

**The Holy Protection of Mary Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix
Office of Vocations
presents**

**ALIVE IN CHRIST 2023 –
an “Ascetical Boot Camp” Retreat for Byzantine Catholic Young Men.
Informational Flyer**

What & Why: Inaugurated in 2003, “Alive in Christ” is a spiritual retreat camp conducted by the Vocations Office of the Holy Protection Eparchy of Phoenix. The camp aims at helping young men mature in their Catholic faith and a life of authentic Christian discipleship. Fed by Byzantine spirituality, the camp engenders a fervor that will deepen personal awareness of a boy’s share in the Life of Christ, that will sustain him as he grows into adulthood in an ever-increasing secular world, that will teach him to exercise Christian values through self-mastery, and that will assist him in discerning well his God-given vocations and charisms. Conducted in a highly disciplined and somewhat rigorous environment, the camp accomplishes its goals with a focus on community and by means of liturgical prayer, friendship building, and team effort.

Who: Invited are young men and boys, ages 7 to 17, who are active and in good standing with their Byzantine Catholic parishes for at least 6 months prior to application. Each boy who is 7 to 10 years old during the camp requires his father or legal male guardian’s registration and full participation. There are **no exceptions to the age requirements**. Each 7 and 8 year old should have made his first confession. *All fathers* of boy attendees are encouraged to register and participate in the camp. As enrollment is limited, spaces for accepted applicants are filled on a first-paid-first-registered basis. Boy applicants must be available for the entire duration of the camp. Except for medical and emergency situations, early departures are not to be requested. **All dads, male guardians and young adult leaders (over 18 years of age) must be safe environment certified through a background check and VIRTUS online training.**

Where: Black Diamond Camps
19830 SE 328th Pl
Auburn, WA 98092
[http:// blackdiamond.org](http://blackdiamond.org)
Black Diamond Camps is an approximately 30 drive (26 miles) from the SeaTac Int. Airport.

When: **2:30 PM** (Black Diamond Camps local time) Thursday, 13 July to
1:00 PM Sunday, 16 July 2023
[n.b. Leaders must arrive at 11:30 AM on 13 July]

Theme 2022: “Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him” (John 6:56)
The Eucharist: Our Divine Nourishment

Amenities: Rustic setting; pool and play fields; dormitory lodging (bunk beds/sleeping bags are required to be brought); running water; indoor dining (9 meals total).

Tuition: \$135 per boy 7 to 10 (Section Alpha), \$140 per boy 11 to 13 (Section Beta), \$145 per boy 14 to 17 (Section Gamma), \$130 per dad in attendance (Section Delta)-\$350 family maximum.

Note: There can be no refunds for cancellations after 10 June.

Weather: For July, high average temperature is 78 with low, 52. Average precipitation is 1.2 inches. Elevation is 250 feet above sea level. Dawn is at 5:30 AM, dusk at 9 PM.

Transport: Campers' *parents* must *arrange* for their boys' *transportation to and from Black Diamond Camps*. Pick up from and back to SeaTac Int. Airport (or any nearby bus or rail station) can be arranged, especially for those boys who are in attendance *without* a father or male guardian. Such pick up requires travel details to be indicated in the application (due 19 May) or sent in no later than 23 June. *Boys' airport or station arrivals must be by 11 AM on Thursday morning. Departures must be after 5:00 PM on Sunday.* The camp coordinator will organize these transport logistics.

Application: Application form (including the "camper contract" to be read and signed by each boy applicant) **and** medical release and liability waiver form are to be completed for each participant (boy and adult) and sent with full tuition payment to:

Alive in Christ Camp
c/o Holy Angels Parish
2235 Galahad Rd
San Diego, CA 92123

Checks are to be made payable to "Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix"
All applicable forms and payments are due by May 19, 2023.

Acceptance: All required forms and tuition payment must be received by the deadline of **May 19** in order to be considered. *A follow-up mailing will confirm those who have been accepted* to attend the retreat camp. If any are informed at that time that they have not been accepted to attend, their tuition payments will be returned in full.

Leadership:

Director*: Fr. Michael Mandelas (vocations@ephx.org)
Assistant Dir.: Fr. Michael O'Loughlin (froloughlin@ephx.org)
Coordinator: Deacon Jonathan Deane (dcndeane@ephx.org)

**if you have further questions about this program, please contact either the director at 206-799-4917 or vocations@ephx.org, or the coordinator at 949-310-8030 or dcndeane@ephx.org*

A Typical Day Includes:

- about 7 to 8 1/2 hours of sleep
- about 2 1/2 hours of prayer
- about 3 1/2 hours of physical activity and recreation
- about 2 hours of presentations

*Family and friends of the campers are cordially invited for **Sunday** activities beginning at approximately 9:20 am and including activities, Divine Liturgy, closing ceremonies and lunch. Departures will take place at about 1:00 p.m. (after lunch) on Sunday.