

STEUBENVILLE ROCHESTER

“See what love the Father has bestowed on us, that we may be called children of God.” – 1 John 3:1

Steubenville/Rochester - Youth Conference July 12-14, 2019

Dear students and parents,

Once again this year, we are planning to take a group of youth from our churches to the Steubenville Youth Conference in Rochester, Minnesota the weekend of July 12-14, 2019 to experience in a unique way the awesome power of God! I would like to take this opportunity to invite all current 8th-12th Graders to take part in this exciting opportunity to celebrate your Catholic faith with hundreds of Catholic youth from around the country.

Yes, there will be music! Yes, there will be dancing! Yes, there will be lots of laughs! But a Steubenville Youth Conference is primarily an invitation to spiritual growth. For some, this means entering into a personal relationship with God for the first time. For others, it means a deeper and more mature acceptance of the Gospel and the Church, and a greater enthusiasm to be a witness for Jesus Christ.

The theme for this year is **Belong** - At the core of our being is a desire for meaningful connection and authentic relationship. We long to love and be loved, but how often do we just feel lonely? As we search for ways to escape these feelings of isolation, there comes a small, quiet whisper that pierces through to the depths of our heart: “You are never alone, because you are Mine.”

This conference weekend is about developing the gifts given to us at our Baptism and sealed at Confirmation. It’s about hearing dynamic speakers instruct and challenge teens in prayer, chastity, service, and the power of the Sacraments. It’s about finding that the Catholic faith is powerful, and certainly *not* boring! It’s about meeting hundreds of people on fire for the Lord: laughing, crying, talking, singing, praying, dancing, and being encouraged to take a stand for Christ. Find out on this exciting weekend what it means to say that God chose you from the beginning to be a saint!

More information and a pre-registration form are included. If you are interested in attending, please return this pre-registration form and \$50 non-refundable deposit by **Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2019** to ensure that we reserve enough spots before they fill up. For more information on Partnership for Youth and the Steubenville Conferences in general, check out their website:
<http://www.partnershipforyouth.org/steubenville-rochester/>

Sincerely,
Fr. Chris Shofner



What is Steubenville?

Steubenville | Rochester is a weekend conference that evangelizes, equips and empowers 8th-12th grade youth to become radical, joyful disciples. Enjoy keynote speakers, praise and worship, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, and much more. This year's Ministry Team includes: Father Joseph Espailat, Jason Evert, Katie Hartfiel, Nic Frank, Paul George, and Sonar!

Frequently asked questions:

Who can attend the Steubenville Conference? All current 8th-12th Graders are invited to participate in the Steubenville Conference.

When is the Steubenville Conference? Friday, July 12 to Sunday, July 14, 2019
We will leave from Le Center on Friday, July 12 around Noon and return on Sunday, July 14 mid-afternoon.

Where is the Steubenville Conference? At the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, Minnesota

Where will we stay? We will stay in one of the hotels near the Civic Center. The specific hotel will depend on the size of our group and the availability of rooms.

How much does it cost to attend? Registration fee is \$205 per person. Lodging is extra. The Conference has secured special rates with local hotels for two nights. This cost would be split among all who are sharing a room. We anticipate the total cost to be approximately \$275 per person. All participants will receive a free Conference T-shirt and other goodies!

When is the deadline to submit registration and fees? All fees must be paid in full by April 24, 2019.

Will there be financial assistance for those unable to afford the total cost? Yes! We want to provide every youth that wants to go the opportunity to attend the Steubenville Conference. We are asking that every attendee pay what they can. Contact Fr. Chris ASAP if you would like to apply for a scholarship and/or fundraising opportunity. Please don't let finances be a hindrance to deciding to attend this Conference.

Will the weekend be chaperoned? Yes. Once we know many are going, we'll have a better idea how many adult chaperones we need. We will need one gender-specific adult chaperone for every 8 youth of each gender that attend the Conference (i.e., one man for every 8 boys, one woman for every 8 girls). Any parent/relative/friend who is 21 or older can be a chaperone. Contact Fr. Chris or Jean if you are interested.

What do we do at a Steubenville Conference? A Steubenville Conference is packed with great speakers on important topics that matter to our faith. There is opportunity for discussion in small groups. There is the opportunity for Mass, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. There is lively entertainment, lots of music and dancing, and plenty of opportunity to spend time with friends and meet some new ones as well.

How do I sign up or get more information? Please fill out the enclosed pre-registration form, enclose a \$50 non-refundable deposit fee plus any payment, and return it to the Parish Office by Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2019 to ensure that we reserve enough spots before they fill up. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Fr. Chris or Jean at the Parish Office, by phone 507-357-4838, or by email fr.chris@hotmail.com, or jeanrb@frontier.com. Following your registration, you will receive 2 additional forms to sign and return (a liability form and a Code of Conduct).