

## **Attending the Southern Maryland ROOTS Youth Group Pilgrimage to St. Clement's Island on September 24? Things to Know Before You Go...**

We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming Pilgrimage to St. Clement's Island on September 24<sup>th</sup>.... Here are some Things to Know Before You Go ....

### **GETTING THERE**

Type this address into your GPS: 38370 Point Breeze Rd, Coltons Point, MD 20626. This is the address for the St. Clement's Island Museum. At the corner of Bayside and Coltons Point Roads, you will be guided to parking areas. Look for the yellow signs! 🚗

### **SCHEDULE & TIMES**

The schedule for the day is attached. Please note there are also activities for chaperones, parents, and other adults being offered. Registration will begin at 8:00am. Island Activities will start at 9:45am. You should plan to be at registration no later than 9:15am in order to ensure you are at the Island in time for the start of the program. Return to the mainland will start at 5pm.

### **PARKING**

Bus parking will be on the St. Clement's Island Museum Grounds and in reserved spaces. If you are arriving by bus, please contact us so we can reserve bus parking for you.

If you are driving a passenger car or van, parking is available in the field at the junction of Coltons Point and Bayview Roads. Signs and parking personnel will be on hand to guide you.

### **REGISTRATION**

Registration will take place at the tent on the St. Clement's Island Museum Grounds and will open at 8:00am. All youth should be accompanied by their chaperones or parents. Check in at the registration desk includes ensuring all paperwork is completed. You will be contacted in advance if your paperwork has not yet been completed.

### **IDENTIFICATION**

All attendees will be given a name tag and a wrist band for admission to the boat transportation and island and mainland activities. The wristbands for registrants will be one of four colors: White, Red, Black and Yellow. The different colors for these reasons: Team Activities and Emergency Water Transfers.

**Team Activities:** For Youth Island Activities, teams will be assigned by wrist band color. This will be explained further when you are on the island.

**Emergency Water Transfers:** If there is an emergency evacuation of the Island the boats will have a White, Red, Black or Yellow Flag displayed. They will have the names and numbers of those who have corresponding wrist bands and in the case of an emergency Island evacuation will take those who have corresponding wrist band colors. There will also be adults on the piers to guide individuals to the boats if an emergency evacuation is needed.

## **BOAT TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM THE ISLAND**

Private charter boats are available for you to get to and from the Island. They will begin running from the Colton's Point State Pier (a short walk from all parking noted above) to the Island from 8:00am – 10:00am and beginning at 5pm from St. Clement's Island to the mainland. Please note that this is a ten-minute one-way boat ride to the island. **All parents and chaperones are responsible for ensuring their teens are with them when boarding the boats.**

## **MEALS**

Beverages and snacks will be available throughout the day on the Island. Lunch will be provided after Mass on the Island and will consist of meat and cheese sandwiches, fruit, chips and dessert. Dinner will be served after 5pm on the mainland and before the concert and will consist of pizza, salad, chicken tenders, mac & cheese, and dessert. **If anyone in your party has dietary restrictions or allergies, please be prepared to bring foods they can consume. We are not able to offer variations from those listed above.**

## **FACILITIES**

There will be clean portable toilets, hand washing stations, and plenty of hand sanitizer available. Chairs will be available but you may want to bring a towel or blanket to sit on during lunch. There is no electricity on the island. (Make sure phones are fully charged before you go.)

## **WEATHER CONDITIONS**

Should the Island be inaccessible on June 24<sup>th</sup> due to weather or water conditions, all activities will take place on the St. Clement's Island Museum grounds or at Holy Angels Church campus. Please check your email, the southernmarylandroots Facebook page, and the southernmarylandroots.org website.

## **ATTIRE**

Each participant will receive a commemorative t-shirt and a name tag, along with a draw string backpack. Please double check the weather in Coltons Point, MD for that day and wear clothing you are comfortable in for outside activities. A check list for the day can include a hat, sunglasses, sun protection lotion, sun blocking shirts/pants, tennis shoes or other closed toe shoes (flip flops and sandals are not recommended), insect repellent. Bring a jacket or long-sleeved shirt for the evening concert ... in case it gets chilly.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Paramedics, fire and rescue, and Maryland State Police will be on hand for safety and medical concerns that may arise and any other needs that require their assistance. Please be sure to bring any medications you normally require.

