



## 2026 Parish Leader Guide

Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Last Updated: 10 November 2025



### Steubenville: Joliet | June 26-28, 2026

#### What is a Steubenville Conference?

At each Steubenville Youth Conference, teens experience a life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ that ignites their faith, strengthens their prayer life, and empowers them to live on mission long after the conference ends.

#### What should I expect at a Steubenville Conference?

In addition to three days of amazing speakers, teens will have opportunities for worship, adoration, and confession, while enjoying fellowship with hundreds of other teens who share the same Catholic faith.

##### Encounter

This opportunity to meet Jesus Christ is unlike anything your teens can experience anywhere else.

##### Conversion

Tens of thousands of devout Catholics across the country will tell you their lives changed when they met Jesus at a Steubenville Conference.

##### Community

Your teen will connect with their youth minister, their friends, and the universal Church in a whole new way.

#### Quick Info

**Dates:** June 26-28, 2026

**Location:** Benedictine University

**Hotel:** Hampton by Hilton

**Cost:** \$570 (before 12/6/25)

**Deposit:** \$75/person

#### Cost Includes:

- Event Ticket
- Coach Bus Transportation
- Shared Hotel Room
  - 4 Teens per room
  - 2 Adults per room
- Conference T-Shirt
- Six (6) Meals
  - Friday Dinner thru Sunday Lunch

[\[Register Your Group\]](#)

#### When/Where is Steubenville?

This summer the Archdiocese of Milwaukee is coordinating a trip to Steubenville: Joliet sponsored by Partnership for Youth. This conference will occur **June 26 – 28, 2026** at Benedictine University in Lisle, IL.

## What is the 2026 Theme?



The theme for the 2026 Steubenville Youth Conferences is "Worthy". The theme is based on 1 Samuel 17:47, which says, "For the battle belongs to the LORD."

**The world says we're not enough, but God says we're worthy!** This year's theme emphasizes trusting God in the face of life's struggles and challenges. The conference aims to help teens have a life-changing encounter with Christ, reminding them that they are not alone in their faith and can find peace and confidence by relying on God.

## Who can attend the Steubenville Conference?

The Steubenville conference is open to current high school students during the 2025-2026 academic year. Seniors who are or will be 18 years of age during the conference will **need** to complete the Safe Environment Training to attend and will have to share a hotel room with other 18-year-old seniors.

Each parish group must have a **Parish Group Leader** who is a paid parish staff member and the main contact responsible for a parish group. All our communications will be with that individual. Additional 21+ adult chaperones may be needed based on group make-up and size. All adults, 18+ must be Safe Environment Certified.

## Who is our Week's Ministry Team?



**Chris Stefanick** is hosting and speakers include: Fr. Leo Patalinghug, Lauren Gothard, Lauren Wright, Jimmy Mitchell, and worship lead by Sonar and Aly Aleigha.

## What is the cost?

The cost for Steubenville starts at **\$570/person**. This includes conference ticket, bus, shared hotel room, a t-shirt, and 6 meals (Dinner Friday through Lunch Sunday). Cost goes up as we get closer to the conference.

Cost Schedule	
Before 12/6/2025	\$570
12/6/2025 – 5/1/2026	\$595
After 5/1/2026	\$625

## Payment Schedule

The following payment schedule has been created to spread out the total cost of the trip.

Upon Reservation:	\$75/person Deposit
March 6, 2026:	50% of remaining balance due
May 26, 2026:	100% of remaining balance due

Balances unpaid after May 30<sup>th</sup> can be charged a 5% late fee.

## Dropping Spots & Refund Policy

The initial deposit is **non-refundable** and **non-transferable**.

Groups that drop spots before May 1, 2026 will receive a full refund, less deposit, for any payments made and will not be required to pay the remaining balance for dropped tickets.

