

Dear High School Youth and families,

St. Christopher Youth Ministry would like to share with you some information about one of the most exciting events of the year. Every year the Department of Youth & Young Adult Ministry of the Diocese of Buffalo sponsors a Youth Convention. The dates for this year's event are March 2-4, 2018 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Buffalo. The theme is "*True Story!*" The weekend is a time for praying, learning, socializing, building friendships, and growing in faith. It is a great time to celebrate the unity of the young Church in Buffalo. We believe that our youth will grow spiritually and intellectually from this experience.

We know that the Convention makes an impact on young people, we've seen it year after year. On the back of this letter is an itinerary of the weekend. We are happy to answer any questions regarding the Convention at one of our upcoming events:

Sunday Dec 10, 10:15am TeenTalk in the Hospitality Room  
Monday Dec 18, 7-9pm Advent Party in the St. Edmund Youth Room  
Sunday Jan 14, 10:15am TeenTalk in the Hospitality Room

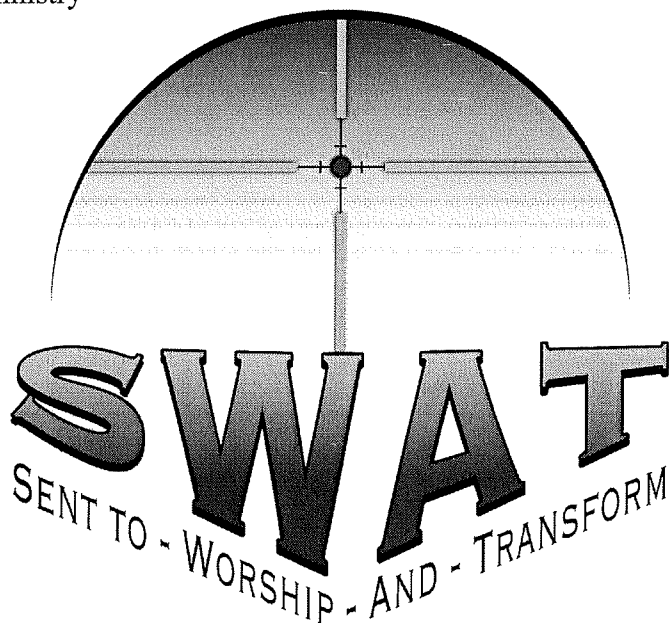
Parents and youth are welcome to attend any of these events or email [youth@saintchris.org](mailto:youth@saintchris.org) with any questions. You may also find additional information on the Diocesan website, [www.buffalodiocese.org](http://www.buffalodiocese.org).

The cost of the Convention is \$180.00 per participant. Partial packages are also available at a lower cost. The deadline for registration is January 21, 2018 and the fee must be paid at that time. Checks may be made payable to St. Christopher Parish.

We believe the Convention experience is worthwhile for our youth. We look forward to sharing this special weekend with your son/daughter. If you have any questions, you may reach us at [youth@saintchris.org](mailto:youth@saintchris.org). Thank you for your time.

May God continue to bless you and your family!

St. Christopher Youth Ministry



## 2018 Diocesan Youth Convention – Schedule – FINAL

### FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2018

4:30 – 6:30 PM **Registration** at the Adam's Mark Hotel

6:00 – 7:00 PM **Expo!** Gather with old friends and meet some new ones while you check out the games, prayer spaces, service projects, exhibits and activities!

7:00 – 7:30 PM **Praise & Worship:** Gather and praise our God in song!

7:30 – 8:10 PM **Opening Session:** welcome, prayer, introduction of theme and main keynote speaker (Doug Took)

8:20 – 8:50 PM **Small Group Session #1** (Getting to know one another session)

9:00 – 9:30 PM **Keynote #1** - "Encounter the Truth ... and Truth is a Person" (Doug Tooke and Sterling Jaquith)

9:30 – 10:00 PM **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

□ At 10 PM, presider processes with Blessed Sacrament to Prayer Chapel; those who desire more time in prayer with the Eucharist may join in procession to Chapel.

10:00 – 11:00 PM **More Expo!**

11:00 PM Return to hotel rooms

11:10 PM **Group Leader Meeting:** Gather for prayer, reminders, and instructions for room checks.

