



SAINT MICHAEL'S CONFERENCE

A Conference in the Anglican Tradition for
Young Adults of All Christian Communions

Holy Family Retreat Center
West Hartford, Connecticut
July 23 to July 29, 2023
www.SaintMichaelsConference.com



NOT YOUR TYPICAL CHRISTIAN SUMMER CAMP

At Saint Michael's Conference, you won't find cabins, mess halls, or archery. You *will* experience engaging conversations about Jesus, daily worship, and plenty of time to hang out with new friends.

Saint Michael's Conference is a week-long summer conference that centers on worship, discussion, recreation, and relaxation, so young adults can seek a clearer vision of God in Christ.

WHAT'S A DAY LIKE?

We meet each morning to worship together and start the day in prayer. After a hearty breakfast, we spend time in an informal setting, learning and exchanging ideas about Christianity and the influence it has on society and each of us. Most afternoons, we're playing volleyball, basketball, kickball, Frisbee, or lounging on the lawn.

Before dinner, we reconvene for Solemn Evensong. Evening activities range from square dancing and talent shows, to scavenger hunts and dance parties. Free time follows before lights out.

"WHAT SHOULD I BRING?"

We're glad you asked!

Make sure to pack:

Your Bible
Notebook
Favorite pen or pencil
Picnic blanket for lounging
Clothes for playing
Layers for air conditioning
Dress clothes for Friday night
Your best cowboy/cowgirl outfit (no, not kidding)
Bathing suit
Washcloth and toiletries
A bit of pocket money

Leave these at home:

Sleeping bag
Towel
Calamine lotion
Flashlight

CONFERENCE STAFF

Our ministry is to guide young people in their journey of understanding and embracing faith in Christ, and we take it seriously.

The Conference is directed by a dedicated Staff of more than 25 clergy and lay leaders, many of whom were Conferees themselves.

Director

The Reverend Jay C. James

Assistant Director

The Reverend Fredrick A. Robinson

Dean and Registrar

Jesse Shedden

New and Returning Conferees, I invite you to join us this year at Saint Michael's Conference in what promises to be a defining moment in your spiritual life. There's nothing more important than your relationship with Our Savior Jesus Christ, and our Conference Staff is here to help guide you in understanding and deepening your Christian Faith. You can expect lots of fun and fellowship with your peers, along with challenging discussions and learning. At the center of it all is the worship of Our Lord. We hope you'll be there with us.

In Christ,
Father Jay James



"I am very happy I went to Saint Michael's this summer and plan to attend every year I can until I age out. I am grateful to have met all the members of St. Michael's Conference and can't wait to see them all again." –Marie, 2nd-year Conferee

2023 COURSES

FIRST PERIOD

- 1st Year Conferees** Forum: A study of basic aspects of Christian life including the Bible, the Eucharist, Penance, and Prayer.
- 2nd Year Conferees** The Sacrament of Reconciliation: Getting right with God through self-examination, repentance, confession, and forgiveness.
- 3rd Year Conferees** The Holy Eucharist: A study of the central act of worship, devotion, and sacramental life of the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. Dogma:
- 4th Year Conferees** It's not restrictive, but liberating. Dogma puts us all on the same page in the proclamation of the Gospel of Our Savior Jesus Christ.
- 5th Year Conferees and Beyond** Christian Ethics: What's the role of the Church in a broken society fraught with tough issues? We'll explore how our faith forms the way we live and engage in the social sphere.

JUNIOR COURSE OPTIONS

A Junior is any Conferee who will be in grade 9, 10, or 11 in the fall. Please select your top choice for each period.

SECOND PERIOD

- ☐ Finding Your Identity in Christ: Where do you find your identity? Within yourself? From what others think of you? Here's why your true identity is found in Christ—and how to believe it. (Juniors only)
- ☐ The Screwtape Letters: What can eavesdropping on demons teach us about living as a Christian? We'll survey this clever, funny, convicting book by C.S. Lewis to find out. (Juniors only)
- ☐ Prayer: We all know we could be better about prayer, so let's do it. You'll learn practical methods to deepen your prayer life and align your will with God's.

THIRD PERIOD

- ☐ Philippians: Are you abounding in joy in this bad news world? Paul was, and we'll learn his circumstances and his "secret" while we review the book of Philippians. (Juniors only)
- ☐ Psalms of Ascent: What does it look like to seek to dwell with God? We'll study how Psalms 120 to 134 can be our guide in our Christian pilgrimage of walking with Christ.
- ☐ "Bible for Dummies": Let's be real—the Bible can seem daunting. We'll go through the basics so you can feel confident about how to engage with it.
- ☐ Choir: The choir will learn anthems for Mass and Evensong.

SENIOR COURSE OPTIONS

A Senior is any Conferee who will be in grade 12 or above in the fall. Please select your top choice for each period.

- ☐ Apologetics: "You're a Christian? Do you honestly believe..." Using God's Word, we'll work through responses to hard questions so you can be confident in your witness to Christ. (Seniors only)
- ☐ Holy Week Services: Are you aware of the deep symbolism in the Holy Week services? We'll dive into the four key services so you can appreciate Christ in a new way. (Seniors only)
- ☐ Prayer: We all know we could be better about prayer, so let's do it. You'll learn practical methods to deepen your prayer life and align your will with God's.
- ☐ Esther: What can a super short book that never mentions God teach us about how the Lord works in our lives? We'll find out by reading Esther together. (Seniors only)
- ☐ Psalms of Ascent: What does it look like to seek to dwell with God? We'll study how Psalms 120 to 134 can be our guide in our Christian pilgrimage of walking with Christ.
- ☐ "Bible for Dummies": Let's be real—the Bible can seem daunting. We'll go through the basics so you can feel confident about how to engage with it.
- ☐ Choir: The choir will learn anthems for Mass and Evensong.

HAVE A QUESTION?

Visit www.SaintMichaelsConference.com for a list of frequently asked questions, including:

- How old are the Conferees at Saint Michael's Conference?
- How do I get my young adult excited about attending?
- What does the registration fee cover?
- What is the age range of the counselors?
- Do you accommodate young adults with special needs?

You're also welcome to e-mail your questions to SaintMichaelsConference@gmail.com.

WHY SAINT MICHAEL?

The Revelation to Saint John describes the war in heaven, when Michael and his angels cast out Satan and his fallen angels. This battle between Michael and Satan is a picture of real Christianity. It's not soft or weak. Quite the opposite; it's dangerous, challenging, exciting, and joyful. Saint Michael serves as our Patron to fight evil and serve God.



FINANCIAL AID

Limited financial aid is available for those who cannot pay the entire cost of the Conference. Contact Father James at 919.605.6414.

CONFERENCE LOCATION

Holy Family Retreat Center
303 Tunxis Road
West Hartford, Connecticut 06107