## **LAST MINUTE CHANGES**

Should there be any last-minute changes, we will notify you by email, the southernmarylandroots Facebook page, and the southernmarylandroots.org website. Please be sure to check before you leave home.

**FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT [SOUTHERNMARYLANDROOTS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SOUTHERNMARYLANDROOTS@GMAIL.COM)**

### **Schedule**

#### **THE JOURNEY PILGRIMAGE TO ST. CLEMENT'S ISLAND**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>
8:00am	Registration Opens – Museum Grounds
8:00am – 9:45am	Transfers from State Pier to the Island Lighthouse Tours
9:45am – 10:30am	Presentation of the Colors - SMCSO National Anthem – Kylie Perraut, St. Mary's Ryken HS Pledge of Allegiance – St. Mary's Ryken High School Choir Opening Prayer – Fr. Stephen Wyble Keynote Speaker - Sheriff Tim Cameron Tree Planting Dedication for St. Clement's Island Preservation - Chesterton Academy Students
10:30am – 12:00pm	Youth Group Activities with First Responders Parents/Chaperones – Knights of Columbus Living Rosary and Family Prayer Presentation
12:00pm – 12:45pm	Knights of Columbus Procession Holy Catholic Mass – Cardinal Wilton Gregory, Celebrant
12:45pm – 1:45pm	Lunch and Keynote Speakers – Fr. Larry Swink & Sr. Theotokos
1:45pm – 2:45pm	Youth Group Activities with Seminarians and Sisters Parents/Chaperones – Lighthouse Tours
2:45pm – 3:45pm	Adoration and Confessions
3:45pm – 4:15pm	"My Catholic Freedom " Promise Bracelet/ Oyster Shell Activity – Sr. Theotokos
4:15pm – 4:30pm	Procession to North Pier for return to Mainland
4:30pm – 6:30pm	Return Transfers to Mainland First Responders Information Booths and Activities
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Dinner & K-9 Demo
7:00pm – 8:30pm	Joe Melendrez Concert – on Museum Grounds

### **SPEAKERS & SPECIAL GUEST INFORMATION**

So you are familiar with the speakers and special guests who will be with us, we have included some information below.

#### **Joe Melendrez – MC, Presenter and Performer**

Joe Melendrez has forged a unique path to becoming one of America's most exciting Catholic performers. At age fifteen, Joe was featured on MTV and developed a love for performing. Later that year, on a Teen A.C.T.S. Retreat, Joe encountered the awesome love of God. It was then that he decided to dedicate his life to sharing the Good News. Joe shares the Gospel in many unique ways,

from his development of a faith-based clothing line ([God Swagg Apparel](#)), his release of five major Catholic hip-hop [albums](#), to sharing the winnings from a college Chipotle contest (a year of free burritos), as a means to evangelize to different people with each meal!

Joe's BA in Religious studies from the University of Dayton has led him to become a Religion Teacher and Youth Minister for over 10 years. In addition to his work in Catholic education, Joe's electric ministry of music and evangelization has taken him to Europe, Africa, Australia, South America and all across the USA. Joe uses his skills to animate huge crowds of teens, and he continues to share these gifts at major youth rallies, conferences, and national events. Today, Joe Melendrez is a husband and father, as well as a natural MC, a dynamic musical performer, an inspiring speaker, and an expert retreat leader.

### **St. Mary's Ryken High School Choir**

A college preparatory Catholic high school, SMR is a community of faith and service. As a Xaverian Brothers Sponsored school, they provide opportunities for students to build a relationship with Christ through community service, campus ministry and student retreats. They guide their spiritual journey, as they become compassionate and honorable young adults. Their holistic college preparatory, faith-based education is tailored to students' needs and ambitions. SMR students receive rigorous college preparatory, honors and Advanced Placement curricula in a values-based environment with scheduling that allows for flexibility. The Ryken High School Choir is lead by Mrs. Kim Norris.

