

<u>Catholic Heart Workcamp</u> <u>Mission Trip</u> <u>Information Sheet 2026</u>



<u>Destination:</u> Champaign, IL <u>**Mission Trip Dates:**</u> June 21-26, 2026 <u>**Cost:**</u> \$900 per participant*

Group Leaders: Michelle Boris, Coordinator of Young Adult Ministries

We will be partnering with St. Bridget of Sweden in Lindstrom and St. Gregory the Great in North Branch by sharing a bus with these two. All chaperones are Safe Environment certified through their parishes in the Archdiocese and are background checked through Catholic Heart Workcamp.

<u>Participant Ages:</u> Current (2025-2026) high school students in grades 9-12 and young adults ages 18-20. All 18+ students are required to have gone through E3 Safe Environment requirements and have an upto-date background check.

What will we be doing: St. Mary's is attending Catholic Heart Workcamp in Champaign, IL. CHWC offers youth-friendly, Catholic short term mission trips all over the world. Each Workcamp is equipped with a summer staff, director, manager, musician, nurse and priests. We work with many different social agencies doing all kinds of work projects like building wheelchair ramps, home improvement, cleaning & organizing, yard work, working with children at boys & girls clubs, working at soup kitchens, work with park districts, painting, etc.

Itinerary:

June 21: Travel Day – All Day, exact times TBD; 2/3 PM - CHWC Orientation & Opening Program

June 22-25: Service Days

June 26: CHWC Closing Program, Fun Day, Travel Home (arrive late in PM)

Service Day Schedule Details

6:15 AM - Wake Up, Breakfast, Daily Mass

9 AM – Worksites: You will be divided into small work groups of 5-7 youth and 1-2 adult chaperones. Each participant will be working with a team of people who are not from their own church group. For many this becomes a highlight of the week. You may or may not be at the same location for the whole week; it depends on the project, weather conditions and duration of work. While at your worksite, you will break for lunch each day and have a Prayer/Share time where you will go over discussion questions, explore the Catholic faith, and get to know your team on a deeper level.

~3 PM - Return to school building/Free time

~5:15 Dinner & After Dinner Program: Evening programs will inspire you to continue serving the next day and renew your commitment to God. The first half of each evening program will include fun games and upbeat music, and then we will transition into a more prayerful time with skits, videos, talks, praise and worship, and other opportunities to deepen one's faith and reflect on the day's activities.

<u>Transportation:</u> We will be sharing a coach bus with St. Bridget's and St. Gregory's. Vetted drivers or buses will transport groups to and from work sites during the week.

<u>Where are we staying:</u> The High School of St. Thomas More, 3901 North Mattis Avenue, Champaign, IL 61822

Shower Facilities: Generally, there are separate facilities for teen males, teen females, adult males and adult females. Everyone must wear a swimsuit while showering.

Sleeping Facilities: The sleeping areas are air conditioned. Females and males sleep in classrooms on separate floors. Adults and teens from our group sleep in separate classrooms. All adults 18+ are background checked through CHWC in addition to their parish's criteria.

Program Area: It is in a gym which is air conditioned.

Meals: In the cafeteria which is air conditioned.

<u>Other Commitments:</u> All participants and a parent/guardian will be required to attend one to two preparation meetings prior to the trip and are expected to help with fundraising. Participants will need to complete a code of conduct, permission slip, photo release, and health insurance form. All participants and chaperones are required to have health insurance per CHWC policy.

*Fundraising opportunities will also be available, and participation in some is expected. Please contact Michelle if cost is an issue and we will work with you. First fundraiser is October 11-12 after masses.

Registration Deadline: Dec. 30, 2025. A \$100 deposit is due within one week of registration.

More Information and Registration Link: <u>www.stmarys-wbl.org</u> – Click Mission, then High School or scan the QR Code below

Contact: Michelle Boris, Coordinator of Young Adult Ministries

Office: (651) 429-7771, Option 1

Google Voice Cell (OK to text): 612-405-8703

Email: mboris@stmarys-wbl.org

Register Now:

