

**Catholic Heart Workcamp
Pre-Trip Meeting 1: 2020**

Opening Prayer:

In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen

Lord Jesus You are truly the Great I Am: everything we hope for, everything we long for. We ask You Lord to bless this meeting, bless those preparing for CHWC this summer, bless each one of us present here today and help us to remember You are calling us to be Your hands and feet to those we will serve this summer in _____ (Name of City)

May we begin serving You right here in our own homes, schools and parish. Give us a servant's heart so we may always seek others interests and needs above our own. Bless this meeting tonight, through the intercession of our Blessed Mother as we pray: Hail Mary, full of Grace, the Lord is with Thee...

In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen

Start with Intros (4-8 min):

Have everyone introduce themselves & leader should give a brief intro about CHWC either by Showing a short video clip (Videos can be found on our website CHWC PROMO) and/or telling your personal story of why you love CHWC and why you are bringing a group to camp this summer.

Then ask the following of you audience: (5-10 min)

Who has been to Workcamp before? (have them raise hands - then choose one or two to answer "What makes you want to come back?" (It might be easier to try and pick a teen or two before the meeting to prepare them on what you will be asking) Ask another teen who has been to camp to talk specifically about their work project from last year and their overall experience.

**If it's your first time attending CHWC, consider taking a few minutes to think about why you signed up for camp (consider having them write their answers down and/or have a few people share what their reason are).*

Intro Camp Schedule: (8-10min)

Give a brief overview: Something similar to this:

We will depart _____ and arrive at CHWC on Sunday around 12 noon. CHWC will have a team of about 10 people there who will greet us and have been preparing for our arrival. Once we get in our rooms and unpack, we will gather with the rest of those attending camp.

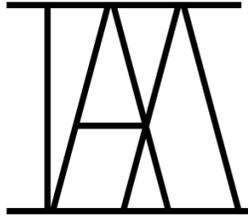
CHWC team, will do some introductions, prayer, training and then finally they divide all of us into work groups. At CHWC they divide up our group so that we work with teens and adults from across the country. You will also find out who you will serve and what kind of projects you will be doing during this week. Then we will close with Mass.

Each day from is very similar Monday-Thursday: Breakfast, Morning Mass, Program, Work Groups serving at their sites till about 3:30pm, Groups return to the school and then have showers, free time, Dinner and evening program.

On Friday we will have our Free Day after morning Mass. (This could be an opportunity to find out what your teens want to do for free day or to tell them what you are thinking about doing for Free Day).

Answer any questions that came up, but don't go into too many details. You will have 2 more meetings to get into more details. If there is time you can briefly talk and review the packing sheet (But remember to save some of that for the next meeting)

The theme for this summer is "I AM"



These words can be found in the Bible hundreds of times.

They refer to God, who is the Great I AM.

Through all space and time,
God continues to declare "I AM who I AM".

God is not dead;
He is not only the God of long ago.
He is the God who will always live forever and ever,
who is alive today and beckons us into relationship
by reassuring us, "I AM who I AM."
He is the God we meet in the Eucharist,
in prayer, and in our service to His kingdom.

We are pulled in an overwhelming
number of directions when trying to discover our identity.
We seek belonging and purpose in so many places.
Still, the fullness of our worth can only be found in one place.
Our truest identity is being children of the Great I AM.

This summer, CHWC invites you
to ask yourself the question: "Who am I?"
Join us as we discover the answer to this question
by encountering the great I AM
through love, service, and connection to His people.

Our Lord, The Great I AM, is the very person we serve. When we reach out to those in need this summer in _____ (Name of City) We are really serving Christ! The Way, the Truth and the Life... the great I AM! (John 14)

But our Lord also calls us to serve those closest to us, those in our schools, our neighborhoods and our own homes. Let us not forget what Mother Teresa said "True Service begins at home."

Over the next few months we will be making huge sacrifices of our time, talent and treasure to make this camp happen for us, and why? We will sacrifice now so we can serve our Lord through those in need.

He has called you to serve him, and specifically in this city. When we start looking at camp as not something we do for ourselves, but something we do for Christ, it changes who we are.

You may be here tonight because you need service hours or want to see what this CHWC is that everyone is talking about, but I pray that you will come on this trip and experience Christ, the Great I AM and what it means to be His Hands and Feet.

CLOSING PRAYER: In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen. Lord, You have called us to travel this summer to _____ (Name of City) this summer to serve those in need. Help us Lord, to see You, in the faces of those we will serve this summer.

We lift up to You all those who are preparing for CHWC this summer, may their preparations allow our service to be fruitful. Lord, bless this group, may we continue to seek You first in all we do. Prepare our hearts for the opportunity to serve, not only on our mission trip this summer with Catholic HEART Workcamp, but also here in our local community.

Help us to go outside our comfort zone, and to recognize the needs of others and respond to those needs with a grateful heart. We ask all this through Our Lord, Your Son, Jesus Christ.

In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen