

Camp Veritas Update-Preliminary Info for Ireland Staff May 30, 2023

Hello Saints!

Thank you for submitting a registration to volunteer for our Ireland week of Camp Veritas at Clongowes Wood College, located at Castlebrown, Clane, Co. Kildare, W91 DN40, Ireland.

Here is some important information. **Note that there are action items that require your attention, please read CAREFULLY**:

ARRIVAL: We are planning an in-depth orientation, training and community-building for all volunteers starting Sunday afternoon. Please plan on arriving on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>June 25th</u>, <u>at 12pm</u>. This is required for ALL new volunteers (we will have Mass). Ideally, we want all volunteers to arrive at this time to allow the Spirit to strengthen all you fantastic disciples and bring you all closer together before Camp begins.

However, if you are a veteran who cannot come earlier (or travelling from the States) please arrive by <u>9:30am on Monday</u>, <u>June 26th</u>. It is important we arrive on time as there is a lot to do prior to the campers' arrival at 3:30pm. If for some reason you cannot arrive on time, please let us know as soon as possible. If you are a veteran coming Monday, please note that there will not be official supervision for kids (if you are bringing campers with you) until after 3:30pm. Camp ends on Saturday, July 1st, after the 10:00am Mass, closing remarks, and bunk checks. For staff, that might be 12:30PM or so.

WHAT TO EXPECT: For those of you joining us for the first time, we made a website tab just for you! Check out the volunteer tab of the website www.campveritas.ie and it will give insight into what you are getting yourself into! If you still have questions or concerns, you can contact our Ireland Director, Nathan Mannion at mannionn6@gmail.com or via WhatsApp +353 87 721 0057. Please read the Volunteer Survival Guide ahead of time to be prepared for what lies ahead. If you are new, please bring a signed copy of the last page, if returning, please read it for some schedule and policy updates.

DETAILS: Please refer to the packing list and the camper rules which can be found under forms and documents or at this link. The facility address and directions can also be found on the Facilities page or the Registration tab. Please bring your cell phone and if you have a counsellor shirt from prior years, bring that as well. If you are new, we hope to have enough counsellor shirts for all, but bring a couple of navy-blue shirts just in case, especially for registration day. **There will also be jumpers available for purchase!** We will accept cash or cheque.

SUNDAY MASS: As a part of our training day, we will have Mass offered in the evening.

GARDA VETTING AND TUSLA TRAINING:

We are happy to announce that Camp Veritas has officially become its own entity in Ireland, Camp Veritas CLG! This will have many benefits to camp in Ireland, one of which is that we will

be able to do our own GARDA vetting from now on. Please see this <u>link of FAQ</u> from the GARDA for details. If you are new, or did not volunteer with us last Summer, you will need to be GARDA vetted and should have already been in touch with Philomena Prendergast. If not, please reach out to her ASAP for instructions, <u>philodprender@yahoo.co.uk</u>.

Everyone new, or who did not do it last year, will also have to complete TUSLA training. This supplements the Safer Spaces training that we require in the States. You will submit your certificate in place of Safer Spaces in your Camp in Touch Account. Along with emailing a copy to philodprender@yahoo.co.uk and veritasvolunteer@gmail.com. The training can be found here: https://www.tusla.ie/children-first/children-first-e-learning-programme/

The word of Camp Veritas is spreading, it's looking like this year there will be a record number of campers! We need every one of you and anyone you can think of to invite to join us! Please spread the word! We are especially in need of group leaders/counsellors. Please reply to this email if you need to cancel for any reason, having accurate numbers is essential for our preparations.

Please let me know if you have any further questions! God Bless.

Maggie Bradley Executive Assistant