

## 19<sup>th</sup> All-American Council

“For the Life of the World” – The Youth Program



### Goal

Provide a spiritually enriching experience for the youth, ages 5-18, from across North America who attend the youth program during the 19<sup>th</sup> All-American Council (AAC) in St. Louis, Missouri, Monday, July 23 – Friday, July 27, 2018.

### Objective

Engage the youth and teens to explore the AAC theme of ‘For the Life of the World,’ and encourage them to be empowered to live as Orthodox Christians in today’s challenging secular world.

### Format

The five-day program will include core activities and experiences based on the four pillars of the OCA’s Department of Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministries:

- **Worship**  
Daily morning/evening Vespers and Compline services. Hierarchical Divine Liturgy on Thursday.
- **Fellowship**  
Daily excursions to local sites
- **Service**  
Volunteering in a social responsibility project at FOCUS North America’s local center
- **Education**  
Discussions and lessons on the sacramental life of the church

The AAC youth program will be segmented into four age groupings:

- K-2
- 3-5
- 6-8
- 9-12

Each day will begin with prayer, following by a morning education sessions. Over the course of the approximate 2.5 – 3 hours, two sessions will be held for each age group.

The education sessions will focus on A) specific topics relating to the AAC theme, engaging with the youth in discussions, Q&A sessions, role-playing scenarios and B) other hands-on activities.

The afternoon sessions will be held off-site, exploring various sites around St. Louis.

### Su 7/22 Equal to the Apostles, St. Mary Magdalene

- 9 am Hierarchical Liturgy
- 7 pm Staff Meeting (mandatory)
- 8 pm Parent Meeting if have questions
- 8 pm FOCA dance for the kids
- 8 pm Crash room for 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders (optional)

## **19<sup>th</sup> All-American Council**

“For the Life of the World” – The Youth Program

10 pm Compline (*for families*)

### **Mo 7/23 Pochaev Icon of the Mother of God**

*Theme of the Day: A Sacramental Life: Offering Ourselves to God*

8:15a am staff arrive

8:30 am parent + kids meeting for Q&A (*for those who arrive late on SU or early MO*)

8:45 am Check-in

9 am Opening Prayer (for all) (10 min)

Icebreaker (15 min)

Intro to Liturgical Singing Practice (15 min)

Educational Program I: (*in four age group segments*)

A Sacramental Life: Offering ourselves to God.

Exploring the liturgical text “Thine Own of Thine Own” and what it means to be an Orthodox Christian – looking to the Theotokos as an icon/example for us to emulate in our lives.

11:15 am Lunch – pizza in hotel

11:45 pm Trip Downtown to the Gateway Arch (From Noon to 4:00 PM)

Youth K – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade (Junior Rangers Program, Tram to top of Gateway Arch, Explore new museum inside if time permits)

Youth 6 – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade (Tram to top of Gateway Arch, Board boat at 1:15PM Sharp, Explore new museum if time permits)

4:30 pm Return to the hotel

5 pm Vespers w/main AAC

6 pm check-in (to parents)

7:30 pm Service at the Opening of a Sacred Council (Youth present)

8 pm Address of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon

10 pm Compline (open for families)

10:30 pm Confessions

### **Tu 7/24 Ss Boris and Gleb / St Christina of Tyre**

*Theme of the Day: The Eucharist: Giving Thanks to God*

7 am Akathist / Sitka Mother of God (*optional*)

