

The Catholic Diocese of Little Rock presents...

STATE CONVENTION

featuring:

MARK HART



May 6-8, 2016

COURAGE MEANS WE REFUSE TO BE
MASTERED BY FEAR
—MARK HART

Mark Hart is Executive Vice President of Content and Identity of Life Teen International. He is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame and a twenty-year veteran of Catholic youth ministry and a Research Fellow for the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology. Mark is one of the most sought after speakers in the Catholic Church today. His newest DVD study guide—“Altaration” is receiving praise across the globe as a revolutionary and vital work for the young Catholic Church.

The author (and co-author) of over a dozen books, including bestsellers: “Blessed are the Bored in Spirit”, “Behold the Mystery”, “Ask the Bible Geek”, “100 Things Every Catholic Teen Should Know” and “The “R” Father”. Mark is also known for his weekly audio podcast Sunday, Sunday, Sunday.

Mark’s sense of humor and his passion for Scripture are helping hundreds of thousands of young Catholics begin to read and study the Bible in engaging and relevant ways. To quote Mark: “My childhood plan was to be a jedi. My teenage plan was to be on Saturday Night Live. God’s plan was to have me in ministry. God won—and I’m glad he did.”

Mark and his wife, Melanie, reside in Phoenix, Arizona with their 4 children.



“WE ARE ONE”

January 25, 2016

Dear Youth Ministers:

We are preparing for the 66th Annual Catholic Youth Convention. The convention will be held May 6 - 8, 2016 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Little Rock. Our theme is “We Are One.” Our keynote speaker for this year is Mark Hart, President of Life Teen.

Realizing that the convention weekend is Mother’s Day, please note that the schedule for Sunday, May 8th ends at 9:30am. This will enable members of your youth group to be home in time to celebrate this special day with their moms.

Registration will be held in the Lobby area of the DoubleTree Hotel at Markham and Broadway Streets; here you will pick up your name badges and t-shirts for your group. You will pick up your youth group’s room keys at the front desk of the Doubletree Hotel.

A few reminders:

- Don’t forget your generous and much needed donation for the Terry Skelton Fund at the Mass offertory.
- The Terry Skelton Fund is available to those youth who cannot afford to attend.
- All chaperones *must be* at least 25 years of age and have been certified through the VIRTUS Protecting God’s Children program. Attach a copy of their VIRTUS training bulletin completion sheets showing that their training is up to date. You must have male and female chaperones if you have male and female youth attending the convention.
- Chaperones of each parish are responsible for their youth for the entire weekend, as well as, watching out for all youth present.
- On the Master Registration Form, designate with a cross (+) one youth that would like to be a minister at the Mass on Saturday evening and note what ministry.
- Have youth bring toiletry items, socks, refillable water bottles to be donated to Jericho Way, a homeless day resource center operated by St. Vincent de Paul Society. These items should be turned in at the registration desk.
- 8x10 photos of your parish group can be purchased from our photographers. Please be prepared to pay for these photos at the time you place the order.
- The theme for the dance will be determined and sent to you at a later date.
- Once again we will walk down to the Cathedral of St. Andrew for Mass on Saturday evening.
- Please note that parking at the DoubleTree will be billed to the driver’s room and costs \$5.00/night.

Please feel free to contact the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry with any questions you may have.

Pax,

Liz Tingquist
Trish Gentry
Catholic Youth Office

2016 Registration Fees

Convention Fee per Person:	\$ 100.00
Hotel Room:	\$ 276.00

To determine each registrant’s hotel fee, divide the total room cost by the number of people assigned to the room (NOT TO EXCEED 4/ROOM), i.e., 4/rm = \$69.00 each, 3/rm = \$92 each, 2/rm = \$138/each, 1/rm = \$276/each. Then, add the convention fee to that amount to determine that person’s total cost. We will not automatically combine rooms unless you request that we do. Please understand that not all adults wish to share rooms and therefore, we cannot guarantee a roommate for you.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APRIL 11, 2016

CONVENTION INFORMATION

It is the policy of the Diocesan Youth Office that those students in the 9th - 12th grades during the 2015- 2016 school year will be permitted to attend convention. Anyone not pre-registered will not be permitted to attend convention.

All hotel reservations will be made through the diocesan office. Hotel room cost for the weekend is \$276.00 per room. [Your cost breakdown example: 1 occupant = \$276.00, 2 occupants \$138.00 each, 3 occupants \$92.00 each, 4 occupants \$69.00 each] (2 nights, maximum of 4 people per room). **Your parish is responsible for the full cost of a room even if you don't have 4 to a room unless you have contacted another parish to share the room and split the cost of filling/sharing sleeping rooms. Additionally, there will be a \$5.00/night fee for hotel parking.**

Registration fees include: Saturday lunch and dinner, convention t-shirt and entry into all convention activities. The registration fee is \$100/per person. It is best to eat supper Friday night **before** convention officially opens.

The adult in charge of the parish delegation will be responsible for turning in room keys and paying for any charges incurred at the time of check-out (telephone, damages, etc.). You may be asked to leave a credit card at check-in if you want to charge to your rooms.

Medical Consent/Liability Waiver and Code of Behavior Forms (enclosed): At the convention, the adult in charge must have in his/her possession the Medical Consent/Liability Waiver and Code of Conduct forms for each participant, including adult chaperones. These will be inspected when you register on site to ensure that all youth/adults have these forms. Please keep these forms on you at all times during the event. **Remember that all chaperones must meet the diocesan VIRTUS safe environment standards and must send in a copy of their VIRTUS Training Bulletin showing that they are current and up to date on their monthly training PRIOR to convention with your Parish Master Registration form.**

TERRY SKELTON FUND: This fund provides scholarship money for youth within our Diocese who would be unable to attend Diocesan events unless aided financially. Your generous contribution provides these youth the awesome experience of gathering with our larger church community. Please ask your parish to consider a donation to this vital fund. Additionally, we would suggest that you make an appeal to parents whose children benefit from your parish's youth activities. **PLEASE BE GENEROUS.**

Terry Skelton Fund Financial Scholarship: Help with partial funding for a few registrants in financial need through the Terry Skelton Fund is available. Please have any teens needing scholarships fill out the **Scholarship Request form and submit this with your Master Form** indicating the amount requested for financial assistance. Fees will be adjusted as funds are rewarded.

Youth and Adult Advisory Council Applications: The Diocesan Youth Office must receive applications and reference forms for membership on the Youth and Adult Advisory Councils by **March 18, 2016**. Applicants will be required to **come to the Diocese on April 3rd for a personal interview for the Youth Advisory Council.** **Additionally, applicants need to be available for our YAC retreat scheduled for July 16-17, 2016 at St. John's Catholic Center in Little Rock.**

Items to Bring to Convention - 1) donation for the Terry Skelton Fund, 2) code of conduct/medical and transportation forms, 3) Chaperone Forms, and 4) Baby items for donation.

Emergency Calls: For emergency calls, please inform your participants that the hotel phone number is (501) 372-4371. It would be best if the call is made directly to you, the youth minister, and then forwarded to the appropriate room.

Additional Emergency Phone Numbers During Convention: For emergency calls, diocesan staff phone numbers are as follows: Liz Tingquist's cell is (501) 258-0682 and Trish Gentry's cell is (501) 352-1682. Messages may also be left at the DoubleTree Hotel at (501) 372-4371.

MASTER FORM
 2016 State Convention
REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS: APRIL 11, 2016
Please TYPE or PRINT all necessary information

PARISH _____ CITY _____

NAME & PHONE # OF Adult Advisor in Charge (AAIC)

ADDRESS, CITY & ZIP OF AAIC

Email Address: _____ CELL PHONE NUMBER (____) _____

List **ADULTS Attending Convention FIRST**: (minimum: one per 10 youth). **Type or print** all the necessary information.