11:30 PM **Curfew** followed by **Room Check and Lights Out**

### SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2018

8:00 – 8:45 AM Morning Mass – optional

8:45 – 9:00 AM **Praise & Worship**

9:00 - 10:00 AM **Morning Session:** morning prayer, Keynote #2 – "Live the Truth" (Doug)

10:15 – 10:45 AM **Small Group Session #2**

11:00 AM–12:00 PM **Breakout Sessions:** youth sessions and adult session

12:00 – 1:00 PM **Lunch**

1:00 – 1:45 PM **Afternoon Session:** praise & worship, Keynote #3 – "Live the Truth" (Sterling)

2:00 – 2:30 PM **Small Group Session #3**

2:45 – 4:00 PM **Mega-Sessions**

□ Sessions based on 3 movements of theme:

o Encounter the Truth (Encounter Jesus)

o Live the Truth (Live like Jesus)

o Share the Truth (Share Jesus)

4:00 – 6:45 PM **Parish Dinner Time**

6:45 – 7:00 PM **Gathering / Praise & Worship**

7:00 – 9:00 PM **Evening Activities:**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**Parish Prayer Time**

9:00 – 11:30 PM **Saturday Night Social:** Dance and Expo!

11:30 PM **Night prayer;** return to hotel rooms

11:40 PM **Group Leader Meeting:** Gather for prayer, reminders, and instructions for room checks.

12:00 AM **Curfew** followed by **Room Check and Lights Out**

### SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2018

8:30 – 9:30 AM **Check-out** of Hotel Rooms

9:30 – 10:30 AM **Brunch** for Convention Participants

10:30 AM–11:45 AM **Final Session:** presentation of Manus Christi Awards, Keynote #4 – "Share the Truth" (Doug and Sterling)

12:00 – 12:30 PM **Small Group Session #4**

12:45 – 2:15 PM **Liturgy with Bishop Malone**

2:15 PM **Closing of Convention**

# 2018 Diocesan Youth Convention

## YOUTH Registration Form

Form Due to (Group Leader Name) Stephanie Caruso By Jan 21, 2018  
 Parish Name St. Christopher Location Tonawanda

Please print name as you want it to appear on your name badge:

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Gender:  Male  Female

Year in School:  9<sup>th</sup>  10<sup>th</sup>  11<sup>th</sup>  12<sup>th</sup>

Are you trained & commissioned as a Special Minister of Holy Communion?  Yes  No

Any special needs (dietary, mobility, etc.)?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Please note your choice of which Breakout Session you plan to attend in Round A:

Breakout Selection \_\_\_\_\_

	Package Description	Cost	Total Due
H	<b>Youth Complete Package:</b> includes 2 nights at hotel, all conference sessions, 2 meals and 2 socials	\$180	
A	<b>Friday Only:</b> General Session, Opening Keynote, Small Group Time, Adoration, & Expo	\$25	
B	<b>Saturday All Day:</b> Two Keynote, Small Group Time, Breakouts, Lunch, Mega Sessions, Reconciliation/Parish Prayer Time, & Social (Dance & Expo)	\$75	
C	<b>Saturday Daytime:</b> Two Keynotes, Small Group Time, Breakouts, Lunch & Mega Sessions	\$50	
D	<b>Saturday Luncheon</b>	\$20	
E	<b>Sunday Brunch</b>	\$20	
F	<b>Saturday Evening:</b> Reconciliation/Adoration, Small Groups & Social (Dance & Expo)	\$20	
NOTE: Scholarships are available. Please see Group Leader for Details.			
Total Due			

NOTE: To complete your registration, you must also submit a completed Permission Form with payment to the Group Leader.

### Stay in the loop about coming youth events!

Join our department's Remind messaging group, YoungFaithWNY:

To join, text @youngfaith to 81010.

If you wish to receive messages via email, remind.com to sign up.

See the health and permission form for more details about Remind.

T-shirt size (Adult sizes): \_\_\_\_\_

Due Date: January 26, 2018  
Mail To: Department of Youth & Young Adult Ministry  
795 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14203-1250

Parish St. Christopher  
Location Tonawanda  
Group Leader Stephanie Caruso

Please Note: DO NOT fax or email this form. We must have the signed original.

## 2018 Diocesan Youth Convention Permission Slip for NON-HOTEL Participants

Youth Participant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: Male Female Parish \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parent or Legal Guardian:

Your son/daughter/legal guardianship is eligible to participate in the Diocesan Youth Convention at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Buffalo, NY on March 2-4, 2018, sponsored by the Department of Youth & Young Adult Ministry of the Diocese of Buffalo. Your child has chosen to attend only a portion of this event:

List day(s) and times of attendance \_\_\_\_\_

Transportation must be arranged by your family and/or the parish/school group with whom your child is attending (named above). This activity will take place under the guidance and supervision of volunteers and employees of the Diocese of Buffalo, its parishes, schools and institutions. If you would like your child to participate in this event, please complete, sign and return the following statement of consent and release of liability.

