



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION – DIOCESE OF WORCESTER

MARCH FOR LIFE – JANUARY 24, 2020

REGISTRATION FORMS (three types): (Download forms at www.worcesterdiocese.org/respect-life)

1. **Individual Registration Form** – to be filled out by those traveling alone or in small groups (includes adults not chaperoning students under age 18); also for families attending together who are not going as part of a parish or school group.
2. **Student Registration-Permission Form** – to be completed for each student, age 18 and younger, attending as part of a school or parish group. All students must be assigned to a chaperone. We recommend no more than 6 to 8 students per adult. (Students complete this form only; they do not need the individual registration form.) ***PLEASE NOTE: This form is 2 pages in length. When downloading forms, please print both pages, either back to back on one piece of paper, or if two separate pages, please staple securely.***
3. **Chaperone Registration Form** – to be completed by each adult attending with students from schools and/or parishes. **Note:** All chaperones must have a CORI form on file with the Office of Healing and Prevention and a signed copy of the Code of Ministerial Conduct on file with their school or parish. These forms are available from your school or parish.
4. ***If you are coordinating a group (school or parish), please be sure the GROUP LISTING FORM is included when you submit your registration forms and payments.***

COSTS and DEADLINES:

1. Please note there is a difference in price, with a \$15 savings for those whose registrations are postmarked by Dec. 31. Cost is \$80 per bus seat by Dec. 31. After Dec. 31, the cost is \$95 per seat.
2. Mail completed registration forms and payments to: Respect Life Office, 49 Elm St., Worcester, MA 01609. Checks may be made payable to *Respect Life Office*.
3. Reservations are accepted on a first-come first-served basis, and will continue to be accepted until bus seats are full, or by close of business day Monday, Jan. 13, whichever comes first. **Space is expected to fill up quickly! Register early!**
4. Payment must accompany registration. Seats are not guaranteed until registration forms and payment are received.
5. There are no refunds for cancellations (unless the trip is called off completely due to hazardous weather). It is recommended that in the event a participant has to cancel, they try and find someone to take their place.

GENERAL ITINERARY:

- **MASS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE OF BUSES.** Participants attend the Respect Life Mass at 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Cathedral on Thursday, Jan. 23. Anyone is welcome to attend the Mass whether or not they are attending the March for Life. There is a special blessing for those going on the March.
- **ARRIVE EARLY.** Those going on the bus trip should arrive at least 20 minutes before Mass. Any gear you are bringing on the trip can be left downstairs in the Cenacle. The Cenacle will be locked during Mass and you will have time to retrieve your belongings before boarding the buses. If you are travelling with a group, arrive early enough to check in with your group leader before Mass. Your group leader will tell you where to meet them for check-in.
- **WHICH BUS DO I BOARD?** Check your email regularly in the days leading up to the March. Assigned bus numbers will be emailed to you. In most cases we are usually able to keep groups together. Bus numbers will also be announced at the end of Mass as a reminder.



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- **DROP-OFF/PICK-UP.** It is helpful if attendees have someone who will drop them off and pick them up as area parking is at a premium. If it is absolutely necessary to park your car overnight, you must call St. Paul's Cathedral rectory in advance at (508)799-4193, to inquire whether parking arrangements are even possible. There are also two fee-for-parking garages at the bottom of High St. within walking distance of the Cathedral, which allow for overnight parking.
- **DEPARTURE.** Participants board buses immediately following the Mass. Buses will be parked outside the Cathedral. (*see Check-in before Mass, and Which bus do I board? above*)
- **WHAT TO BRING.** It is recommended that attendees bring enough spending money for meals and for the cost of the metro ride from the Basilica to the National Mall. Check the weather before you leave and be prepared to dress accordingly. You will be outside for several hours. You will not be able to leave valuables on the bus (non-valuable items such as pillows may be left). Travel light!
- **THE TRIP.** Buses will leave St. Paul's Cathedral following the 7:30 p.m. Mass (at approximately 8:30 p.m.), and travel to Washington, DC. Drivers will make a couple of stops at rest areas along the way. (Your bus captain or group leader will take attendance each time the bus re-boards.) Participants will be dropped off at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception early in the morning of Fri. Jan. 18 where our group will attend the 7:30 a.m. morning Mass together (this Mass is also televised live on EWTN). After Mass you will have some free time, during which many people like to tour the Shrine, get something to eat, etc., then take the metro over to the National Mall (there will be plenty of people to guide you in the right direction). The March for Life begins with a rally at noon at the National Mall. (Additional information about the March can be found at www.marchforlife.org). Following the March, which ends at the Supreme Court building, participants will board buses for the return trip. Buses will be a short walk away at Stanton Park (further instruction and maps will be provided on the bus so that you can find your way easily). Please be sure to board buses for the return trip promptly. Buses will arrive back at St. Paul's Cathedral somewhere between midnight and 1:00 a.m.

INFORMATION FOR PARISH AND SCHOOL GROUPS:

1. One chaperone is needed for every six to eight students.
2. **The Group Leader/March for Life coordinator is responsible for the following:**
 - a. Collect all registration forms and payments from attendees and safe environment forms for chaperones. **PLEASE NOTE:** *If your group includes more than a few people, it is preferable that you collect all payments first, then provide one check for the total to our office accompanied by the registration forms. If you anticipate a large group, you may need to include special instructions to your attendees to make checks out to your school or parish. You may wish to set earlier deadlines for your group (e.g., before Christmas vacation begins) so that you have everything you need to turn forms and payments in to the Respect Life Office on time.*
 - b. Return all forms and payment to the Respect Life Office by the appropriate deadline.
 - c. **Be sure to fill out the GROUP LISTING FORM** and return it **with** your group's registration form and payment.
 - d. Keep copies of all registration /permission forms for your records. Leave one copy at your school or parish and keep a list of your students' cell phone numbers, emergency contacts, and any other pertinent information your school or parish requires you to take with you.
 - e. Take attendance each time the bus is re-boarded after stops.
 - f. Be sure cell phone numbers are shared among those in your group.