



The Orthodox Church in America
DIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA AND EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA
The Most Rev. Mark, Archbishop of Philadelphia

May 24, 2022

St. Tikhon's Summer Camp 2022
July 3-9, 2022

A Youth Ministry Program of the Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania

Dear Rev Frs. and faithful,

Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen! At our Diocesan Council Meeting of May 10th, 2022 the Diocesan Council discussed our commitment to strengthening and supporting youth ministry. The summer camp program is one way in which we can assist our faithful in Orthodox Christian Education and lifelong relationships amongst our youth.

The Diocesan Council in the interest of helping our camp program get restarted voted unanimously to waive all fees for the youth of the Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania who are in good standing with a parish of our Diocese. <https://www.stikhonscamp.org/copy-of-camper-registration>. We realized that paying camp fees can be difficult, particularly for parents with more than one child. We also believe that camp attendance is historically lower when there is an All American Council, so we thought providing tuition might encourage more children to attend camp. Camp Registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis, so we encourage diocesan families to apply prior to June 7th, 2022.

We want to keep our youth in the Church and deeply appreciate the volunteers of our Diocese and those of other Dioceses in providing this wonderful opportunity. We ask the parents of our Diocesan youth ages 7-17 to use the following link to register for camp, <https://www.stikhonscamp.org/copy-of-camper-registration>. In order for the fees to be waived we will require a letter from one of our active Diocesan parish priests stating your family is in good standing and regular communicants. *The letter should be sent with the application containing the names of your children.* For Diocesan families who already paid the fees, we can refund your money upon request or issue a letter accepting it as a donation.

Hopefully, our parishes will sponsor the youth of the Diocese and faithful will see the benefit of our camp program and make donations to provide for every youth of our Diocese to attend without the embarrassment of asking for financial assistance. We also appreciate our volunteers and encourage more of our faithful to assist with the program.

Your unworthy father in Christ,

+ Mark

+ MARK (Maymon), Archbishop of Philadelphia and the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania

CC: Diocesan Clergy



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"Thou hast made us for Thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in Thee." Augustine