T-SHIRTS: S M L and XL (no extra cost), **XXL or larger (\$2.00 extra)**.

Place a **CROSS (+)** beside the name of 1 youth who would like to be a minister at Mass and note which ministry.

Chaperones must be 25 years old.

NAME	A/Y	M/F	T-shirt Size
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____
9. _____	_____	_____	_____
10. _____	_____	_____	_____
11. _____	_____	_____	_____
12. _____	_____	_____	_____
13. _____	_____	_____	_____
14. _____	_____	_____	_____

15.	_____	_____	_____	_____
16.	_____	_____	_____	_____
17.	_____	_____	_____	_____
18.	_____	_____	_____	_____
19.	_____	_____	_____	_____
20.	_____	_____	_____	_____
21.	_____	_____	_____	_____
22.	_____	_____	_____	_____
23.	_____	_____	_____	_____
24.	_____	_____	_____	_____
25.	_____	_____	_____	_____
26.	_____	_____	_____	_____
27.	_____	_____	_____	_____
28.	_____	_____	_____	_____
29.	_____	_____	_____	_____
30.	_____	_____	_____	_____
31.	_____	_____	_____	_____
32.	_____	_____	_____	_____
33.	_____	_____	_____	_____
34.	_____	_____	_____	_____
35.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Total number of PARTICIPANTS: _____	X	\$ 100 .00 = Total cost of registration fees:	_____
Total number of HOTEL ROOMS: _____	X	\$ 276.00 = Total cost of hotel rooms:	_____
Total number of XXL T-shirts: _____	X	\$ 5.00 = Extra t-shirt charge:	_____
Late Fee (if registering after April 11, 2016 _____	x	\$20.00 additional fee/person	_____
Grand Total Fee Paid:			_____

LIST below ANY SPECIAL NEEDS (physical &/or food) - along with person's name.
 (If further space is needed, copy these pages.)

Rm. #	Ar v	Dep	First & Second Person	A/Y	M/F	Third & Fourth Person	A/Y	M/F
(8)								
(9)								
(10)								
(11)								
(12)								
(13)								
(14)								
(15)								
(16)								
(17)								

Catholic Youth Convention - Chaperone Guidelines

Welcome! As a chaperone, you play an important part in ensuring the positive experience of this event. We offer the following list of guidelines to help you fulfill your role as a chaperone.

We require that:

- ☞ **all** chaperones enforce the code of behavior and set an example for youth.
- ☞ **all** chaperones are responsible for each youth assigned to you to attend all scheduled functions of this event. (Youth may not leave a session or return to their hotel room without an adult).
- ☞ **while** at general sessions, seating is by parish. Chaperones must spread out among their teens to be present and available to your group. It is expected that chaperones will not leave the conference area and we expect other adults to be responsible for youth in your charge
- ☞ **chaperones** do not go anywhere during this event where teens are not allowed (i.e., bars, lounges, etc.) nor, should chaperones consume any alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs during the weekend.
- ☞ **chaperones** check youth rooms at curfew to make sure all youth are accounted for. Chaperones are expected to take their turn monitoring the halls and other areas as requested by the chaperone in charge of the floor. Food orders, after curfew, must be picked up in the lobby by an adult chaperone.
- ☞ **strictly enforce curfew and the dress code.**
- ☞ **any** alcohol, drugs, or firearms found with/on a person or in a hotel room will be considered the possession of those in that room and will result in immediate dismissal by the diocesan director of youth ministries. All adults are expected to inform the diocesan director if any of these items are found.

REMEMBER: While at the convention, you are **TOTALLY** responsible for both the behavior and the needs of the youth entrusted to your care. Please pay close attention to both. Wherever we are, we represent the youth of the Catholic Church of Arkansas.

All chaperones are expected to follow these rules. In the interest of safety and security, do not leave your group without a chaperone. Should an emergency arise, check in with the diocesan youth director, head chaperone, or an Adult Advisory Council member. With these things in mind, we believe all, adults and youth alike, will indeed have a joyful celebration of youth.

