

Dear

I am writing to share some exciting news with you. I have been selected to participate in the St. Mary Mission Trip/Retreat to Camden, New Jersey. As a member of the Mission Trip team of 44 teens and 14 adults, I will be spending 5 days in June serving the underprivileged communities in Camden and Philadelphia. The goal of our trip is to live out the Gospel call to be a servant to the poor and to share the love that we have for Jesus by helping others.

Camden is the second poorest city in the country and those who live there have not had many of the privileges I have been blessed with. We hope to help the community in any way that we are needed during our time of service. We will be working with the local communities, providing manual labor, being a presence to the elderly, and serving in whatever capacity we can. We will also spend time deepening our relationship with God and each other through prayer and other activities.

I am sharing this with you because part of our team's responsibility is to raise funds for our trip. We will be holding a "Mission Trip Homeless Service Overnight" on Saturday, April 24. We will meet at 7pm in the St. Mary School Gym for a "Soup Kitchen" supper and then make cardboard shelters outside for us to spend the night in. During the evening we will be doing several service projects (i.e. making sandwiches for Dorothy Day, sorting cans for the Brotherhood in Action, etc.) and then conclude with Mass at 7am the next morning. I am writing to ask for your prayers, and if possible, a pledge for this fundraiser. What we raise will help cover travel, lodging, food and project costs. Any pledge you might be able to offer will be greatly appreciated.

When I'm on my trip I will be thinking of all my family and friends who have helped me get to this point in my life. I'm looking forward to sharing with you what hopefully will be a life-changing experience in Camden!

Thanks you again for whatever support you might be able to offer, and I'll keep you in my thoughts and prayers!

Sincerely,

If interested, all checks can be made out to: 'St. Mary Church' and please print my name on the memo line of the check. You can mail your pledge to me or to St. Mary Church, Attn: Mission Trip, 26 Dodgingtown Road, Bethel, CT 06801,