

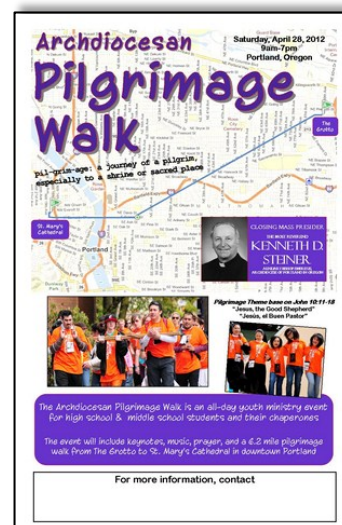
Archdiocese of Portland

## Archdiocesan Pilgrimage Walk

Saturday, April 28, 2012

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Additional info available at <http://ym.archdpdx.org>



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## 1) General Questions

### a) *What is the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage Walk?*

The Archdiocesan Pilgrimage Walk is a day-long faith event for Catholic youth and chaperones in the Archdiocese of Portland. The day will include keynotes, music, and a 6.2 mile pilgrimage walk from the National Sanctuary of Our Sorrowful Mother (The Grotto) to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception (St. Mary's Cathedral).



### b) *What is the purpose of the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage Walk?*

The purpose of the event is to provide an opportunity for the Young Church of Western Oregon to spiritually and physically journey together to our archdiocesan cathedral in order to celebrate Eucharist as one Catholic community.

### c) *What age group can attend?*

The Catholic Youth Pilgrimage Walk is for youth who are currently in high school or middle school. An appropriate number of chaperones will be required for each parish group.

### d) *Where does the pilgrimage walk take place?*

The pilgrimage walk will take place entirely within the city of Portland from the northeastern suburbs to downtown Portland. The event has four venues/stops: The Grotto, Our Lady of Lavang Church, St. André Bessette Downtown Chapel, and St. Mary's Cathedral. Prayer rallies and keynotes will take place at the first two stops. Participants will drop off service project items at the Downtown Chapel. Finally, participants will gather at the cathedral for a closing Mass. A map and detailed walking directions will be provided on the day of the walk.

### e) *What is the service project for this event?*

Each participant is asked to bring a new pair of socks that will be dropped off at the Downtown Chapel during the pilgrimage walk and distributed to those in need in the Portland area.

### f) *When and where does the event start? When does registration open?*

On-site check-in will open at 9:00am at the Grotto in NE Portland. Group leaders will need to check in on behalf of their groups. T-shirts, maps, and lunch tickets will be given

to group leaders at check-in. Participants are asked to be on site by 9:30am. The program will begin around 9:45am.

### g) *When and where does the event conclude?*

The Catholic Youth Pilgrimage Walk will end at the conclusion of Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in NW Portland, approximately 7pm. Please do not plan on departing before then.

### h) *What is the theme for the pilgrimage walk?*

The theme of the pilgrimage walk is "Jesus, the Good Shepherd" based on the Sunday Gospel for Sunday, April 29 (John 10:11-18). Groups attending the pilgrimage walk are encouraged to read and reflect on this Gospel passage in advance of the pilgrimage walk.

### i) *Is promotional material available?*

Yes, posters and promotional videos are available at <http://ym.archdpdx.org> or by contacting the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry.

### j) *Who is keynoting the event?*

Our keynote for the pilgrimage walk is Judy McDonald. Judy has been a professional comedian for the past sixteen years and a Catholic all her life. She has shared her unique way of evangelizing on TV, military bases, conferences, comedy clubs, and parishes all over the United States and the world. [www.judymcdonald.net](http://www.judymcdonald.net)



### k) *Who is organizing the event?*

Several youth ministers of the Archdiocese of Portland are organizing the Pilgrimage Walk. The Archdiocese of Portland's [Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry](#) is the primary event sponsor.

### l) *What will the weather be like in April?*

The average high in Portland in April is 61°F. The average low is 42°F. Typically, there could be a chance of light rain. The event will take place rain or shine, so come prepared to spend most of the day outside.

## 2) Registration

### a) *How do I register my group?*

- Designate one adult from your parish or school as your "group leader." He or she will be the primary contact between your participants and the event organizers.
- Be sure to fully read and understand these FAQs.
- Promote the pilgrimage walk in your parish or school using the promotional material mentioned above.

