

STEUBENVILLE STL M I D - A M E R I C A

2021 CONSIDERATIONS

Below you will see a number of steps the Steubenville STL Mid-America team has taken to mitigate potential risks of the transference of the COVID-19 Virus. We must acknowledge that each weekend 2,000 participants will travel to Springfield from different parts of the country and are coming from a variety of rules and regulations with regards to masking, social distancing, and other considerations. We ask each group leader to do their part in what they can to mitigate risks within each group.

This is subject to change based off the most recent guidelines at the time of the conferences.

ARENA

- Groups will be assigned an entrance throughout the weekend in relation to your seating. You will maintain this entrance for all sessions throughout the weekend
- Do not congregate at entrances as in years past. Use the full allotted time to enter the arena
- Please use only restrooms located on your side of the concourse
- Vocations tables will be located in the main concourse between the two entrances and will be accessible to all
- Groups seated in lower and upper bowls will be sat together as a pod with extra seats available for each group
- Groups will be separated by 6+ feet if in lower or upper bowls
- Floor sections will not be seated pod style with extra seats as chairs will already be socially distanced
- No group will cross over another group when entering their assigned row
- Participants are not allowed to congregate (or form mosh pits) along the main stage or participate in congo lines in the venue prior to or during sessions
- Following sessions, groups will be dismissed by section via directions on the screens

HOUSING

Participants will be limited to 2 to a room

DINING

- Dining Halls will be at 40% capacity for each dining session, allowing participants space to spread out
- All food will be handled by qualified food hospitality personnel and served to participants from buffet line
- Groups have the option to take the meal "to go". Take out meals should be eaten in the immediate outdoor vicinity of the dining hall

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- We ask our guests to be conscientious of others and allow for adequate spacing while standing in line (such as at Confession, meals, restrooms, etc.)
- The Bookstore will be housed in the Plaster Student Union 4th Floor, Union Club, a larger space than previous years
- There will be 50% of Confessors per shift than previous years and all confessions will be behind a screen

MONITORING SYMPTOMS

- All conference participants signed a COVID release form as part of registration
- People with COVID-19 have a wide range of symptoms – from being asymptomatic to having mild or severe symptoms. Symptoms may arise 2-14 days after exposure. Loss of taste or smell, congestion, runny nose, fever (over 100.4) or chills, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle/body aches, sore throat, nausea/vomiting, and/or diarrhea are common symptoms.
- If you suspect a participant may have COVID, please immediately visit an urgent care. A list of urgent cares will be made available to group leaders.
- If a COVID test is obtained, please notify a staff member at 314-520-2071
- If a COVID test comes back positive, the situation will be assessed with a staff member to further decide the next steps. It is possible that other members, or the entire group, may be asked to depart from the conference in addition to the positive case.

MASKS

- As of May 27th, Greene County, MO (where MSU is located) does not have a mask mandate in place and recommends that unvaccinated individuals continue to mask. This is the recommendation that we will be following as a conference unless anything changes in the next 4 weeks.
- We ask that each group leader speaks to their parish pastor and the parents of the youth and make a well informed decision for your group.
- Regardless of vaccination status, we also encourage group leaders to consider masking during times of high traffic in and out of buildings, within the PSU, and when social distancing is not possible.