**RELEASE OF LIABILITY:** I have familiarized myself with the Diocesan Youth Convention program. I recognize and acknowledge that there are risks in my child's presence and participation in the Diocesan Youth Convention weekend at the Adam's Mark Hotel on March 2-4, 2018. I agree to indemnify, hold harmless, waive and relinquish all claims I may have against the Diocese of Buffalo, its parishes, schools and institutions, including any negligence claims on their part and its officers, agents, employees, representatives or volunteers arising out of the transportation to and / or from the Convention, or in connection with any claims arising out of or caused by any activity my child participates in while at the event. I understand that as a parent or legal guardian, I remain fully responsible for any legal responsibility that may result from actions taken by my child.

**MEDICAL RELEASE:** In signing this form, I hereby certify that the medical information provided below is correct and give permission for the release of medical records to an attending physician in case of emergency illness. My permission is hereby given to the representatives of the parish/school named above and the Diocese of Buffalo to authorize by his/her signature, whatever medical or surgical treatment may be considered necessary or advisable by the physician or nurse in attendance in the event of an accident or medical emergency in which the parent or guardian cannot be reached. It is understood that every attempt to reach the parent or guardian will be made. If the physician listed below cannot respond, I authorize any licensed physician or medical center to treat the participant designated above.

**MEDIA RELEASE:** I give permission for photographs or video of program participants including my child to be used in publications, web sites, brochures, flyers, social networking or other promotional materials produced from time to time by the Department of Youth & Young Adult Ministry and the Diocese of Buffalo. I acknowledge that radio stations, television stations, newspapers and web sites occasionally cover Department activities and may request an interview with my child. I give permission to the parish/school, the diocese and all print, radio, television and Internet media outlets to use the images, voices and words of my child without any limitation or restriction, and with no financial compensation, for the purpose of promoting the parish/school, Department of Youth & Young Adult Ministry and Diocese of Buffalo related events. In the case of the Western New York Catholic and Daybreak TV Productions, both of the Diocese of Buffalo, I give permission to use the images, voices and words at any time.

**MESSAGE SERVICE:** I understand that the Department uses the "Remind" service to stay in touch with program participants. Remind is a free service that allows participants to receive quick messages by text, push notification, or email. Remind is also a confidential service. By enrolling in Remind, participants do not reveal personal contact information to us. More information regarding Remind can be found online at <https://www.remind.com/terms-of-service>. I give permission for my child to enroll in Remind and receive notifications from the Department. If I wish to have my child opt out of this opportunity to enroll with Remind, I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to communicate that to my child prior to the Convention.

**CONVENTION RULES:** I have discussed the Convention rules as stated on the reverse side of this page with my child, and we agree to follow, uphold and promote these guidelines. We both realize that any serious infraction of the rules will result in immediate dismissal from the Convention, with no refund of registration fees. I will be responsible for providing immediate transportation home. I understand that the diocesan staff, in conjunction with the group leader named above and all other adult chaperones at the Convention, have full authority for enforcing the rules and making decisions for the good of the entire group. I will accept and support your decisions.

### IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY I CAN BE REACHED AT:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Relative/Neighbor \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Physician \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please list medications (and dosage) currently taken:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please list any allergies to medications or other allergies:

