GS24 SUMMER CAMP

Please turn a non-refundable $100 deposit to hold your spot for summer camp! Check payable to St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church. Official registration forms will be sent out shortly.

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

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

Contact Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

08

**Fall**

**Tips and Tricks to Fundraising**

**How to Fundraise on your own**

Fundraising can be a scary task when you look at the end goal and where you have to start, but do not let that discourage your determination. Instead, offer your mission to God and He will provide, if you are willing to work for your ultimate goal.

**Here are some good tips to help you fundraise for your trip!**

**Create a Gofundme page!**

www.gofundme.com is a great place to start your fundraising efforts. Create a page for yourself that includes who you are, why your fundraising, and what this trip means to you! Not only will it give people you know an easy way to support you, but it will also help people you might not know as well aid you in reaching your end goal!

Plus! It will motivate you to see a concrete sign of your progress.

**Social Media**

Start to get the word out there! Share your gofundme page on Facebook or Twitter, and ask your friends and family to re-share it too! It’s also a really easy email to write and send to anyone! Briefly explain what you are fundraising for and ask for donations and prayers. This is a great way to get the word out to people you may have never thought of to ask for support.

**Writing letters**

Once you’ve created a gofundme page, now you can start reaching out to family and friends for support. DO NOT underestimate the power of prayer as you ask for donations. If someone cannot support you financially, ask them to support you spiritually in prayer:

1. Who will you ask?

Start by brainstorming a list of 15-30 names and addresses to send your letters to. This list can comprise of anyone from family, teachers, friends of parents, friends’ families, coaches, etc.

2. Write!

Start writing your letters. Remember to include information about where you’re going, when you’re going, why you’re going, why it means so much for you to go, and how much your end goal is to raise. Include picture of the camp and a separate half sheet they can mail back to you with the option of money donation, prayer donation, or both! You may also want to include a pre-addressed return envelope so they won’t have to pay postage OR direct them to your gofundme page. Be sure to also invite them to be a prayer partner; someone who can offer up masses, do novena’s, pray a rosary a day, etc., for you while you fundraise and attend camp. You can always get a group together to write letters so that if you’re feeling stuck or alone, you have other people in the same boat for moral support!

3. Follow up

What if they don’t get back to you? Call them anyway! Some people may have forgotten about the letter, so do not be afraid to call and chat with them. If you are worried about making phone calls, have a prewritten script for yourself so you know what you want to say if they ask you questions!

Here is a good sample script:



**Introduction**

Example: “Hi Aunt Mary? It’s Veronica. How are you doing tonight? Did you get my letter about my trip to camp?”

**Build A Connection**

Ask about family/job/how’s everything going. You don’t want this call to just be about $$ because you should also be looking at it as a way to build this relationship.

**Explain your Cause and ask to give**

**[be careful not to make this too long and boring]**

“I’m really excited to be going on a week long trip to Camp Hidden Lake/Golden State in June. I will have the opportunity to grow more in my faith and increase relationships in my community! I want to give you the opportunity to share in this awesome experience with me! As Mother Teresa used to say, ‘some people give by going and some people go by giving.” Would you consider giving $— to help me?

[A specific amount is a good idea but not necessary. Leave a pause, let them answer]

**THANK**

-If yes! Thank you so much. If they received the letter they can use the return envelope otherwise arrange a way to get their check from them.

-If no: Thank them for talking to you and taking the time to listen.

**Close**

Also, ask them for prayers and promise them yours. Pray a short prayer for them as soon as you get off the phone.

4. Don’t forget to say thank you!

When you receive a reply, call and say thank you or write them a thank you letter! The people who support you want to know how you’re doing. Write them a thank you to show your appreciation for their help.

