

Would you like to grow in your Catholic Faith?

Are you 18-25 years of age as of January 2019?

Would you like to grow your resume by demonstrating your leadership representing the United States as a representative at the International Young Franciscan (YouFra) Convention in Panama in January 2019?



Would you like to go to World Youth Day in Panama with most of your costs paid?

If the answer is “yes” then the St. Elizabeth of Hungary Region of Secular Franciscans would like to invite you to apply for an opportunity to do just this.

Two applicants will have their plane fare, room, and board paid for both the YouFra Convention and World Youth Day 2019.

The YouFra International Gathering will take place in Panama City (Panama), from January 17-20, 2019. After the gathering, the group will join the WYD celebrations in Panama City from January 22-27, 2019. Travel days are the 17th and 27th.

The chosen applicants will be required to attend Franciscan Day on August 25, 2018 in Kennebunk, ME to share their essays. All other applicants are welcome to come to this Franciscan Day to enjoy community with the other applicants and the Franciscan family of the St. Elizabeth of Hungary Region of Secular Franciscans.

Chosen applicants will be required to participate in three orientation sessions and read one biography on St. Francis with the Franciscan Youth and Young Adult Animator for the St. Elizabeth of Hungary Region, Heather Cherniack, ofs.

The Application Packet should consist of the following and is due July 7, 2018 and should be sent to Heather Cherniack, ofs at youngfranciscan@gmail.com :

- Essay on the following topic

Everyone has pivotal, life-moments in their lives, which set them on a new course. One such moment for Saint Francis of Assisi was when he jumped off his horse and kissed a person afflicted with the disease of leprosy, someone who was considered an outcast in his time. A miracle occurred and he instantaneously lost his fear and distrust of those with this disease. Are there people or groups of people whom society fears or distrust? Do you ever feel as if you are an outcast to others who do not understand you or maybe even irrationally fear you? Using the principles of Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC), the Gospels, and Catholic Social Teaching, write an essay on how you see Catholics using the lessons of St Francis to best help excluded, marginalized people of today? Essays should show a familiarity with the Gospels, the life of St. Francis of Assisi, and Catholic Social Teaching. Resources can be found at www.stelizabethofs.org and www.secularFranciscanUSA.org.

- A letter from the applicant's Pastor that the applicant is a practicing Catholic of good, moral character
- A short one-page resume detailing Community, Parish, Campus, and/or other Ministry involvement if applicable.

As part of the preparation for this meeting in Panama, the Church will celebrate, in October 2018, the Synod of Bishops on the theme: Youth, Faith and Vocational Discernment where they will talk about how young people are experiencing the life of faith amid the challenges of our time. This is your chance as a young person to become part of the voice of the Church as we move forward in the world.



For questions call Heather Cherniack, ofs at 504-284-0839 or email at youngfranciscan@gmail.com