I understand and accept these chaperone guidelines.

(Chaperone's Signature)

(Parish/City)

(Form to be sent into diocesan office with registration materials.)

Catholic Youth Convention

Guidelines for the Adult in Charge of Parish Group

The following will help you in planning for a successful experience

We require that:

- All adult advisors/chaperones are at least **25 years of age**. This adult should be known by the youth.
- Each group has at least one chaperone for every **ten** teens.
- If you have both male and female participants, have both male and female adult chaperones.
- You enforce the code of behavior and set an example for youth. Code of Behavior and Medical/Transportation Forms **MUST** be in the possession of the youth minister in charge of the parish group. **A copy of all medical forms must be turned in at check-in. You should also keep a copy of the medical forms with you as well.**
- All adults are to sign a Chaperone Guideline Form. These are to be sent in to the diocesan office with registration materials.
- Any alcohol, drugs, firearms or explosives found with/on a person or in a hotel room will be considered the possession of those in that room and will result in immediate dismissal by the diocesan director of youth ministries. All adults are expected to inform the diocesan director if any of these items are found.

SOME HELPFUL HINTS:

- 1) Meet with chaperones, and then with chaperones and youth to go over diocesan and parish expectations. Explain the purpose of this event. Establish contingency plans for accidents, sickness or misconduct.
- 2) Choose chaperones that have a good rapport with youth, yet can control the group on outings and at general sessions. Choose chaperones that have been active with your youth group. Chaperones and youth should know each other.
- 3) If you have both male and female participants, have both male and female adult chaperones.
- 4) Bring snacks with you. Remember that breakfast is on your own each morning. Consider bringing continental breakfast items with you for your youth.
- 5) Review the diocesan rules and your own expectations as you travel to this event.

ADULT MEDICAL RELEASE FORM

Date: _____ Parish: _____

Print Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone Number: (____) _____ Cell Phone Number: (____) _____

Physician's Name: _____ Phone # (____) _____

Date of Birth: _____ Date of last tetanus shot: _____

Please list **all** medical conditions/allergies/special health information: _____

Please list **any** medications (prescriptions or non-prescription) that you would like us to be aware of:

Medical Insurance Company: _____ Policy Number: _____

Policy in the name of: _____ Relationship: _____

Emergency Contact Name and Number: _____

In the event that the participant does not have insurance, payment in full for medical care becomes the responsibility of the patient.

I, _____, do hereby release, hold harmless and discharge the Diocese of Little Rock, its staff and volunteers from any and all liability, claim, loss, damage, cost or expense arising from my participation in this event. I waive such claims against such organization or any such person, arising directly or indirectly from or attributable in any legal way, to any action or omission to act of any such organization or person in connection with execution of this event. I authorize treatment by a licensed medical physician or licensed medical team in case of any accident or illness that may so arise, or any hospitalization necessary.

Signature: _____

2016 INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION FORM
State Catholic Youth Convention
May 6 - 8, 2016

Each participant attending the convention **MUST** complete this form. Please complete the form carefully, supplying **ALL** the requested information **USING INK, PRINTING LEGIBLY, OR TYPING.**

CHECK ONE: Youth _____ Chaperone _____

_____ Male ___ Female ___

LAST NAME FIRST (for name tag)

ADDRESS CITY & ZIP PHONE NUMBER

ATTENDEE'S CELL PHONE NUMBER: (_____) _____

SCHOOL GRADE AGE EMERGENCY NUMBER

Handicaps/Allergies /Special (i.e., food) needs that we should be aware of: _____

T-Shirt - I want size (circle one): Small Medium Large X-Large **XX-Large** **XXX - Large**
Enclose an additional \$5.00 if ordering an XX Large or XXX Large; other sizes are included in your registration fees.

TOTAL REGISTRATION AND HOTEL FEES PAID _____

DEADLINE TO RETURN FEES AND FORM IS:

**(This form is here for your use in collecting information from your youth group.
It does not have to be submitted to the Diocese.)**

Expectations & Code of Behavior - Convention

At all Diocesan sponsored activities, we expect you to represent the Diocese of Little Rock well! We hope that you will display the mature, responsible leadership and character which has for so many years been the trademark of Catholic youth within this diocese.

