

St. Mary Magdalen High School Mission Trip 2012

St. Louis, MO

Located on the banks of the Mississippi River, the city of St. Louis, Missouri offers an exciting mix of arts, entertainment and cultural attractions. The Gateway Arch serves as a distinctive symbol for the city, which welcomes millions of visitors each year. St. Louis is home to a diverse economy and population. While some residents enjoy many opportunities in the city, other residents struggle with poverty. These are the residents your group will have the chance to serve as you partner with local organizations to minister to the homeless, children and elderly populations of St. Louis.

Demographics

The Mississippi River serves as St. Louis' eastern border and separates the city from the state of Illinois. The city's famous Gateway Arch, built in the mid-1960s, commemorates the westward expansion of the United States in the 19th century. For this reason, St. Louis is often called the "Gateway to the West." St. Louis also is home to Forest Park, one of the largest urban parks in the world, covering nearly 1,300 acres. Today the city is home to 350,759 residents, primarily African-American (51 percent), Whites (43 percent) and Asians (2 percent). As is the case in many large cities, there are those who face poverty and homelessness. Between 1998 and 2001, the homeless population in St. Louis and surrounding areas increased by 69 percent. In total, 25.4 percent of St. Louis residents live below the poverty level, including 37.7 percent under age 18 and 17.5 percent age 65 or older. By volunteering your time in St. Louis, you can make a big difference. For a life-changing ministry experience, come to St. Louis!

About the Ministry

Participants serve in a variety of ways during a YouthWorks mission trip. Students may spend all week at one service site or switch between sites during the week. Our goal in partnering with local service organizations and programs is to address the very basic needs of residents. Students may serve at places like: Children's Programs, Elderly Centers, Soup Kitchens/Homeless Shelters and Thrift Stores. We cannot confirm until all groups arrive exactly what service opportunities your students will be a part of during the week. We ask that you come with a willing and flexible spirit!

Activities

Evening activities during a YouthWorks week are designed to give participants insight into the lives of local residents and the culture of the area. Here is a list of evening/cultural activities we have done in the past: visit the famous Gateway Arch; attend a local church service; relax in Forest Park; and attend a community cookout. These are examples of what your group might partake in during your mission week. These examples are subject to change due to weather or availability. In case of change, suitable substitutes will be provided. We try to arrange for free evening activities, but from time to time, an additional cost may be required for an activity. Please plan to bring an additional \$10 per person to cover any extra costs. We will confirm the details closer to your trip.

Registration ~ YOUTHWORKS 2012 ~ St. Louis, MO
July 8-13

Please note: You must have completed your freshman year of high school by June 2012 to be eligible to go on this trip.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

SCHOOL _____ GRADE _____

(Your) E-MAIL _____ BIRTHDAY _____

(Parent) EMAIL _____

THE ABOVE NAMED YOUTH HAS OUR/MY PERMISSION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE YOUTHWORKS TRIP TO St. Louis, Missouri FROM JULY 8 TO JULY 13, 2012.

WE/I UNDERSTAND THE TRIP WILL BE SUPERVISED BY THE PARISH YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR, MARY EVETT. TRANSPORTATION WILL BE VIA 15-PASSENGER VANS.

WE/I UNDERSTAND THE COST OF THE TRIP IS \$278 PER PERSON. WE/I UNDERSTAND THAT THERE WILL BE VARIOUS FUNDRAISERS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR THAT PARTICIPANTS MAY UTILIZE TO LOWER THE COST OF THIS TRIP.

WE/I UNDERSTAND THAT WE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING THE ABOVE NAMED WITH POCKET MONEY FOR MEALS ON THE TRIP THERE AND THE RETURN TRIP HOME AS WELL AS (POTENTIALLY) AN ADDITIONAL \$10 FOR RECREATION FEES.

WE/I UNDERSTAND THAT **A \$60 DEPOSIT IS DUE WITH THIS REGISTRATION FORM TO HOLD A SPOT ON THE TRIP.** WE/I UNDERSTAND THAT THE FIRST 38 PARTICIPANTS TO RETURN THIS FORM, THEIR DEPOSIT MONEY, AND THE TWO SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO GO. ALL OTHERS WILL BE PLACED ON A WAITING LIST.

THE BALANCE OF THE COST FOR THE TRIP WILL BE DUE NO LATER THAN MAY 1, 2011. CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO ST. MARY MAGDALEN WITH YOUTH MISSION TRIP ON THE MEMO LINE.

WE/I UNDERSTAND THAT ONCE REGISTERED WE ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE COST OF THE TRIP AND THAT REFUNDS FOR CANCELLATION CAN BE MADE ONLY UNTIL FEBRUARY 1, 2012

AFTER FEBRUARY 1, NO REFUND CAN BE MADE UNLESS ANOTHER STUDENT CAN BE FOUND TO GO IN THE PLACE OF OUR/MY SON/DAUGHTER.

IN CONSIDERATION OF OUR/MY SON/DAUGHTER PARTICIPATING IN THIS EVENT, WE/I AGREE TO WAIVE AND RELEASE, IDEMNIFY, AND HOLD HARMLESS ST. MARY MAGDALEN PARISH, ITS EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, REPRESENTITIVES, VOLUNTEERS, AND DRIVERS FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS WE/I OR MY/OUR SON/DAUGHTER MAY HAVE, EXCLUDING CLAIMS FOR INTENTIONAL MISCONDUCT OR GROSS NEGLIGENCE, ARISING FROM OR RELATING TO OUR/MY SON/DAUGHTER'S PARTICIPATION IN THIS EVENT. WE/I AUTHORIZE ST. MARY MAGDALEN TO OBTAIN NECESSARY MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR OUR/MY YOUTH IN CASE OF ILLNESS, INJURY, OR ACCIDENT.

AT LEAST ONE PARENT/GUARDIAN SHOULD SIGN BELOW

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent Guardian Signature

Date

Reflection Question

In what way do I hope to grow personally from this experience?

What would I like the people I will serve with to know about me?

What would I like the people in St. Louis that I will serve to know about God?

Without words, How can I help them to see this?

Although Deadline for registration is February 1, 2012, please be aware that spots fill up quickly. Forms and \$60 deposit money may be turned in to Mary Evett or to the Parish office. Spots cannot be reserved without both the form and deposit.

If there is financial hardship please speak to Mary Evett to make arrangements.

Some assistance is available.

Thank you!