

## 2024 St. George Trek

Philmont Scout Ranch Cimarron, New Mexico July 3 – July 18, 2024

## **Registration process**



Applications are currently being accepted from the Catholic Committee on Scouting Archdiocese of Los Angeles (CCSALA) for the 2024 St. George Trek at Philmont Scout Ranch. Please sign up early as only a limited number of spots are available.

- Submit applications ASAP to the National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS)
  <u>https://nccs-bsa.org/saint-george-trek/</u>.
  Search for "St. George Trek Participant Application"
- NCCS will forward applications to the Catholic Committee on Scouting for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles (CCSALA).
- CCSALA will schedule interviews with all candidates. Details of the interviews (location, date, time) will be announced.

### **Trek Details**

- Dates: July 3-18, 2024
- Overview and Participant Qualifications see fact sheet
- Health Form: Participants will need to have a BSA Health and Medical form signed by a doctor dated no more than one year prior to the trek departure date.
- Fee: \$1575 per participant, covers the following:
  - All Philmont Scout Ranch fees
  - Retreat House lodging in Albuquerque
  - Philmont and Retreat House meals
  - Chartered bus travel between Albuquerque and Philmont

Fee due dates are: upon acceptance; Sept. 15, 2023; Nov 15, 2023 (\$425 each); and Jan 15, 2024

(\$300)

Not Included in Fee:

- o transportation to and from Albuquerque
- $\circ$  personal gear
- o normal personal expenses

Note: CCSALA plans to subsidize part of the fee. Details will be announced as soon as available. Those selected as participants should plan on paying a portion of the fee and the other expenses themselves. Each participant is encouraged to arrange for further funding through their local Scout unit, Chartered Organization, local Knights of Columbus councils and/or their home parish.

Questions? Contact Mr. Joe Bauer at joe.bauer@ccsala.org.



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**Fact Sheet** 

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- WHAT The St. George Trek is a biennial, high adventure, backpacking retreat program for Catholic Scouts and Venturers administered by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting in cooperation with the Boy Scouts of America's Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico. The program begins and ends in Albuquerque, New Mexico; however the hike itself takes place at the Philmont Scout Ranch.
- **PURPOSE** Philmont's high adventure backpacking experience is placed within the context of a retreat program dedicated to assisting a scout's awareness of his or her Christian vocation with a particular emphasis on the vocations of Priesthood and Religious Life. The adult advisors for each crew of 8-10 scouts are therefore priests, religious men and women, and seminarians. The advisors fulfill the role of adult supervision in a youth led crew, while at the same time literally walking with the scouts in order for them to come to a deeper understanding of the advisor's vocation. The presence of advisors on the trail gives the scouts an opportunity to experience the sacraments and the church's life of prayer on a daily basis as they hike through "God's Country"
- **GOAL** Scouts create two Covenant Commitments. The first covenant is to Almighty God which the scout keeps to him or herself. This covenant is one that hopefully opens the scout to God's vocational call. The second covenant is to their sponsoring diocese stating how they plan to be of service to the Church through Catholic Scouting. These covenant commitments help the participant to recognize the serious commitment of participating in the St. George Trek.

#### CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS/SELECTION

Each Arch/diocese is encouraged to conduct a search and nominate one or two Boy Scouts or Venture Crew members for participation in the Trek. Because the program can only accommodate seventy youth, only two participants per diocese will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. Selection of participants is made by the individual Arch/Diocese and should be made on the basis of demonstrated maturity, physical ability, leadership potential, an interest the life of the Church and an openness to the discernment of vocation. The earning of Scouting's Religious Emblems and involvement in church, school and scouting activities should be given consideration. Candidates should be emotionally mature adolescents who will be at least fifteen years of age and no older than 18 years old on or before July 1, 2024, in High School in the fall of 2024 and committed to assist their Catholic Committee when they return home. They must also have the physical health and stamina to backpack on the mountain trails of Philmont. *NO exceptions can be made to these expectations and requirements*. A female crew is planned pending sufficient female registration. The Saint George Trek is a one-time only experience for youth. Previous youth participants are not eligible.