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please submit your application by March 30, 2019 by mail or online**

**Please respond briefly to the following questions. Attach an additional sheet if necessary.**

Why do you want to go on this trip?

What do you hope to gain from this experience?

Please describe any previous volunteer work you've done

What do you like/not like about your past work?

What gifts, qualities or talents do you have that you feel will contribute to this trip?

Do you have any allergies or other needs which will need to be accommodated during the trip?