



THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF SAINT HELEN

Youth Ministry Office 1600 Rahway Avenue Westfield, NJ 07090 908-232-1214

To: All Youth in grades 9-12
From: Patti Gardner-Youth Minister
RE: **Sister Pat's Kids Camp 2023**
July 30- August 5

I would like to inform you of a very special opportunity that takes place during the summer. There will be an information meeting held in our Parish Center Gym on **Tuesday, February 21 at 8:15 PM**

Only apply if you will be 16 years old by the first day of camp: July 30, 2023

What is Sister Pat's Kids Camp?

Sister Pat's Kids Camp is a camp that was developed by parishioners of Saint Helen over 25 years ago for children with cancer and blood disorders. The camp takes place in Esopus, NY, about two hours from Westfield, NJ. This week at camp gives sick children the opportunity to live a normal "fun" life for the week. Some of the activities that take place at camp are cooking, swimming, paddle boating, dancing, and arts & crafts.

How do I get involved with Sister Pat's Kids Camp?

If you will be 16 years of age by the first day of camp, fill out application, get 2 letters of recommendation and **return to the Youth Ministry Office by 3/7/23.**

Application is not considered "complete" until we received both letters of recommendation.

Applications must be filled out by applicant and not by parent/guardian!

Applications will be given out at the information night on Tuesday, February 21st. Applications will be put on our parish website after the information meeting. Those in attendance at the information meeting with a parent and submit their completed application by 3/7/23 will be considered first.

Applications are reviewed by the Youth Minister in the order that they are received. Applications are then given to the camp staff who will contact applicants to schedule an interview with you.

What will first year volunteers do at camp?

First year volunteers will serve as part of the kitchen crew and as a “counselor in training” to get familiar with camp before they can move up to a camp counselor. No one is guaranteed a return invitation to camp. If a kitchen crew member has displayed the characteristics necessary for the counselor position, and if there is a position available the following year, the candidate is then invited back to camp by the camp staff.

What makes a “qualified” candidate?

Candidates should possess strong leadership skills, be self-motivated and want to come to camp to serve the needs of the campers. Camp should not be considered a “week off”, but rather a week of hard work with great rewards. Candidates need to understand that there are rules and regulations they must adhere to and infraction of these rules justifies removal from the program. Candidates should be actively involved in our parish community by “*Worshipping God, Serving Others and Making Disciples*” with us all year long.

EVERYONE PARTICIPATING MUST BE VACCINATED!

There is a zero tolerance policy regarding the use of drugs and alcohol.

There is a NO SMOKING policy at camp

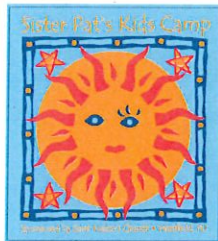
The Adult Group Leader at the conclusion of the week evaluate all youth volunteers, as well as all current staff.

Camp Location:

Marist Brother's Retreat House
Esopus, NY

All volunteers are responsible for providing their own transportation to and from camp.

All attending camp are invited and encouraged to attend the 6 PM Mass on Sunday, June 11, to receive a special blessing.



sisterpatskidscamp.org

sainthelen.org