

2026 Parish Leader Guide

Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Last Updated: 27 October 2025



Steubenville: Joliet | June 26-28, 2026

What is a Steubenville Conference?

At each Steubenville Youth Conference, teens experience a lifechanging 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
 - o 4 Teens per room
 - o 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 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 30th 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 1st

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

Other Key Dates

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

June 10, 2026 Group Leader & Chaperone Webinar

General Schedule

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

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

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

Sunday, June 28th		
6:45am	Wake-Up, Eat Breakfast, Pack-Up	
7:45am	Load Bus & Check-Out of Hotel	
8:00am	Depart for Conference Center	
8:45am	Adoration / General Session / Closing Mass	
12:00pm	Box Lunch	
1:30pm	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 adult leaders 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 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. Leaders can request their own room if 1) we have enough rooms and 2) 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.