

October 30, 2017

Re: Fifth Annual Ros-a-Ree Retreat / Camp Out



Dear Scout Leader,

The Diocese of Joliet Catholic Committee on Scouting in conjunction with the Diocesan Scouts of Venture Crew 3:16 invites your American Heritage Girl Unit, Boy Scout Troop, Camp Fire Youth, Girl Scout Troop, or Venture Crew to attend the Annual Ros-a-Ree Retreat / Camp Out event on **August 10 - 12, 2018**.

The Ros-a-Ree will be a retreat that is spiritually enriching and a FUN filled weekend. Our theme is 'Catholicism - the Highest Adventure' and the focus will be on comparing our Catholic faith and the values of Scouting. The program will feature engaging speakers, prayer, activities, worship, entertainment, fellowship, and fun!

Below are some bulleted points of things to know about the event and the two pages that follow expand on those bullets to help answer any questions you might have.

- **It is required that ALL attendees will stay for the duration of the event and participate in ALL activities (this includes adults).**
- Participants who are attending must also be **entering the 6th grade (or higher) in the Fall.**
- Participants may attend as a unit or individually, but they must have an adult that is responsible for them (a parent or guardian if attending individually).
- We cannot accommodate walk-in registration. Be sure to pre-register your unit as soon as possible.
- Registration is **limited to 150 individuals** on a first come, first serve basis! Space is restricted, so do not delay in mailing in your forms!
- Registration forms for 2018 will be available by Dec 1 (or earlier) on the Diocese Scouting website:
www.dioceseofjoliet.org/scouting/sectioncontent.php?secid=19
- If **ALL** of your **COMPLETED Registration Forms AND Payment are RECEIVED** by July 15, 2018, there is an **Early Bird Discount**, and the registration fee is only \$30!
- All properly filled out forms **MUST be RECEIVED BEFORE August 1, 2018.**
- We will be providing the food and dinnerware (Note: **Friday Night's meal is on your own**, but there will be a cracker barrel later in the evening). Bring additional snacks if you need them, but Troops should not bring cooking gear or a dining fly. **Each attendee MUST have a water bottle!**
- When ordering T-Shirts, remember that they tend to run small. You may want to order a size larger than normal, and if it is big, the youth can grow into it! T-Shirts will be worn on Saturday – Your organization's field uniform (aka Class A) will also not be needed until Saturday.
- **If you attended last year – bring your totem and rosary with you!** There will be new beads to earn, but only NEW attendees will receive a totem.
- Check the *Individual Registration Form for Diocese of Joliet Ros-a-Ree Retreat / Camp Out* form for a list of Additional items to bring.
- Plan your arrival to allow enough time to have your personal or troop tent setup, gear stored, and **be on time for the Opening at 7:30pm**. Arrive AFTER 5pm on Friday for registration. Sunday, we will be done around 11am. You can pack up your gear after that.

Expanded Information About the Ros-a-Ree

(in Complete Sentences to Expand on the Bullets)

For more information, call us at: 815-834-4012 or

Email us at: jolietcatholicscouts@gmail.com

It is required that **ALL** attendees will stay for the duration of the event and participate in **ALL** activities (this includes adults who will be setting the example for the youth). Some evening events are scheduled for times that may be considered 'bedtime' by our younger, (and at times older), attendees. Those events will be marked 'optional' on the schedule and attendance for those events **ONLY** will not be required (but are highly encouraged).

Participants who are attending must also be **entering the 6th grade (or higher) in the Fall**. No exceptions can be made (this includes siblings).

Participants may attend as a unit or individually, but they must have an adult that is responsible for them, or a parent or guardian if attending individually. We will be guests on the grounds of St. Mary's and as such, we expect all adults/leaders to supervise the youth in their charge and keep them from wandering. We have a VERY full retreat schedule. Everyone is expected to be on time for all events so that we can stay on schedule.

We cannot accommodate walk-in registration. Be sure to pre-register yourself or your unit as soon as possible to reserve a spot.

Registration is limited to 150 individuals on a first come, first serve basis! Do not wait until the last minute to send in your forms, as we do not want to turn you away.