**Work as a team**

Remember you are not in this alone. You have a group of people trying to reach the same goal as you! Along with your mandatory help with parish fundraising events, you are welcome to work together to help fundraiser your individual portions. This is your time to be a leader and organize some group fundraising events. Invite everyone over for a brainstorming night to think of ways to fundraise as a group outside for parish efforts. You can organize things like carwashes, Whichwich nights, IHOP fundraiser days, or even candy sales!

**Prayer!**

Seriously we weren’t kidding before. Start a Novena or offer up a rosary everyday until you’ve reached your goal. You can even find another teen from the group who can be your prayer partner; someone who will pray with you for both of your fundraising success. An amazing devotion to look into could be to Our Lady of Good Remedy. This specific devotion to Mary is in reference to her aid in fundraising efforts to St. John of Matha. Below is a prayer to her specifically asking her for help:



**O QUEEN OF HEAVEN AND EARTH,**

Most Holy Virgin, we venerate thee. Thou art the beloved Daughter of the Most High God, the chosen Mother of the Incarnate Word, the Immaculate Spouse of the Holy Spirit, the Sacred Vessel of the Most Holy Trinity.

O Mother of the Divine Redeemer, who under the title of Our Lady of Good Remedy comes to the aid of all who call upon thee, extend thy maternal protection to us. We depend on thee, Dear Mother, as helpless and needy children depend on a tender and caring mother.

Hail, Mary....

**St. Jude, Pray for us!**

**Sample Fundraising Letter:**

This letter is mean to be adapted with your personal touch to each individual person it is sent to. **DO NOT copy it word for word.**

Dear (Insert name of loved one and/or Family),

(Ask about them)

I hope all is well with your family, and that you have been keeping busy. How is your job been going?/ How was your vacation to…? I cannot wait to hear more about it!

(Begin to explain why you are writing them, without overloading them with details) I am sending you this letter today because I am going to Life Teen Camp Hidden Lake/Golden State this summer, and I need your help to get there. Camp Hidden Lake/Golden State is a camp for young Catholics looking to grow deeper in their relationship with Christ and their community. I am excited to have this opportunity to travel to Georgia ….

In order to go on this trip to camp, I am being asked to fundraise (x) amount on my own, while also helping the parish to fundraise for the whole group. Not only do I need your help financially, but I also would appreciate your prayers. I would be very appreciative if you would you be willing and able to support me either in prayer as a prayer partner, or financially.

Attached is a section with a list of options for you that you can choose from and then send back to me in the envelope I have provided for you.

Any help, whether in prayer, or in financial support, is greatly appreciated and needed.

(Always end with a thank you!)

Thank you again for your time. I will be praying for you and your family, and I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Love/ Sincerely/God Bless

[sign name]

-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------



Please check one of more of the following:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| I would like to donate $ | | to [insert your name]’s individual fund |
|  |  |  |
| I would like to be a sponsor for a student for $500\* | | |
| I would like to donate $ | | to Parish Camp Fund\* |
|  |  |  |

I would like to receive more information on how to be a prayer partner.

\*Checks payable to St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church