- Pass out event permission/medical forms to your youth (just use your usual event permission forms). Collect the completed forms along with registration fees. Remember that the group leader keeps the medical forms of your group’s participants—don’t send them to the archdiocese.
- Complete the pilgrimage walk group registration form either on your computer using Adobe Acrobat or filled out by hand. *You will need to know the number participants from your group, their t-shirts sizes, and their lunch sandwich choices.* The archdiocese does not need the names of your participants or copies of their medical forms.
- Send your group registration form and a single payment for your entire group to the archdiocese by April 17. If you have additional participants after you have submitted your group registration, you can add them using the “Additional Registrants” form. If you add additional registrants before April 17, they will receive a t-shirt and lunch; if you add them after April 17, t-shirts and lunches cannot be guaranteed.



**b) How much does it cost?**

The fee for the Pilgrimage Walk is \$20 per person (both youth and adults) and includes a t-shirt, lunch, and other items. All fees go towards the costs associated with the event.

**c) Are scholarships available?**

Yes. If a youth is in financial need, their group leader can submit a scholarship application to the archdiocese. See the website for the scholarship application form.

**d) Is the archdiocese accepting individual registration forms or payments?**

No. There are no individual registrations for this event. The archdiocese is only accepting group registrations and group payments from parish or school group leaders. Your participants’ fees must be paid with a single check, either a personal check or a parish check, or cash in exact change on the day of the event.

**e) Can I register additional participants after I’ve sent in my initial registration and payments? Can I register participants after the deadline or at the door?**

For additional registrations before April 17, complete the special form for registering additional registrants. Registrations must be received by April 17 to guarantee a t-shirt and lunch. New registrations will be accepted on the day of the event for \$20 but will not come with a t-shirt or lunch.

**f) Will additional t-shirts be available for purchase?**

Yes, but only if we still have shirts available after fulfilling all preregistrations.

**g) Where do I check in at the Grotto?**

Follow the signs for registration. Only the group leaders will be allowed in the registration area.

**h) Can only a parish organize a group? What about a school?**

Schools are welcome to organize groups for this event.

**3) Chaperones**

**a) How many chaperones do I need?**

You must have at least one adult chaperone for every eight youth (1-to-8 ratio) for this event. If your parish is planning to make this day event into an overnight event, you must have one chaperone for every six youth (1-to-6). Chaperones and drivers must be background-checked and Safe Environment trained according to archdiocesan policy.

**b) What are adults supposed to do during the pilgrimage walk?**

Adults are expected to fully participate in all of the activities of the day. Besides the obligation to oversee the safety of their youth, chaperones are role models for our young people. The more the youth see the adults engaged and involved, the more they will become engaged and involved. Chaperones are also expected to intervene if they witness any inappropriate behavior—even if the youth are not from their own parish.



## 4) Transportation

### a) How do we get to event?

Each parish/school is responsible for arranging proper and safe transportation for their group. You can either hire a bus or use private vehicles.

### b) What do I need to know about the Travel Policy for this event?

As with any off-campus event, the Archdiocese of Portland's *Policy on Travel Involving Minors* is in effect for this event. This includes adult background checks, Safe Environment training, safe transportation, and adequate number of chaperones. Be sure to keep your pastor informed of your event planning. As with all youth events involving travel, hiring professional transportation is always a preferred option. Parishes are encouraged to join together to share the costs for buses. If you use rented or private vehicles, ensure that all drivers are qualified to drive and have adequate rental or private vehicle insurance. See the Travel Policy for more information. If you need a copy of this document, contact the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry.



### c) How do I get my vehicle(s) to the cathedral for the end of the walk?

We have a plan for drivers to get their vehicles to the cathedral before the walk begins so their vehicles will be waiting for them after Mass. Drivers will drop off their youth at the Grotto first with some adults to watch the youth. Drivers will then drive their vehicles directly to the cathedral (maps will be provided). We will have complimentary shuttles to quickly bring drivers back to the Grotto. We hope to get all drivers back in time for the start of the program at the Grotto and well before the walk begins. We will provide more information on this topic a few weeks before then event.

### d) Will there be bus parking?

If your group is coming to the event on a bus or mini-bus that will be staying in Portland for the entire day, we can reserve a parking spot for it at the cathedral parking lot. Be sure to mark this on your registration form.

