Summer Mission 2027
Informational Sheet

What agency will we be using for our Mission experience?: Catholic Mission Trips in Kentucky

What is Catholic Mission Trips?:
Catholic Mission Trips is more than just a week of doing service. It is a year round service opportunity serving in specific communities in need. We will get to join their missionaries for a week long service experience. Catholic Mission Trips is Service Oriented, Formational, Sacramental, Relational, Christ-Centered, and Spirit-Led.

Service Possibilities:
Each day will be spent responding to the specific needs of the community, focusing on the Corporal Works of Mercy, including disaster relief, building projects for the poor, feeding the homeless, community outreach for the elderly and visiting orphaned children. You do not need to be an experienced carpenter or painter to participate.

How do Mission Trips Work?:
Preparation begins in November, with five preparation sessions. Work projects commence right after breakfast on Tuesday morning. We will likely be the only group there this week. Lodging arrangements have been made with a local school. Our group will room together by gender, and teens will shower and dress in the locker rooms. Each day begins with daily Mass and ends with a program of games, music, witness and prayer.

Who can go?:
Anyone who is in 8th Grade or High School this year and participating in STORM Youth Ministry. We will have to limit the number and there is an application to fill out that must be returned with the deposit (non-refundable if you are chosen to go) by November 15, 2026 to Jennifer Olson. Priority will be given to those people who are active in STORM. Everyone going must attend at least one of the Retreats this year and make a commitment to be at all of the Preparation Sessions mostly from 7:00-9:00 pm: Wednesday, January 13 - teens from 6-8 pm and parent(s) at 8pm, Thursday, February 4 – teens, Monday, April 12 – teens, Tuesday, May 4 - teens, and Monday, May 24 - teens and parent(s). Please request off of work.

Where and When are we going?:
We are going to Catholic Mission Trips in Cumberland, Kentucky. We are planning our trip to begin on Sunday, June 13, 2027 and to end on Saturday, June 19, 2027. We are considering a free day activity of rafting at the beginning of the trip and possibly something on the way home.

What are the costs?:
We are going to ask participants to contribute $275 and to get sponsors for another $100 (if you choose not to get sponsors, you pay $375). The actual cost of the Mission Trip is $475 per person. Add to this the cost of chaperones, van rental, gas, and meals along the way and the cost of the trip is approximately $900. We will be doing group and individual fund-raising to offset the cost of the trip and participants will be required to help with this. This will include service to our Parishioners for a donation. An initial deposit of $100 (non-refundable if you are chosen to go) is due by Sunday, November 15, 2026. **Please turn this in earlier if possible, because we have a Trivia Night in early November and need to know who is helping. Helping with the Trivia Night Fundraisers will reduce your fee by $50 for each one (November 7 & February 6).** Two additional payments (or the fundraised money) of $100 and $175 will be due January 15 and March 15. The estimate of $375 is based on the assumption that you will work 6-8 Mass Fundraisers, attend all 4 teen preparation meetings, and attend both car washes. If you don't help with this fundraising, your fee will be higher. If you know you can't make something, for example the summer car wash, you can work extra service fundraisers to make up the difference, or you can just pay the extra. We may add in a couple of individual fundraisers. Sponsorships is another great option for individual fundraising. You can send out letters to friends and family asking them to sponsor you. The money they send is a donation and will offset the cost of your trip. I have an example letter and forms if you want to participate in this. These individual fundraisers can reduce your fee below the $375 minimum or can decrease your fee if you aren't able to do all the fundraisers. Several participants fundraised their entire fee in past years. **We do not want money to be the reason someone doesn't participate! If money is an issue, contact me and we can see if we can find you a sponsor and find you some extra fundraising opportunities!**



Our Whole Group at Jerusalem Farm 2026



Removing a Giant Tree



Painting a House



Prayer at Jerusalem Farm



Painting Inside a House



Installing Siding



Helping out in the Kitchen



A Group in front of the
House We Helped to Build



Skit During Community Night



Free Time Playing Games



Our Group at the State Capital



Dinner



At the City Museum on the Way Home



Recreation Night at the Pool

Application To Participate In the Summer Mission Trip

If you decide that you are interested in participating in the trip, please complete this application and return it with your $100 deposit (non-refundable if you are chosen to go) to Jennifer Olson by Sunday, November 15, 2026. Priority will be given to those who are active in STORM.
It is to your advantage to turn them in early to guarantee a spot.
We have a limited number of spaces available, so please turn your information in as soon as possible.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ E-mail: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Male Female (Circle)

Current School & Year: _____

Parent's Name(s): _____

1. Have you participated in a Mission Trip before? When & Where?
   Why are you interested in participating in the Summer Mission Trip?
   What do you hope to get out of the experience?

2. What do you wish to share with the people you encounter on the Mission Trip?
   What skills and/or gifts do you possess that may be helpful on a trip of this kind?

3. Do you have any allergies or medical conditions? Please list them.

Commitment
I understand the nature of this Mission Trip experience. I agree to cooperate with the Joliet Diocese Code of Behavior and to be financially responsible for the cost of the Mission Trip and to help with all fund-raising. I understand if I do not help with fundraising, I will have to pay more. I am also willing to participate in the formation meetings to prepare for our trip that will occur in the months prior to our departure in June 2027.

Signature of Participant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent: _____ Date: _____