



NARNIA: ENTER THE WARDROBE FAQ

- 1. Does my teen need to have seen any of the movies or read any of the books in “The Chronicles of Narnia” series to go on or understand this retreat?** No! The major elements of the retreat (the talks, break out sessions, small group questions, etc.) assume that the participants have little to no knowledge of Narnia.
- 2. What does this theme have to do with the Catholic Faith?** Many of the elements in the Narnia stories allegorical to themes in Christianity. As C.S. Lewis, the author, once wrote, “The whole Narnian story is about Christ. That is to say, I asked myself, ‘Supposing that there really was a world like Narnia and supposing it had (like our world) gone wrong and supposing Christ wanted to go into that world and save it (as He did ours) what might have happened?’” The retreat will use four major images from the Narnian series to discuss how today’s teens are called to live out their faith. For more information on this, see the link to “Retreat Theme Explanation” on the main event sign up page.
- 3. What does the retreat fee pay for?:** The \$75 retreat fee covers the lodging, the main meals, snack food, transportation to and from the retreat (by school bus), a live band all weekend, priest stipends (for Confession, Adoration and Mass), environmental supplies (to turn the retreat center into Narnia) and a gift (a tee shirt).
- 4. If I can’t pay, can my teen still go?** Absolutely! Just contact Kenn and we can handle that discretely.
- 5. Where is this retreat taking place?** We are going to a brand new retreat center this year! We are going to the Bellarmine Retreat Center, which is located in Buena Vista, PA (about 10 minutes from Ski Liberty). The retreat center was refurbished about 10 years ago. To see their website and pictures of the accommodations, check out their website at: <http://www.bellarmineretreat.org/>
- 6. Will I have to drive my teenager to and from the retreat?** No! We will provide bus transportation to and from the Bellarmine Retreat Center.



- 7. What is the sleeping situation like on the retreat?** There are 4 main houses that we will have access to. The houses will be separated by sex. Teens will have the freedom to select whom they want to room with. If we reach the maximum number of people we can take on this retreat (determined by the number of beds we have) we will still let your teen come if they are willing to sleep on the floor. Adults will stay in the house with the teens, but in an “adult only” room.
- 8. What are the meals like?** At this retreat center, we do our own cooking. The proposed menu is:
- Friday Dinner: Pasta, Salad, Garlic Bread, Cookies
Saturday Breakfast: Cereal, Bagels and Fruit
Saturday Lunch: Sandwiches (lunchmeat and PBJ), Chips and Salad
Saturday Dinner: Chicken Tenders, Mac and Cheese, salad, ice cream
Sunday Breakfast: Cereal, Bagels and Fruit
- 9. What will my teen be doing while on retreat?** Lots of things. Some of the things include: 4 keynote talks, small group time, free time, games (related to each talk theme), Eucharistic Adoration, Confession (with multiple confessors), Guys and Girls sessions, “desert” time, live music, a “Narnian” battle (complete with foam swords) and Saturday Night Live!, skits, praying the rosary and praying a Lectio Divina.
- 10. Who is the band that is playing at the retreat?** The band is “Once Jacob.” They played at the Parent Orientation night for your teens. They are a Christian band and their music is available to be listened to at: <http://www.myspace.com/oncejacob>
- 11. Tell me more about the “Narnian Battle.” Will it be safe for my teen? What if they don’t want to participate?** The Narnian battle will have teens using foam weapons which are designed for and completely safe for this kind of activity. Teens will also be forbidden from taking head shots and groin shots. These rules will be strictly enforced by CORE members who will be acting as referees for the game. Any teen who does not wish to play will have free time at this time. Those options include playing cards, board games, reading, talking, snacking or watching the movie “The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe.”
- 12. How are the small groups being set up for this retreat?** The small groups used will be the ones that have been set up for weekly use in LIFE TEEN. If your teen is joining us from an outside parish, they will be placed in a small group based on who they know.



13. What should my teen bring to the retreat?

- A sleeping bag and pillow
- Comfortable clothing (jeans and a tee shirt are fine)
- A sweatshirt/jacket (we are up in the mountains so it will be a bit colder)
- Toiletry supplies (towel, soap, shampoo, etc.)
- Your rosary and Bible (yes, we'll use it!)
- A digital camera (optional)

14. What should my teen NOT bring to the retreat?

- DVD player, iPod or electronic gaming device.
- Drugs or Alcohol
- Bad attitudes

15. What about cell phones? A lot of parents like their teens to have cell phones on them in case of emergencies. If you are not concerned with your teen having a cell phone, we would ask that they leave their cell phone at home. If you want your teen to have their cell phone, we ask that they leave it turned off in their bag all weekend. If we find a teen using a cell phone on the retreat, we will politely remind them to put it away once and then we will take it on the second time.

16. What if my teen has a medical need or dietary need? Please let us know that when you sign your teen up. Also, please note that on your teen's liability form. If your teen has any special medication, please make sure they bring it with them. They are free to take it themselves or you can have a CORE member hold onto it if you prefer (in case your teen is a bit forgetful). We will also have a medical kit on hand for basic medical needs.

17. If I need to get in touch with the CORE team while they are on retreat, how do I do that? You can call Kenn's cell phone at 240-409-3657. The reception is a little bit spotty, so leave a message if he doesn't pick up. You can also send a text message or an e-mail (since he has a Blackberry).

18. Is there anything I should be doing while my teen is on retreat? PRAY! Retreats can be powerful experiences for teenagers. The best thing you can do for your teen while they are on retreat is to keep them (and the rest of the group) in your prayers that the Lord will bless them and lead them closer to Himself.