SVDP Confirmation Retreat 2025: "Witness" Limited Itinerary, Packing List, and Retreat Rules

Below is a limited itinerary containing drop-off and pickup instructions for candidates and teen staff members (EMBER TEAM). Please pay attention to all times and instructions.

Drop-off and Pick-up Instructions – IMPORTANT

Retreat check-in and drop-off will begin at 4:00 pm on Friday, 3/28 in the SVdP PAC lobby. *Parents MUST check-in to drop-off their teens.* Check-in ends at 5:30. *If you are not able to arrive for check-in before 5:20 pm on Friday, please reply to this email to discuss transportation options.*

Friday 3/28 Schedule

- 4:00 PM Check-in table is open in SVdP PAC lobby
- 4:30 PM Pizza, snacks, and drinks available in PAC
- 5:15 PM Car & luggage assignments
- 5:20 PM Check-in table is closed in SVdP PAC lobby
- 5:30 PM Load up and depart for Camp of the Hills, Marble Falls

Sunday 3/30 Schedule

1:00 PM - Depart from Camp of the Hills, Marble Falls

2:00 PM - Return to SVdP

What to bring:

- Modest comfortable clothing
- Jacket(s) or other cold weather clothing.
- Clothes you can get dirty/sweaty in.
- Toiletries (Soap, Toothbrush, etc.)
- Towel, Shower Shoes or Flip-Flops (IMPORTANT!)
- Sleeping Bag, Pillow, Linens, etc. (IMPORTANT!)
- Bible (Retreat bibles will be available, but a personal bible is suggested.)
- Rosary (Rosaries will be provided if you don't have one.)
- JOURNAL (IMPORTANT!)
- A Good Attitude

What not to bring:

- iPads, video players, etc (Phones may be brought only with parent permission.
 iPads, other smart devices, video players, or phones seen in use at inappropriate times will be taken up for the duration of the retreat. See phone policy below).
- A Bad Attitude
- Illegal substances or other contraband such as drugs, alcohol or weapons.
- Immodest or inappropriate clothing, including inflammatory language or graphics (We will ask you to change.).

Mobile Phone Policy

Mobile phone reception is available at Camp of the Hills, however all candidates are encouraged to leave their phones at home. Phones and smartwatches will be taken up. Parents can make contact with their teens at the information provided below. Mobile phones and other devices seen on retreat will be taken up for the duration of the event with no exceptions.

General Rules Policy

The point of any youth retreat is to provide a fun and nurturing environment for teens to encounter the Holy Spirit and build their relationship with God. In order to do that we will ask the teens for their input on what rules they want to govern the weekend so everyone has the opportunity to grow in community with one another. Aside from these rules, we have a zero-tolerance policy concerning the following:

- Absolutely no bullying. Bullying will result in immediate expulsion from the event.
- 2. **Absolutely no violence of any kind.** Violence will result in immediate expulsion from the event.
- Absolutely no inappropriate physical contact or behavior of a sexual nature. This includes being in an area that has been deemed exclusive to the opposite gender (no boys in girls' dorms, etc.). Such behavior will result in immediate expulsion from the event.

- 4. Absolutely no drugs or alcohol. This includes cigarettes, chewing tobacco, and/or vaping. Drugs for legitimate medical needs are acceptable and will be supervised/administered by an adult chaperon. Possession of drugs or alcohol will result in immediate expulsion from the event.
- 5. Candidates will respect chaperons, teen leaders, and retreat staff at all times.

Retreat volunteers are on retreat to serve candidates and walk with them through an encounter with the Holy Spirit. Disrespect such as any refusal to participate, aggressive or harassing speech, a refusal to follow chaperon or small group leader instructions, leaving or skipping retreat sessions, or other disruptive behavior will result in parent contact and expulsion from the event.

A violation of any of the above rules will result in dismissal from the Confirmation prep program.

Adult chaperons will be present during all retreat activities. If you have any questions about the above rules please contact james@svdpparish.org.

Retreat Contact Information

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