

Hello 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade families,

The weekend of March 18-20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 is our 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade overnight retreat. We will be staying at Camp Black Diamond just 15 minutes from St. John's!

**The address to camp is:**

Black Diamond Adventure Camp

19830 SE 328th Pl, Auburn, WA 98092

(253)-939-0488

[www.blackdiamond.org](http://www.blackdiamond.org)

Here are some FAQ for you to consider before registering your child:

**1. Who will be in charge and chaperoning?**

The retreat will be led by Chelsea Wilde, our Pastoral Assistant for Youth Ministry, as well as a group of male and female parent volunteers. Our 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade Peer Ministers will also be assisting during the retreat. Camp Black Diamond will also have a full staff available to us while we are there and they will be doing all of the cooking and extra activity facilitation (ex. They provide a lifeguard for the pool and staff for the other fun camp activities).

**2. What are the sleeping arrangements?**

Students will be sleeping 6 to a room in bunk rooms. All rooms are attached to a main cabin that also houses the adult room in the same wing. Cabins are separated by the sexes. Bunk beds have mattresses but students should bring a sleeping bag and a pillow.

**3. What if I can't afford the price of the retreat?**

Contact Chelsea ASAP and we will figure something out! We never want money to be the reason your child is unable to attend a Faith Formation event!

**4. How will I contact my child if cell phones aren't allowed on the retreat (or, how will they contact me if they need to)?**

Contact Chelsea at: 253-893-6686 any time night or day via text or phone call! If a student needs to contact you, an adult on retreat will make sure that they are able to. You can also call the retreat center and they will come find me.

**5. What is the retreat schedule?**

Our basic schedule is as follows:

Friday:

7pm- Parents drop their child off at Camp Black Diamond.

7pm-11pm- Retreat Programming. 11pm bed time

Saturday:

Retreat day! Lots of learning, free time, and fun!

Sunday:

8am: Breakfast & last retreat session

10:30am: Carpool with Chaperones and parents back to church

11:30am: Retreat Mass at St. John (families are invited to join us!)

12:45/1:00pm: Parents pick up at St. John.

6. What are some of the fun activities we will be doing during the retreat?

We are still in the planning process right now, but, it looks like we will be swimming in the indoor pool and possibly watching a movie while swimming! We will also be using their DRIFT-Tricycles and maybe playing black-light dodgeball. Campfires are scheduled with smores', music, games, and down time in-between our faith formation programming.

7. What if my child needs medication during the retreat?

Please list any medications needed on the permission slip and Chelsea will contact you to touch base about specifics before the retreat. Chelsea will be collecting and in charge of dispensing all medication during the retreat.

8. What if my child is nervous to go on retreat?

This is normal (especially at this age)! A great tip is to go check out the retreat center beforehand since it is so close! Just give them a call ahead of time and they will give you a walk-around. You can even get some hot chocolate in their coffee house and check out all of the fun games they have in their huge gym! Camp Black Diamond also has open nights where kids can play and try their activities.

Check out their website for more info: <http://blackdiamond.org>

9. What if my child has food allergies/restrictions?

No problem! Camp Black Diamond is providing all of our meals and is able to accommodate any diet restrictions. Please note any restrictions on your permission slip so we can forward the information to them.

10. How do we register for the retreat?

In order to register your child you must turn in the completed 2 page permission slip, code of conduct agreement, Camp Black Diamond activities release, and your payment to the church office or to Chelsea at any youth event NO LATER THAN March 9, 2022. Any checks can be made out to: St. John the Baptist

We are so excited for this upcoming retreat! Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns!

Blessings,

*Chelsea Wilde*

Pastoral Assistant of Youth Ministry

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

**Text/call:** (253)-893-6686 **Email:** [ChelseaW@SJTbcc.org](mailto:ChelseaW@SJTbcc.org) (texting is the quickest way to reach me)

**\*SEE PACKING LIS ON NEXT PAGE\***

# Packing List:

## **Please Bring:**

- Sleeping bag & pillow
- Comfortable clothing (we will be playing outside a bit just fyi)
- Closed toe tennis shoes for outside fun -  
Sweater AND coat for evening outside time
- Pajamas
- Flip flops for shower
- Shower supplies & toiletries
- Swimsuit (boys= trunks, girls= one piece)
- 2 towels — one for swimming & one for shower (unless you just want to use one for both!)
- Plastic bag for bringing home wet towels/swimsuits
- Medications if needed (parents, please give all medications to Chelsea with instructions at retreat drop-off)
- Reusable water bottle or tumbler (this is very important!)

## **Do NOT bring:**

(Discovery of the items below or use of these items will result in confiscation and/or dismissal.)

- Electronics (including cell phones)
- Unlabeled/ Undisclosed medication
- Weapons, explosives or lighters/matches
- Drugs/Alcohol