

Revised 4/27/2008

Local World Youth Day-FAQs

What is a pilgrimage?

In religion and spirituality, a pilgrimage is a long journey or search of great moral significance. Sometimes, it is a journey to a sacred place or shrine of importance to a person's beliefs and faith. Members of every major religion participate in pilgrimages. A person who makes such a journey is called a pilgrim.

www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pilgrimage

1. A journey to a sacred place or shrine.
2. A long journey or search, especially one of exalted purpose or moral significance.
- *The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, 4th Edition*

How far will the Local WYD pilgrimage be? Will it be safe?

Pilgrims will walk approximately **4 miles** from St. Jude's in Chalfont to The Shrine of Our Lady of Czestowchowa. As with any organized walk or race, permits have been obtained from PENNDOT for the route. **Police** will be at the front leading and another officer will be following. **Volunteers will be along the route to assist & water will be available as well.** Once at the Shrine the event area will be enclosed by security fencing and **IDs will be checked** at the gate entrance. Security will be patrolling the area at all times during the entire event. **A nurse and/or EMT will be on stand-by at all times during the entire event.**

Are we really "Sleeping Under the Stars"? Even if it rains?

YES...in fact we will be **outside for the entire event RAIN or SHINE** with the exception of Adoration & Benediction which will be in the Church. The main stage will be in the outdoor covered Pavilion. The sleeping areas are big open fields and will be divided into male & female sections. In case of extreme weather conditions an alternate plan will be put in place.

Can we wear Group T-shirts?

Absolutely!!! **Groups are encouraged to wear spirit wear** -anything that has your groups logo, name etc., especially T-shirts that identifies their group (so you can find your fellow pilgrims-Be bright & creative!!!).

Will we need to get dressed up for Mass?

Appropriate casual is the dress code (see packing list) for the entire event. We strongly recommend that you do not bring a change of clothes to assist in lightening your backpack. Plan on wearing what you have on when you arrive until your return home. You will NOT need to be "dressed up" for Mass.

What are trading items? Can we bring trading items?

Absolutely!!! **Trading items are something that you use to meet other pilgrims** that perhaps can help them learn more about your group, parish, school, and the neighborhood where you live. Some examples would be:

- St. John of the Cross Youth Group - wooden crosses
- St. Peter's Soccer team - soccer stickers
- St. Joseph- Hanover, PA - Utz chips
- St. Joan of Arc - Hershey, PA -Hershey Kisses

What about group flags?

We encourage groups to be creative & make a single rod/pole flag that can help keep the group together along the route. The flag can tell a story about your group, parish, or school. It will also be used to place in the ground & to identify your group campsite. **If both males & females are coming then make sure to bring 2 flags as there are separate male & female sleep sites.**

What to include on the flag? Here are some suggestions:

- Name of parish/school/group
- Picture, drawing, logo of the parish/school/group
- Location of parish/school/group
- Year the parish/school/group was established
- How/Why the parish/school/group name was chosen
 - Important information about the patron of the parish/school/group
- Optional facts & information about the parish/school/group
 - Relics
 - Historical events and changes
 - Annual events
 - Special projects

Can individuals register?

Everyone needs to register with a **chaperoned group**: School, CCD/PREP, Parish, Youth Group, Scouts, CYO/sports team, Family. If you do not have a group please contact Kerri: kbernato@adphila.org & we will locate a group for you.