### **Chesterton Academy of St. Mary's**

The Chesterton Academy of St. Mary's is a classical high school in the Catholic tradition located in St Mary's County, Maryland. They are sponsored by the Chesterton Schools Network, a network of 34 Schools in the US, Canada, and Europe. Founded by a group of families and educators in Southern Maryland who wish to provide students with a rigorous classical education rooted in the Catholic faith, the school follows the Socratic method of teaching, with a focus on Classical Literature, Philosophy, Science, Mathematics, History, and Latin. The Chesterton Academy of St Mary's is joyfully Catholic. Students grow in faith through attendance at daily Mass, annual spiritual retreats, courses infused with Catholic teaching, and a staff in love with Jesus and who are asked to take an oath of fidelity to the Magisterium of the Catholic Church.

### **Cardinal Wilton Gregory**

**His Eminence Wilton Cardinal Gregory** was born December 7, 1947, in Chicago to Wilton Sr. and Ethel Duncan Gregory; he has two sisters, Elaine and Claudia. He attended St. Carthage Grammar School, where he converted to Catholicism. He attended Quigley Preparatory Seminary South, Niles College (now St. Joseph's College Seminary) of Loyola University and St. Mary of the Lake Seminary.

He was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago on May 9, 1973, and three years after his ordination began graduate studies at the Pontifical Liturgical Institute (Sant' Anselmo) in Rome. There, he earned his doctorate in sacred liturgy in 1980.

After having served as an associate pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Glenview, IL as a member of the faculty of St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein and as a master of ceremonies to Cardinals John Cody and Joseph Bernardin, he was ordained an auxiliary bishop of Chicago on December 13, 1983. On February 10, 1994, he was installed as the seventh bishop of the Diocese of Belleville, IL where he served for the next eleven years. On December 9, 2004, Pope Saint John Paul II appointed

Bishop Gregory as the sixth archbishop of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, and he was installed on January 17, 2005. Pope Francis appointed him as the seventh Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Washington on April 4, 2019. He was installed on May 21, 2019. On October 25, 2020, Pope Francis named Archbishop Gregory one of thirteen new cardinals from around the world. Cardinal Gregory was elevated by Pope Francis to the College of Cardinals in a November 28, 2020, Consistory in Rome.

Cardinal Gregory currently serves as a Member of the Vatican Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life and on the Board of Trustees for the Papal Foundation. Additionally, he is the Catholic Co-Chair of the National Council of Synagogues consultation for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

Cardinal Gregory is Chancellor of The Catholic University of America and Chairman of the Board of Trustees for The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Cardinal Gregory has served in many leading roles in the U.S. church. In November 2001, he was elected president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) following three years as vice president under Bishop Joseph Fiorenza of the Diocese of Galveston-Houston. During his tenure in office, the crisis of sex abuse by Catholic clergy escalated; and under his leadership, the bishops implemented the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People."

He has served on the USCCB's Executive and Administrative Committees, the Administrative Board, the Committee on Doctrine and the U.S. Catholic Conference Committee on International Policy. Previously, Cardinal Gregory served as the chairman of the Bishops' Committees on Personnel, Divine Worship and the Third Millennium/Jubilee Year 2000 from 1998-2001, and Liturgy from 1991-1993.

Cardinal Gregory has written extensively on church issues, including pastoral statements on the death penalty, social justice, and euthanasia/physician-assisted suicide. Cardinal Gregory has published numerous articles on the subject of liturgy, particularly in the African-American community.

Cardinal Gregory has been awarded nine honorary doctoral degrees. He received the Great Preacher Award from Aquinas Institute of Theology in 2002; Doctorate of Humanities from Lewis University in Romeoville, IL (2002-2003); Sword of Loyola from Loyola University of Chicago (2004); Doctorate of Humane Letters from Spring Hill College in Mobile, AL (2005); Doctorate of Humane Letters from Xavier University in Cincinnati, OH; Doctorate of Humane Letters from McKendree College in Lebanon, IL; Doctorate of Humanities from Fontbonne University in St. Louis, MO; Honorary Law Degree from Notre Dame University (2012); and the Chicago Catholic Theological Union Honorary Doctorate (2013).

In 2006, Cardinal Gregory joined an illustrious group of preachers with his induction into the Martin Luther King, Jr. Board of Preachers at Morehouse College, Atlanta. At the National Pastoral Life Center in Washington, D.C., Cardinal Gregory was honored with the Cardinal Bernardin Award given by the Catholic Common Ground Initiative (2006).