### Spots dropped after May 1<sup>st</sup>

Unfortunately, we cannot offer a refund for any spots dropped after May 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Other Key Dates

TBA	LEAD Applications Due
<b>March 06, 2026</b>	50% of remaining balance due
<b>April 10, 2026</b>	Partnership for Youth Scholarship Deadline
<b>May 01, 2026</b>	Last day to drop unused tickets
<b>May 26, 2026</b>	Remaining Balance Due All participants MUST be registered online. Clergy Suitability Letters due to Diocese of Joliet (We will submit)
<b>June 10, 2026</b>	Group Leader & Chaperone Webinar

## General Schedule

The itinerary for Steubenville is as follows, but is also subject to change:

<b>Friday, June 26th</b>	
	Bus to conference will depend on parishes registered
<b>3:30pm</b>	Arrival at Hotel, Settle In
<b>4:30pm</b>	Bus departs for Conference
<b>5:00pm</b>	Dinner
<b>6:45pm</b>	General Session (Doors open at 6:30pm)
<b>9:30pm</b>	Parish Small Group Time / Reconciliation / Marketplace Open
<b>10:15pm</b>	Load Bus
<b>10:20pm</b>	Depart from Conference
<b>10:30pm</b>	Return to hotel
<b>11:00pm</b>	Lights Out

<b>Saturday, June 27th</b>	
<b>6:45am</b>	Wake-up, eat breakfast
<b>8:00am</b>	Bus Departs for Conference
<b>9:45am</b>	Sessions Begin
<b>11:00am</b>	Women's Session / Men's Lunch
<b>12:30pm</b>	Men's Session / Women's Lunch
<b>1:30pm</b>	Recharge Time
<b>4:00pm</b>	General Session
<b>5:00pm</b>	Dinner / Marketplace Open / Reconciliation
<b>7:00pm</b>	General Session / Adoration
<b>9:15pm</b>	Parish Small Group Time / Reconciliation / Marketplace Open
<b>10:15pm</b>	Load Bus
<b>10:20pm</b>	Depart from Conference
<b>10:30pm</b>	Return to hotel
<b>11:00pm</b>	Lights Out

<b>Sunday, June 28th</b>	
<b>6:45am</b>	Wake-Up, Eat Breakfast, Pack-Up
<b>7:45am</b>	Load Bus & Check-Out of Hotel
<b>8:00am</b>	Depart for Conference Center
<b>8:45am</b>	Adoration / General Session / Closing Mass
<b>12:00pm</b>	Box Lunch
<b>1:30pm</b>	Depart Joliet

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **How many adult leaders can/should I bring with my parish group?**

A good rule of thumb is to bring 1 adult for every 7 teens (**if you have boys and girls attending, you need to have male and female adult leaders**). All adults need to be Safeguarding trained and should be ready and capable of accompanying our youth at Steubenville.

### **Can my priest come?**

Priests are more than welcome to accompany your group and assist in liturgical duties at the conference! There is no conference fee for a priest to attend. Because they may have different duties during the conference, you should not count them as adult leaders.

### **Do I need to book hotel rooms?**

No, the archdiocese books a block of rooms when we purchase the initial tickets. If you need a special accommodation, please let Andrew know ASAP.

### **How many students per room?**

To make the trip as affordable as possible, we plan for four students per student room and two adults per adult room. Students who are/will be 18 during the conference will share a room(s) separate from other students or adult chaperones. Leaders can request their own room if 1) we have enough rooms and 2) with the understanding your parish will be charged for the whole room.

### **What Meals are Provided?**

Breakfast will be provided at the hotel daily. Lunch and Dinner are provided on Saturday by the conference. We will arrange for box lunches on Sunday (through Steubenville or Panera).

### **Are Scholarships or Fundraisers Available?**

The archdiocese does not provide any scholarships or fundraising opportunities. Since we charge parishes directly, parishes can choose to fundraise and charge their participants less.

Partnership for Youth does provide scholarships. See their website for more information.

### **Why does some information on the Partnership for Youth Website differ from this guide?**

The Archdiocese plans a trip to the Steubenville conference as a service to our parishes. As a result, we become an intermediary between the conference and our parishes. As a result, we need to adjust a few things, such as initial deposit amount to cover other up-front costs (bus and hotel rooms) and have adjusted key dates about a week earlier to give our team time to receive your requests and submit them in time to the conference.