Registration forms will be on the Diocese Scouting website by December 1, 2018. All registration form packets (youth and/or adult) **MUST** be accompanied with payment using the Individual / Group Payment Form. Note that all forms may be found on the Diocese Scouting website.

www.dioceseofjoliet.org/scouting/sectioncontent.php?secid=19

The \$45 registration fee covers all meals and activities. However, if **ALL** of your **COMPLETED Registration Forms AND Payment are RECEIVED** by July 15, 2018, there is an **Early Bird Discount**, and the registration fee is **ONLY \$30 per person!**

Before sending in your forms, be sure you have obtained all the proper signatures, filled out the forms completely, and enclosed payment. All properly filled out forms **MUST be RECEIVED before August 1, 2018.**

Please Note: To adhere to 'Protecting God's Children' requirements, there are multiple registration form pages for **each** attendee to fill out and sign. Please be sure to download the forms that match your status (Youth or Adult). At the bottom of the first page of each packet are instructions as to what you will need to fill out. **Include an Individual / Group Payment Form** with each set of registration forms sent.

We will be providing the food and dinnerware (Note: Friday Night's meal is on your own, but there will be a cracker barrel later in the evening). If you or someone in your group needs additional snacks, please bring them with you. Also, if someone has dietary needs, note that on their registration forms.

Dining Fly's and Cooking Equipment should be left at home. All Troops are **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** to bring only what is necessary as there will not be time for cooking or eating as a Troop. Additional gear only leads to additional clean up and leaves less room for tents.

If you attended last year – remember to bring your totem & rosary with you! There will be new beads for you to earn and add to last year's totem. Only NEW attendees will receive a totem. All others need to bring theirs and their rosaries. If you have lost yours, you can purchase one or the other at the Ros-a-Ree.

Be sure to check the *Individual Registration Form for Diocese of Joliet Ros-a-Ree Retreat / Camp Out* form for a **list of Additional items to bring (besides the usual items for a weekend camp out)**. Those items are located just below the 'When,' 'Where,' & 'Cost' boxes.

We will **begin the program PROMPTLY at 7:30pm** so please plan enough travel time to arrive, set up your own personal tent (or Troop tent as we cannot provide tents), and attend the opening at 7:30pm on Friday evening. Staff will be unavailable to check you in prior to 5pm, so please arrive **no earlier than 5pm** on Friday, to check-in and register. The retreat will conclude on Sunday, around 11am.

Campers should bring a tent, sleeping bag, personal hygiene gear, clothing, rain gear, **water bottle** (kept on their person at ALL TIMES), folding chair, sunscreen, insect repellent, and any other necessary personal items such as snacks, retainers, medicine, etc... Leave the electronics, footballs, Frisbees, board games, card games, etc... at home, as there will not be time for you to use them.

T-Shirts tend to run small. You may want to order a size larger than normal, and if it is big, the youth can grow into it! **Note that T-Shirts will not need to be worn until Saturday – Your organization's field uniform (aka Class A) will also not be needed until Saturday. Feel free to arrive in your troop's activity shirt (aka Class B) or even better – any T-Shirt from a past Ros-a-Ree for use on Friday evening!**

Even if you do not plan to attend, please distribute the flyers to your scouts and parents. Please **do not** contact St. Mary's for information on the event as they are lending us their facilities but are **NOT** running the event and will have to refer you to us. For more information, call us at 815-834-4012 or email us at jolietcatholicscouts@gmail.com

Remember that this is a retreat first and camp out second. Electronic games, board games, baseballs, etc... should be left at home, as we will be in the presence of God all weekend. Non-Catholics are welcome to attend but should know ahead of time that there will not be a Non-Catholic program offered and they too will be expected to participate reverently in all events.

Yours in Christ,

The Catholic Committee on Scouting, Diocese of Joliet and Venture Crew 3:16

Website: www.dioceseofjoliet.org/scouting

Phone: 815-834-4012 or

E-Mail: jolietcatholicscouts@gmail.com

Your Feedback is Important to Us and a Gift!

After the Event, Please Take a **VERY** Brief Survey to Help Us Improve!

The Survey Can be Accessed at:

www.surveymonkey.com/s/W3T6PRH