8:30 am staff arrive

## 19<sup>th</sup> All-American Council

“For the Life of the World” – The Youth Program

- 8:30 am parent + kids meeting for Q&A
- 8:45 am Check-in
- 9 am Liturgical Music Practice (25 min)
- Education Program II and III: Teaching Liturgy Workshops (age groups will cycle through each station)
- 1.) Items needed for Liturgy (Rubrics, Antimens, etc.) (25 min)
  - 2.) Proskedia and Liturgy Preparations (25 min)
  - 3.) Explanation of the parts of the Liturgy (25 min)
  - 4.) Reading, Singing, Chanting and significance (25 min)
- 11:30 am Depart to Forest Park (Light Snack on Bus) (From 11:30 am to 4 pm)
- If nice day, K – 5<sup>th</sup> graders will go to the zoo first then to the science center at 2PM. We will need buses to drop youth off at both the science center and zoo this morning depending on age groups. We will need a transport back and forth from the Zoo to Science Center around 2PM for K – 5<sup>th</sup> Graders)
- 12 pm Lunch at Zoo for K – 5<sup>th</sup> Graders
- 12 pm Lunch at Forest Park for 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders
- 4 pm Leave for hotel
- 5 pm Vespers w/main AAC
- 6 pm check-in (to parents)
- 8 pm Crash room for 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders
- 10 pm Compline (open for families)
- 10:30 pm Confessions

## 19<sup>th</sup> All-American Council

“For the Life of the World” – The Youth Program

### We 7/25 Dormition of Anna, the Mother of the Theotokos

*Theme of the Day: The Fruits of the Spirit: Who is My Neighbor?*

- 6 am Liturgy (*optional*)
- 7 am Akathist / St. Anna Icon (*optional*)
- 8:30 am staff arrive
- 8:45 am Check-in
- 9 am Opening Prayer + Liturgical Singing Practice
- 9:30 am Educational Program IV: (*in four age group segments*)  
The Fruits of the Spirit (Gal 5:22): love, joy, patience, self-control, peace, forbearance, kindness, faithfulness, goodness and how they relate to the gospel for the Sunday of the Last Judgment (Matt 25:31-46): Hungry, thirsty, stranger, naked, sick, imprisoned
- 11:30 am Depart to Six Flags / Snack on bus (from 11:30 am to 7:30 pm)
- 1 pm Lunch at Six Flags on own with chaperones
- 6:30 pm Dinner at Six Flags at the designated pavilion
- 8 pm Return to the hotel  
check-in (to parents)
- 8:30 pm Crash room for 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders
- 10 pm Compline (open for families)
- 10:30 pm Confessions

## 19<sup>th</sup> All-American Council

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### Th 7/26 St Jacob, Enlightener of the Native Peoples of Alaska

*Theme of the Day: What Does a 21st Century Orthodox Christian Look Like?*

- 8:30 am All-AAC hierarchical liturgy  
staff arrive (*immediately after liturgy concludes*)  
Youth check-in (*beginning 15 minutes after liturgy concludes*)  
Lunch with Metropolitan and hierarchs (*after liturgy concludes*)
- 1:00 pm depart to City Museum (from 1 to 4 pm)
- 4 pm Transfer to FOCUS/Holy Trinity Serbian Church/Snack on bus (from 4:30 to 10:30 PM)  
Meal Service @ FOCUS center (teens) (when done youth walk over to the Serbian Church Hall)  
Youth @ Holy Trinity Serbian Church (block party)
- 6 pm Banquet at Serbian Church  
dinner, dancing, music, games, fun
- 10 pm Compline in Holy Trinity church
- 10:30 pm Return to hotel
- 11 pm Arrive at hotel / check-in

## **19<sup>th</sup> All-American Council**

"For the Life of the World" – The Youth Program

### **Fr 7/27 St Panteleimon, the Greatmartyr and Healer**

*Theme of the Day: Coming Down From Mt. Tabor, Heading Home...*

- 6 am Liturgy (*optional*)
- 7 am Akathist / Tikhvin Icon (*optional*)
- 8:30 am staff arrive (*mandatory*)
- 8:45 am Check-in
- 9 am Opening Prayer
- 9:10 am Final Prep for presentation (*in four age group segments*)
- 9:30 am Presentation to AAC at-large, with video/photo highlights
- 10 am Education program VII: Final Challenge
- 11:15 am Break with Snack
- Education Program VIII: Wrap-up
- 12:30 pm Check-in (back to parents)
- Youth program concludes

### **Departures**