\_\_\_\_\_

# 2018 Diocesan Youth Convention

## Convention Rules and Regulations for NON-HOTEL Participants

1. **RESPECT OTHERS:** You represent the Catholic Church, your parish/school and your family, and are expected to show Christian consideration, kindness, sensitivity and respect for the people and property around you.
2. **BEHAVE AND DRESS MODESTLY:** All participants are expected to behave in a manner appropriate for Catholic Christian young people throughout the weekend. This includes making appropriate and modest choices in clothing, words, and actions, and is expected at all time during the Convention—during sessions, during social times (including on the dance floor), and in hotel rooms. No physical abuse of self or others, no bullying, and no fighting of any kind will be permitted. The following dress code must be followed throughout the Convention:
  1. No clothing containing words or symbols that are profane, suggestive or promote cigarettes, drugs, or alcohol.
  2. Sweaters, shirts, and dresses must cover the stomach/midriff.
  3. Extremely low-rise jeans or slacks (or clothing that is rolled down to reveal areas below the waist) are not appropriate.
  4. Skirts, dresses, and shorts/skorts must be an appropriate length, no higher than the bottom of your fingertips when your arms are at your sides.
  5. Dresses or skirts should be appropriate in length and style and should not be revealing.
3. **DO NOT BRING OR USE BANNED SUBSTANCES AND ITEMS:** Illegal drugs (including prescription drugs being misused), alcohol, tobacco products and weapons of any kind are not to be brought to the Convention or used at any time during the Convention weekend. Violators will be sent home. Anyone who is present at the time of the violation is also subject to dismissal from the Convention.
4. **WEAR CREDENTIALS:** All participants must wear their own name badge and wristband (if staying at the hotel for the weekend) at all times. Lost name badges or wristbands should be reported to your group leader immediately. A replacement fee of \$5 will be charged for those missing credentials.
5. **ATTEND AND BE ON TIME:** All participants must attend all Convention activities and are expected to be on time for all activities. Any illness or injury should be reported to your group leader, and then to a Department of Youth & Young Adult Ministry staff member or Security Team member. If you will be leaving the premises and missing any part of the Convention weekend, your group leader must check you in and out with Convention security.
6. **PAY ATTENTION RESPECTFULLY:** All participants are expected to pay attention during gathered sessions, and to eliminate distractions, including cell phones and other electronic devices. Cell phones must be turned OFF during ALL gathered Convention activities, including prayer times, meals, general sessions, breakouts and liturgy. Phone conversations and texting are not allowed during these activities.
7. **NO VISITING ROOMS:** Participants who are not staying overnight MAY NOT visit in sleeping rooms in the hotel.
8. **BE RESPECTFUL HOTEL GUESTS:** The customary rules of consideration and kindness when in a hotel are to be observed at all times. We are guests of the hotel and act as guests of a very gracious host.
  1. We are not the only ones occupying the hotel; treat other outside guests respectfully at all times.
  2. Read all of the directions regarding fire safety, and make sure you know the location of all emergency exits.
  3. There is no need to bring large amounts of money or valuable items (jewelry, electronics, etc.) with you. Remember, the hotel assumes no responsibility for lost or stolen articles.
9. **OBEY AND HELP CHAPERONES:** All youth participants are expected to respect, obey and cooperate with the directions of all chaperones (adults and junior advisors), volunteers, Security Team and diocesan staff. You must also report any problems, suspicions, or observed infractions of the Convention rules to one of these adults immediately.

**CONSEQUENCES:** Any serious infraction of the rules may result in a call to your parents and/or your parish priest, and your immediate dismissal from the hotel and from the remainder of the Convention activities. There will be no refunds for anyone dismissed from the Convention.

Due Date: January 19, 2018  
 Mail To: Department of Youth & Young Adult Ministry  
 795 Main Street  
 Buffalo, NY 14203-1250

Parish St. Christopher  
 Location Tonawanda

## 2018 Diocesan Youth Convention Scholarship Application

Our scholarship fund assists youth who want to attend the Diocesan Youth Convention after all other sources of funding are exhausted. It is expected that each person will pay part of the Convention fee. Scholarship funds are limited and cannot provide the full registration fee for anyone.

**Directions:** Please provide all information requested on this application form. Submit this application to the address above by January 19, 2018. Remember there is no assurance that this request will be automatically funded. Only the Parish Coordinator of Youth Ministry will be notified about each request.

**Parent or Guardian:** (Please legibly print or type all requested information.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of persons in Household: \_\_\_\_\_

Household Income:

A)  Under \$10,000                      D)  \$30,000 – \$40,000  
 B)  \$10,000 – \$20,000                E)  \$40,000+  
 C)  \$20,000 – \$30,000

Name of Youth requesting scholarship	Portion paid by:			Scholarship Requested	=	Total Fee
	Family	+ Parish	+ Other			
1.	+	+	+		=	\$ 180.00
2.	+	+	+		=	\$ 180.00
3.	+	+	+		=	\$ 180.00

**Explanation of Need:**  
 Please indicate on an additional sheet special information which may be helpful to the Scholarship Committee as they determine the need for this scholarship.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Parish Coordinator of Youth Ministry                      Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Printed Name of Parish Coordinator of Youth Ministry                      Printed Name of Parent/Guardian

Confidential e-mail address of Parish Coordinator of Youth Ministry where notification of scholarship can be sent: \_\_\_\_\_

For Department use only:  Amount Approved: _____	<u>Confidential</u> voice mail number of <u>Parish Coordinator of Youth Ministry</u> where notification of scholarship can be sent: _____
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