### **Sr. Marie Theotokos Adams, SSVM**

Sr. Maria Theotókos Adams, SSVM, a native of Washington, grew up near Charlottesville, Virginia, before attending Columbia University in New York. While pursuing her BA in Ancient Studies, she spent a semester at Hebrew University in Jerusalem also attending courses at the École Biblique.

Sr. Theotókos entered religious life in 2001 and professed her perpetual vows in 2008. She is a member of the Catholic missionary community Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matará ([SSVM](#)) – the female branch of the Religious Family of the Incarnate Word (IVE).

Sr. Theotókos completed her Master's in Church History at The Catholic University of America in 2016 with a focus on Bede's reception of *The City of God* and his role in transmitting the legacy of Augustine. Venturing back to the earliest systematic Christian historiography, she is now pursuing her doctorate in Church History at CUA on Eusebius of Caesarea and liturgical time.

### **Fr. Larry Swink**

Fr. Larry Swink is a priest of the Archdiocese of Washington and was ordained in May 2006. On July 7, 2021, he became the new pastor at St. Peter Claver and St. Cecilia's Churches in St. Mary's City, MD.

**FAMILY LIFE:** Father Larry was born on the Midway Islands, an unincorporated territory of the United States in the central Pacific Ocean, about 1,300 miles northwest of Honolulu. He is the oldest of 10 children. Father Larry points to his parents as playing a very big role in planting the seeds for his vocation. Both of his parents are supernumeraries in the Work [Opus Dei]. Seeing the sacrifices needed in marriage made him more open to the call to the priesthood.

**EDUCATION/WORK:** Father Larry attended The Heights High School in Rockville, Maryland, where he played baseball as a pitcher for four years. Upon graduating, he was accepted at the University of Dallas, where he continued to play baseball for two years. Father Swink graduated from the University of Dallas with a degree in Political Philosophy. He worked for Morgan Stanley as a Financial Advisor for 2 and a half years.

**FORMATION:** In 2001, Father Larry joined the Immaculate Conception Seminary in South Orange, New Jersey. On May 27, 2006, he was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Washington.

**ASSIGNMENTS:** Father Larry's first parish was St. Mary of the Mills Catholic Church in Laurel, Maryland followed by St. Pius X in Bowie, MD. He also served as pastor at Jesus the Divine Word Catholic Church in Huntingtown, MD. Prior to his current assignment, Father Larry was the pastor at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in LaPlata, Maryland.

**SPEAKER:** Father Larry is a dynamic speaker. He has been leading retreats for men's and women's groups for over 10 years. He has led very powerful and spiritually healing pilgrimages for couples and college students to Mexico City and holy sites in Europe. At the 2010 Right to Life March, he gave the homily to over 10,000 Catholics.

**HIS JOY:** Father Larry's three favorite things about being a priest are offering Mass, confessions, and preaching. What feeds his love for the Mass is adoration. Every day, he spends an hour of mental prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament. He also offers confessions before and after every Mass noting that it is a wonderful vehicle for bringing people to conversion. Fr. Swink loves preaching the Word of God and has been doing a lot of retreats the last several years. Specifically, he loves: helping people understand the faith at a deeper level, assisting them to connect their life with the Lord, and challenging / encouraging them to holiness. While it takes a lot of work, it's always been a source of great joy.

**FOR FUN:** In his spare time, Father enjoys the outdoors: He is a cyclist, plays basketball, and enjoys hiking and snowboarding... as well as anything that includes a ball or a stick!

### **Sheriff Tim Cameron**

Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron is serving a fourth consecutive term as Sheriff of St. Mary's County. Sheriff Cameron, a St. Mary's County native, began his career with the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office in July 1980. During his public safety service of over 40 years, he was promoted through the ranks, serving in every Division within the agency. As a Division Commander, Sheriff Cameron was acknowledged as an innovative leader while managing the Special Operations Division and finally, the Corrections Division's Adult Detention Facility, from which he retired on October 31, 2005. Sheriff Cameron was appointed as St. Mary's County Public Safety Director November 14, 2005 and served in that capacity until taking the Office as Sheriff on December 4, 2006.

