

STOCYM

Hello STOCYM friends & families!

I am SO excited for your teen to potentially join us on the 2018 (Technically 2019) Ski Retreat! It is going to be a great time! I want to make sure I touch base with you all so please read this letter carefully and share with your teens as you decide whether or not to attend the retreat with us.

For those of you who are first-timers, here is a brief overview of the retreat:

The Ski Retreat is a fun, faith sharing retreat for our high school teens. We attend this retreat along with three other parishes [St. James-St. Leo & St. Mary Magdalene]. The teens ski and/or snowboard during the day (9:30 AM – 4 PM). In the evenings, we have group games, listen to faith building talks from each Youth Ministry and break into small groups for community and faith sharing. This retreat is the favorite among our teens and is a wonderful opportunity for them to have some radical winter fun while connecting and growing in their Catholic faith!

Leaving/Return: We will be meeting on **Wednesday, January 2nd at 4:45 AM** from the St. Therese of Carmel Catholic Church 4355 Del Mar Trails Rd. San Diego, CA 92130). Please be on time, or even early, so we can make sure to leave as close to on time as possible. **We will return to the same location at approx. midnight - 1 AM on what is technically the early morning hours of Saturday, January 6th.** Our arrival home is an approximate; your teen will be able to call and give you a more exact time once we pass through Las Vegas on the return home.

Bus Ride and Spending Money: Our bus ride is about 7 hours. You will need to buy your own lunch on the way up (the bus makes a fast food stop – usually In-N-Out) or pack a lunch for the ride. Please bring snacks for the bus - water is a must! Also, eat breakfast the day of or bring it with you for the ride. A blanket or pillow can make the long ride more comfortable.

Personal Ski/Snowboard: Using duct tape, you must put your name on your ski/snowboard. Many look alike and can often be mistakenly grabbed by an anxious boarder/skier. All poles must be bound to skis; again, duct tape works well. Or, if you have any carrying bags for your equipment, please make sure to label with your teen's name on the outside of the bag. Have we mentioned how useful duct tape can be for this?

Hotel: We will be staying at the Comfort Inn Suites (1288 S Main St, Cedar City, UT 84720) in Cedar City, Utah. This is a different hotel than the one we have traditionally stayed at, but know that it is going to be awesome. Their phone number is (435) 865-0003. Teens are pre-assigned 4 to a room, by gender. Chaperones stay in separate hotel rooms near teens. The rooms will have two Queen beds in each, extra linens and blankets will be available at the front desk of the hotel! Boys and girls will be placed in separate areas of the hotel intentionally as inner visitation is not allowed for obvious reasons. I have attached our ministry expectations for an overnight event; PLEASE review this with your teen prior to departure.

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Trip Activities: Our entire group will be waking up, having breakfast at the hotel, and then heading to the resort together. Teens have the choice to take lessons, ski/board, tube, or spend time with friends in the lodge during the day. We all leave the mountain together to return to the hotel. In the event that the snow is lackluster or insufficient for optimal shredding of the slopes, we will take the whole group (or small factions of the group) to other day time activities. One night we will be going out to a local, outdoor Ice-Skating rink as a whole group! Our evening sessions consist of games, ice-breakers, praise and worship, faith talk, small group share time.

Resort: We will be skiing/snowboarding at Brian Head Resort, Utah. Lift Tickets, group lessons, and rentals are included in the trip even if you choose not to use them. Not included are helmets, if you wish to rent one this is at an additional cost to you (\$5).

Meals: Once we arrive, all meals are included - including lunches at the resort! However, bringing extra spending cash to buy hot chocolate, Gatorade, or a snack while on the mountain is recommended. Most meals should be GF and DF, with some vegetarian options. However, feel free to bring your own snacks and small meals (to fit in minifridge) if you are concerned.

Weather: For updates please look at Brian Head, Utah when checking the weather. We will be sleeping in Cedar City, but the wind chill and temperature you will experience is most accurately read from the resort/mountain.

In the event of an emergency: I (Harrison Trubitt) can be contacted at 858-876-2365 through text and phone call. You can also always contact me by email as well at: htrubitt@stocsd.org

Please let me know if you have any questions or if I can help you in any way as we approach this retreat!

Thanks and God Bless,

Harrison Trubitt