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You’ve Always Loved

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**FOR FURTHER DETAILS:**

***Contact your Niagara Chocolates***

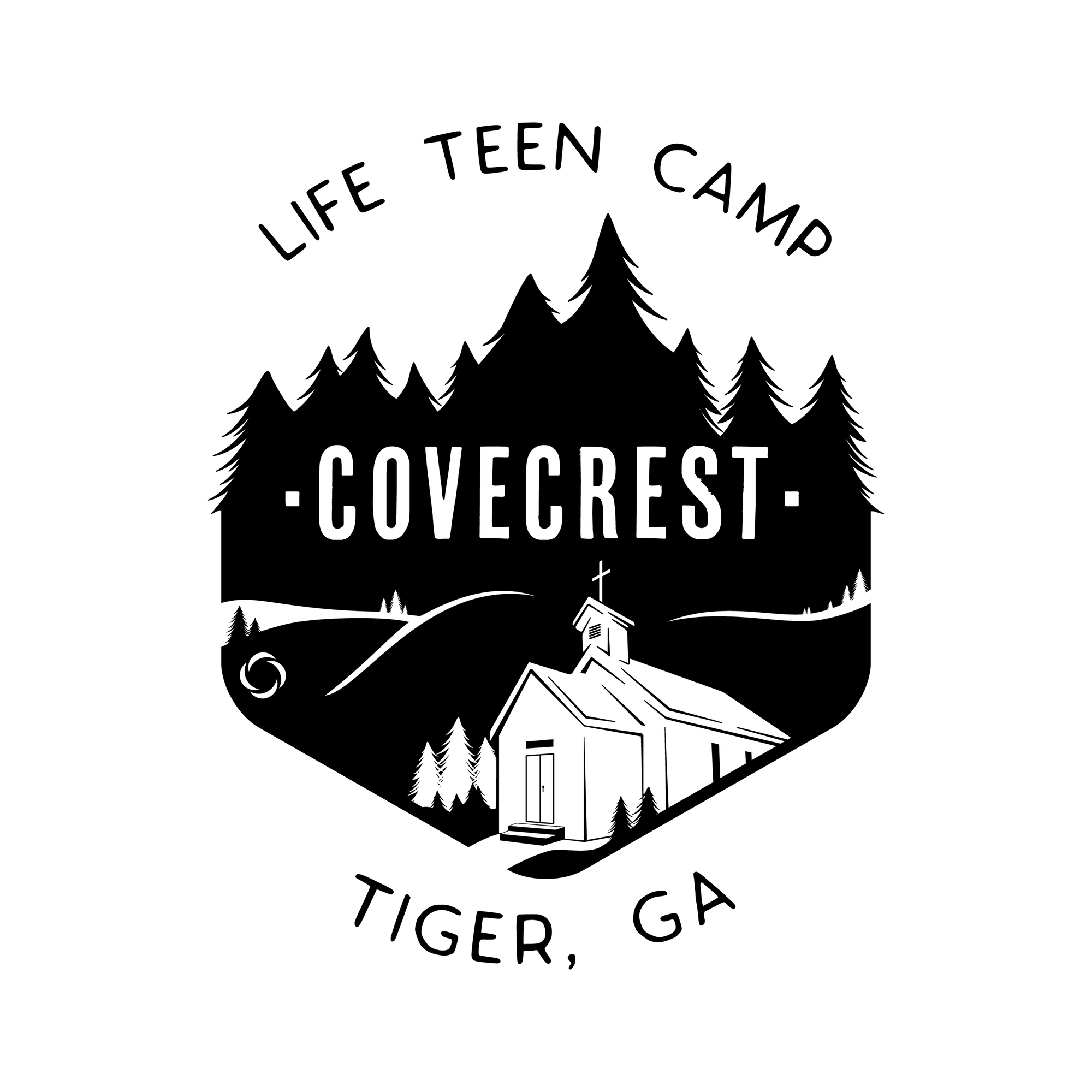
***Fundraising Representative***

**Toll Free: 1-800-234-5750**

**Follow Us!**

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SweetWorks, Inc. 3500 Genesee Street, Buffalo, New York, 14225 Phone 877-261-7887 Fax: 877-261-7894 www.sweetworks.net



Camper Checklist:

☐ Reserve your spot!  
 Turn in a $100 non-refundable deposit today!

☐ Fill out the registration form

☐ Fundraise as much of your cost as possible!

See Fundraising Ideas Page

☐ Get at least 5 people to sign up for our April 1 5K run!

Signups available at smarymag.org soon

☐ Participate in the parish 5K and other fundraising efforts!

☐ Pay remaining balance by March 15, 2017!

☐ Have the best week of your life!!

GS24:

**June 19-24, 2017   
Camp Covecrest   
Tiger, Georgia  
 $1300 - $800 minimum contribution**

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

SUMMER CAMP

