

Ireland  
PILGRIMAGE

YOUNG ADULTS (18-39)  
JUNE 13-20, 2020



DIOCESE OF  
FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND  
YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

## Pilgrimage Fundraising Tips

The cost of a pilgrimage is often the biggest hurdle for young adults to overcome. The price tag can appear out of reach. However, remember that you are not alone in this effort – involve the community around you and trust in the Lord. The fundraising process itself can actually be spiritually enriching, as you see how God provides to make the pilgrimage possible for you.

The earlier you begin fundraising, the better. A longer time span allows more time to accumulate the necessary funds. Below are several paths that you might consider following, all of which can be carried out at the same time.

### Personal Sacrifice

How much can you save between now and the final payment due date? What expenditures might you be able to give up in order to direct that money to the pilgrimage instead? Some suggestions:

- Forego replacing older electronics or clothes for another year
- Cancel TV/streaming subscriptions for a period of time
- Eat out one less time per week or fast from alcohol/coffee

What might be difficult but possible for you to sacrifice? Even small sacrifices can accumulate to a significant amount over an extended period of time. The spiritual benefits of personal sacrifice can really add up too!

## **Diocesan Support**

The Diocese has applied for and received a grant to help make this pilgrimage more affordable in two ways:

- 1) The first 15 registrants receive a \$240 subsidy, so register early to take advantage of this opportunity.
- 2) Seven scholarships of \$500 each are being offered, so complete the application process in order to have a chance of receiving one of those.

## **Parish Support**

Find out who else at your parish has interest in going on the pilgrimage, especially if your parish has an active Young Adult Ministry. Work together and approach your pastor for permission and guidance to organize a parish-wide fundraiser.

If fundraising is not a viable option at your parish, ask whether the parish can help you financially in some other way. Maybe they can provide you scholarship funds or funding tied to assisting with a particular ministry effort at the parish?

For all options, you might solicit prayer intentions from the parish to bring with you, share the experience with the parish via a blog or social media during the pilgrimage, and/or create a slideshow presentation upon your return to show the parish what happened and the fruits of the pilgrimage in your life.

## **Community Organizations**

Approach community organizations, such as your local Knights of Columbus council, to inquire about funding potential. This can be done individually or as a group of young adults. In return, you might offer to help with community events that they organize, as well as solicit prayer intentions and share the experience with them through a slideshow presentation.

## **Crowdfunding**

Mobilize your personal network of family, friends, and co-workers to support you through a fundraising website, such as GoFundMe.com. This method not only raises money, but also allows your closest community to participate in the pilgrimage through their own sacrifices. Keep them updated through the crowdfunding website as well as a blog or social media throughout the pilgrimage, and of course thank them in some way upon your return.