Sheriff Cameron is a graduate of the 92nd class of the National Sheriff's Institute, Session 66 of the FBI's Law Enforcement Executive Development course, and session fourteen of the Maryland Police and Corrections Training Commissions Leadership Challenge.

Sheriff Cameron is a graduate of the Johns Hopkins University's prestigious Police Executive Leadership Program, received a B.S. in Management in May 2006 from the School of Business, and received his M.S. in Management from Johns Hopkins University School of Education, May, 2007. Sheriff Cameron graduated from the Executive Leaders Program at Naval Postgraduate School's Center for Homeland Defense and Security, Monterey, California, February, 2010.

Sheriff Cameron is a member of the National Sheriff's Association (NSA), the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Association, the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), the Maryland Correctional Administrators Association, the Maryland Sheriff's Association and Maryland Chiefs Association. Sheriff Cameron serves as the President of the Southern Maryland Criminal Justice Academy Board of Directors, the St. Mary's County Family Violence Coordinating Council, and serves as Co-Chair of the Domestic Violence fatality review committee. Sheriff Cameron is a past President of the Maryland Sheriff's Association and sits on a number of boards and commissions representing the MSA and NSA.

#### **Commissioner Mike Alderson**

Born at Patuxent River Naval Air Station Hospital in 1969 and raised in the southern end of the county. Mike was educated in St. Mary's County public schools from Ridge Elementary to Great Mills High School. After graduation in 1987 he left for Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina, where he graduated as the Honor Man for my platoon. He served with the 2nd Light Armored Infantry Battalion during Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm as an LAV-25 gunner. He came home after Desert Storm, moved to Florida for several months then eventually came home to my roots.

He met his wife Andrea, a 7th District girl, at a friend's house in Piney Point in late 1991. 31 years later they now make their home in Coltons Point with sons, Sean and Andrew and rescue dog Sable. Mike is currently employed as a project planner at Automated Graphic Systems where he has worked for a little over 29 years.

Over the years Mike has become more and more involved in the community because he believes that we all need to try and make the world a bit better as we go through life. He started his involvement as a youth soccer coach with his oldest son when he was 6. He coached in the Northern Soccer league, acted as a division manager and eventually was elected to the board of directors. As his time with youth soccer was growing to a close he became more and more involved with the 7th District Optimist Club. As a club member he has served as a program chairman for several events including the Blessing of the Fleet. He has also served as treasurer, vice president, and president. In 2022 and was nominated and selected to serve on the Governor's "Fort to 400" commission. This commission is tasked with the planning and implementation of a statewide celebration to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the founding of Maryland. He starts his new career as County Commissioner in 2023.

#### **Commissioner Randy Guy**

Mr. James "Randy" Guy is serving his second term as Commissioner President of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County. He was born in Leonardtown, Maryland and graduated with a degree in transportation and traffic management from the Community College of the Air Force.

Mr. Guy worked in his family's business while growing up in Ridge, Maryland. He joined the Air Force in 1966 and served 26 years as a loadmaster on C-130s and C-141s. His assignments included a tour in Viet Nam, and participation in many operational missions. During his career he was based in the Philippines, bases in North and South Carolina and served as the Air Lift Manager at the Joint Chemical Warfare Test Group in Virginia. He ended his career as the Enlisted Air Crew Manager at the Pentagon in Washington, DC.

Mr. Guy has also served in many capacities in St. Mary's County. During a break in service in the early 1970s, Mr. Guy was a deputy sheriff with the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Department. Following his Air Force career, he returned home and opened a small business, Southern Maryland Pools and Spa, in Hollywood, Maryland. He continued in business for eleven years.

Since his retirement Mr. Guy has been active in local politics. He served on the Central Committee from 1998-2002. He has also served on the Board of Appeals from July 2009 – November 2014.

Mr. Guy is also a very active volunteer in the community. Since 1994 he has been a member of the American Legion, Southern Maryland Post 221, where he has served in many capacities including Post Commander and as a member of the American Legion Executive Committee at the state level. Mr. Guy is also a member of the Leonardtown Lion's Club.

He lives in Clements with his wife, Carolyn. They have one son, Charles.