### e) Is lodging available?

Although lodging is not a part of the pilgrimage walk, we will assist groups that are looking for simple housing on Friday night or Saturday night. We encourage parishes to make the pilgrimage walk a day trip if that is possible.

However, if that is not practical, please contact the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry for low cost lodging ideas. If the event involves an overnight stay, a Travel Review Form (TRF) must be submitted to the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry (this is not necessary for a day trip). See the Travel Policy for more information.

## 5) What to Bring

### a) What should each PARTICIPANT bring?

Each participant should bring/wear the following:

- Comfortable, well broken-in walking shoes and socks
- Reusable water bottle (we will provide water refill stations at each venue)
- Snacks
- Clothing appropriate for the weather (wearing light layers that can be shed and easily stuffed into a daypack is recommended instead of a heavy coat)
- Rain gear/umbrella (if chance of rain)
- Light backpack or belt pack for your gear
- A small amount of spending money
- New pair of socks to donate
- OPTIONAL – Fully charged cell phone with their parish group leaders' cell number saved
- OPTIONAL – Sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat

**In addition, each GROUP LEADER should also bring:**

- All original signed permission/medical forms
- First-Aid kit (including a blister kit or moleskin available at the foot section of a drugstore)
- Some extra snacks
- Fully charged cell phone with:
  - o Saved event phone number (to be provided at a later time)
  - o Saved cell phone numbers of your parish adults and your parish youth who are bringing cell phones

Maps of the pilgrimage walking route will be provided at check-in.



**b) Do my participants need to bring additional money to the event?**

We recommend that your participants bring some spending money, especially for emergencies. In addition, a collection will be taken up at the closing Mass and we may have Catholic vendors at one of the venues.



**c) Is lunch included?**

Yes. Each registered participant will receive a box lunch that will include a sandwich, chips, and a cookie. Water stations will be available to refill water bottles. Participants are encouraged to eat a full breakfast on the day of the event and bring snacks to nibble on throughout the day.

**6) Closing Mass**

**a) Does the Closing Mass count for Sunday?**

The closing Mass will fulfill your participants' Sunday Obligation. Mass is scheduled to begin around 5:30pm and should end by 7pm.

**b) Who will preside at the closing Mass**

Most Reverend Kenneth D. Steiner, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Portland will preside at the closing Mass.



**c) Why isn't Archbishop Vlazny presiding?**

The Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, has called Archbishop Vlazny to Rome that weekend for his every-five-year ad limina visit (Latin for "to the threshold [of the apostles].") We are grateful that Bishop Steiner has accepted our invitation to preside. Since he recently retired, this is a wonderful opportunity for the Catholic youth of western Oregon to thank Bishop Steiner for his many years of service to our archdiocese.



**d) Will a collection be taken up at Mass? Where will the money go?**

Since the pilgrimage walk Mass is also regular cathedral parish Mass, the primary collection will go to the cathedral community. A second collection will be taken up for the Catholic Youth Foundation-USA.

**7) Safety and Security**

**a) Can we walk around Portland during the day? Can we deviate from the pilgrimage route?**

For safety reasons, all Catholic Youth Pilgrimage Walk participants (youth and adults) must stay on the designated route during the walk. Please help us to keep participants out of restricted areas at our venues. On the day of the event, a "hot line" phone number will be provided to group leaders to call if they have issues or problems.

**b) Will the streets be closed? Do we have to obey the traffic signs?**

We will **not** be closing streets along the pilgrimage walk route. All walking will take place on established sidewalks of the pilgrimage route. Therefore, as pedestrians, we will be required to obey all traffic signals. This includes: stopping and looking both ways at all unmarked crosswalks; and obeying the pedestrian signals at marked intersections.

**c) Are the areas in which we are walking considered safe?**

We do not expect any safety-related issues along our route. We will be walking through various sections of the city of Portland and our route is along a major surface street artery. The City of Portland is aware of our walk and has approved the appropriate permits for our event.

Participants should remain alert and stay on the designated pilgrimage route at all times. Youth should always stay in pairs or more and stay near their chaperones. If there is an emergency during the walk, group leaders are to call 911. For non-emergency issues, participants can call our day-of-the-event hotline.



**8) More questions?**

**a) What if my question that's not answered here?**

Contact the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry at [mhorace@archdpdx.org](mailto:mhorace@archdpdx.org) or 503-233-8324.