Expectations . . .

- Participants are expected to attend all sessions and wear their name badges for all activities.
- All participants must be in their own room from evening curfew to 7:00 AM. **Guys and girls are not to be in the same sleeping room at any time.** Only convention participants are allowed in sleeping rooms.
- Dress code: **At All Times** - no halter-tops, no short shorts, no NIKE shorts, no midriff tops, and no spaghetti strap tops, no tight exercise/yoga pants, no sagging jeans, no inappropriate language on t-shirts. If dressed inappropriately, the individual will be asked to change.
Dress appropriately for Mass.
- Ordering of food is not permitted after curfew.
- Smoking and the illegal use of drugs and/or alcohol will not be permitted at any time.

CODE OF BEHAVIOR . . .

1. Individuals are responsible for their own actions and will be asked to assume the natural consequences for any negative behavior. Each participant will take full responsibility for any damage or theft.
2. Participants should not leave the activity site unless accompanied by an adult from their parish.
3. The possession and/or use of alcohol, drugs, firearms or explosives is prohibited. Any of these items found in a hotel room are considered belonging to those assigned to the room.
4. Christ-like behavior is promoted and expected at all times. Therefore, inappropriate contact, touch, gesture, language, or activity of a sexual nature is unacceptable.

Infractions of the Code of Behavior or any other inappropriate activity will result in the diocesan director discussing the infraction with the participant. In the unlikely event that a behavior problem based on the above requires extreme action, it will result in dismissal from convention. One's parent/guardian is responsible for removing the participant from the convention site.

I understand and accept this code of behavior.

(Participant's Signature)

(Date)

I consent to the conditions stated above on participation in this event.

Parent/Guardian's Signature)

(Date)

() _____

(Phone Number - Day)

() _____

(Phone Number - Night)

() _____

Cell Phone Number

YOUTH PARENTAL/GUARDIAN MEDICAL CONSENT AND LIABILITY WAIVER

Participant's Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____ Home Phone(____) _____

Alternate Phone Number: (____) _____ Cell Phone Pager Work

Parish: _____ Grade _____ Age _____ Sex: M/F

CONSENT & LIABILITY WAIVER

Important! To be filled out by the Parent/Guardian for youth under 18 years of age. If participant is 18 years of age or older, consent must be signed by the individual.

I (name of parent/guardian) _____, grant permission for my child, (participant's name) _____, to participate in (event) _____ Catholic Youth Convention, to be held May 6 - 8, 2016, (time) _____ and (location) Double Tree Hotel and the Cathedral of St. Andrew.

I agree on behalf of myself, my child's other parent if known, or living (name of parent) _____. My child named herein, or our heirs, successors, and assigns, to hold harmless and defend the Diocese of Little Rock, the sponsoring parish (its pastor, youth minister, other agents, etc.) or any representatives associated with the scheduled activity unless the parties involved were careless or negligent. My signature also allows the use of any photographs of my child taken at this event to be used for promotional purposes. Additionally, my signature gives permission for my child to be contacted through social media, such as facebook, twitter, etc. as well as e-mail.

Signature (Parent/Guardian)

Date

MEDICAL CONSENT

Medical Matters

I hereby warrant to the best of my knowledge, my child is in good health, and I assume all responsibility for the health of my child. Of the following statements pertaining to medical matters, sign only those in accordance to your wishes:

Emergency Medical Treatment

In the event of any emergency, I hereby give permission to transport my child to a hospital for emergency medical or surgical treatment. I wish to be advised prior to any further treatment by the hospital or doctor. In the event of any emergency and you are unable to reach me, contact:

Name & Relationship _____ Phone (____) _____

Family Doctor: _____ Phone (____) _____

Medications

My child will bring all such medications, well labeled, that are necessary. Names of medications and concise directions for seeing that the child takes such medications, including dosage and frequency are as follows:

My child is taking the following medication at the present time:

Medication(s): _____ Dosage _____ Medication _____ Dosage _____ Medication _____ Dosage _____

Administer: _____

_____ I hereby **DO NOT GRANT PERMISSION** for medication of any type, whether prescription or nonprescription may be administered by my child unless the situation is life threatening and emergency treatment is required. (Please initial)

_____ I hereby **GRANT PERMISSION** for nonprescription medication (such as Tylenol, throat lozenges, cough syrup) to be given to my child, if deemed advisable. (Please initial)

MEDICAL CONDITIONS INFORMATION

(Diocesan personnel will take reasonable care to see that the following information will be held in confidence)

My son/daughter has: _____

Has had an episode of the following or has been diagnosed Seizures Asthma Diabetic

Allergic reactions to the following (foods, dyes, latex, etc.) _____

Has had medical surgery within the last six months? Yes No Still under Doctor's care? Yes No

Has a medically prescribed diet? _____

The following physical limitations? _____

Immunizations current and up to date: Yes No Date of last tetanus/diphtheria immunization _____

You should be aware of these special medical conditions of my child: _____

INSURANCE INFORMATION

(Please attach a copy of the Insurance Card, front and back, with this form)

Insurance Carrier: _____

Name of Insured: _____

Insurance ID Number: _____ Insurance Policy Number: _____

Father's Name: _____ Birth Date: _____

Place of Employment: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Birth Date: _____

Place of Employment: _____

_____ No, I do not carry medical insurance at this time.

In the event it comes to the attention of the chaperones associated with the activity that my child becomes ill with repeated symptoms such as headache, vomiting, sore throat, fever, diarrhea, I want to be called immediately. If this will be a long distance call, I want to be called collect (with phone charges reversed to myself).

Signature (Parent/Guardian) Parent Guardian must sign for anyone under 18 years of age

Date

Signature (Participant 18 years of age or older must sign own consent)

Date



**2016 Catholic Youth Convention
"WE ARE ONE"**

(Tentative Schedule)

DoubleTree Hotel, Little Rock

Friday, May 6

5:00p - 8:00p Registration - Robinson Convention Center,
8:00p - 8:30p Youth Director/Chaperone Meeting, (Room to be announced)
8:00p - 8:45p Icebreakers followed by Praise and Worship
8:45p - 11:00p Opening /Prayer/Keynote MARK HART
11:00p - 11:15p Night Prayer Service
Midnight Curfew/Everyone in their hotel rooms

Saturday, May 7

7:45a - 8:30a Breakfast on your own
9:00a - 9:30a Praise and Worship/Energizers
9:30a - 9:45a (TJ to lead in to prayer) Morning Prayer Service
9:45a - 11:00a Keynote Presentation, MARK HART
11:00a - 12:15p XLT Session, led by TJ and YAC (Reconciliation to be offered)
12:15p - 1:15p Lunch, DoubleTree Hotel outside plaza (Reconciliation available throughout lunch)
1:30p - 2:30p Breakout Sessions
2:45p - 3:45p Breakout Sessions
4:00p - 4:45p Wrap up General Session,
4:45p - 5:30p Change for Mass, Free Time
5:45p Walk to the Cathedral of St. Andrew
6:15p - 7:30p Mass at the Cathedral of St. Andrew with Installation of 2016/2017 Youth
Advisory Council
7:45p - 8:45p Banquet with presentation of adult and youth awards - DoubleTree Ballroom
9:30p - 11:00p **Dance**, DoubleTree Ballroom **OR** Other activities to be determined
11:10p - 11:30p Night Prayer Service
Midnight Curfew, everyone in hotel rooms

Sunday, May 8

7:00a - 7:45a Breakfast on your own
8:00a - 8:30a Praise and Worship/Energizers, DoubleTree Hotel Ballroom
8:30a - 9:30a Closing Prayer Service/Convention PowerPoint/Senior Farewell