

POPE'S INTENTION

Let us pray that the sick who are in the final stages of life, and their families, receive the necessary medical and human care and accompaniment.

Chúng ta hãy cầu xin cho các bệnh nhân mắc bệnh hiểm nghèo và gia đình họ luôn được nâng đỡ và chăm sóc về sức khỏe và nhân bản.



ANNOUNCEMENT

Resources to check out this month:

- Caring for Loved Ones at Life's End
- Pope John Paul II: Dying with Dignity

BETANIA XXII

Location: Immaculate Conception Retreat Center 600 Liberty Highway, Putnam, CT 06260

Time: March 1st @ 4pm to March 3rd @ 2pm

Fee: \$75.00 per person paid before/on February 11th, 2024 \$95.00 per person paid after February 11th, 2024

Deadline: February 18th

mana Page 01



HOW I CAN LIVE A JOYFUL LIFE, EVEN WHILE FACING A TERMINAL DISEASE

PAUL CHALOUX

Everyone dies. It is built into the universal design, which cannot adequately function without it. In a finite, contingent universe, evolving to perfection, growth and new life must come at the expense of existing life or overcrowding, and a lack of resources would follow. One generation must die to provide the resources for the next. Everyone in the world knows it.

Some will try to get the same feeling by planning their own death through suicide, but it will not be the same. Suicide is a selfish act because it abandons those that depend on you, many of whom you may not recognize. One can simply not expect people to celebrate your killing yourself in the same way that they would celebrate your life if you are called home to God.

Dying Well

Does this mean that all terminally ill patients die well? Not at all. It depends on how they receive and what they do with the information. First of all, not everyone with a terminal illness is told the severity of their situation. A terminal diagnosis is as hard to deliver as it is to receive and many physicians believe that death is a failure of medicine so they may withhold the true diagnosis or even deny it, choosing instead to offer hope of a cure. This is what happened in my own case.

Almost 6 years ago, my neurologist told me, "You have Parkinson's disease, but don't treat this as a death sentence, you should have 5-10 years of functionality and by that time, we may have a cure." I told this to my new neurologist recently and thankfully, he was more to the point. He estimated that with the medicines and procedures available, I would probably be able to function relatively normally for 2-3 years, but also warned me that if I stopped my activities that I would decline far faster than that. I applaud his courage in telling me that so bluntly. It allows me to plan out my path.

This now becomes a question of how to use our remaining time and energy. Every person in this situation needs to balance three things: fighting the disease, living your life and preparing for death. All three are important and cannot be neglected and there is a right way to do each.

Fighting the Disease

Turning to medical science for an answer to a terminal illness must be with the right expectations. What you can reasonably expect is control of symptoms which allow your quality of life to be high enough to maintain your obligations to others as long as possible. It is important to keep the perspective that life has meaning and purpose and that medical solutions that extend life at the cost of what gives it meaning and purpose are counterproductive and will be shown as such by extending the person's suffering.

In the same way, it is counterproductive to spend all our time, resources, and energy in the quest for life extension if it forces us to give up what gives our lives meaning. On the other hand, medical solutions that can extend our ability to fulfill our obligations and carry out our role in God's plan are a Godsend in the true meaning of the word. For instance, without the right medicine balance, I cannot type, which makes me unproductive. It's therefore appropriate to expend energy and time to balance them.

Living Your Life

The second consideration is that despite the diagnosis, we can and should try to lead a fulfilling life with the remainder of our time. Our "bucket lists" should be doing things that make a difference in people's lives, not in collecting things or experiences that will be totally inconsequential to anyone when we are dead. A few kind words spoken to a stranger will leave a better legacy than going to every state or climbing every mountain. Pass on what you have learned in life in whatever venues you have to whoever can benefit. A gift thoughtfully given or a word properly spoken can change a life.

Treat impending death as you did your high school graduation. The emotions will be similar. If you enjoyed high school, graduation can be bittersweet. There will be some sorrow for what you are leaving behind and some anxiety about what is ahead, but if you remember back, it was exhilarating considering the possibilities of what was coming on the other side. If your high school experience was rough, graduation was a great relief to be done with all the rivalries, intrigue and boredom of the experience and hope for something better in the next stage of your life.

Preparing for Death

The third consideration is to prepare ourselves and those that depend on us for our impending death. The priority here is that we have an opportunity to reconcile with God and save our eternal souls. This is a very great blessing, and it's a shame if it's not acted upon. God is like the father in the parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32), waiting for us to come home to Him with open arms. He has established the sacraments as the way to signal our desire to unite with Him. The most obvious one is baptism, which makes us members of Christ's body, his church. For the already

baptized who have fallen away, the defining step is going through the sacrament of reconciliation (confession).

For those who have been sacramentally cleansed by either of the two aforementioned sacraments, the anointing of the sick can be most helpful at the end of life. It is not focused on the healing of the body, but on the soul. The Catechism of the Catholic Church says "the first grace of this sacrament is one of strengthening, peace, and courage to overcome the difficulties that go with the condition of serious illness of the frailty of old age (CCC# 1520)." It further states that "Just as Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist form a unity called 'the sacraments of initiation,' Penance, Anointing of the Sick and the Eucharist as viaticum constitute the end of Christian life. (CC, 1525).

In tandem with this, we need to reconcile with anyone with whom we are in conflict, out of love for them, since there will be no way for them to resolve the anger or resentment once we are gone. This should be done as expediently as possible since we don't know the day nor hour of our passing. Out of love for our survivors, we need to update our records on how to backfill us on a regular basis and to train replacements to carry on our work. Disbursal of personal goods can take place as you see appropriate, but you should not give away things you need for everyday life, because you need to keep on living until God calls.

At the very end of life, the hospital may give you four options on how to end your life. One way is through medicalized death, trying every possibility, each more onerous than the last to survive, until finally you succumb. The second is to embrace natural death with a hospice program which no longer treats anything but pain. This is the only acceptable choice if it is not set up to sedate the person so thoroughly that the person cannot carry out his or her obligations. The third is to take the second further and sedate the person so heavily that he or she feels nothing. When this is coupled with a withholding of nutrition and hydration, it is called terminal sedation, resulting in death within a week or so, potentially limiting a person's ability to complete their life's work. The final choice is, where legal, to commit suicide with the aid of a physician. This, however, is never a good choice, because it usurps God's role as master of life and death and separates us from Him.

To die well is to be able to reconcile with God and our neighbors, to feel that we have completed our life's work, and to train those who follow to do the same. But the only thing that really matters is whether you join with God in the Beatific Vision. This is possible for all people who are so diligent in following Church teaching that they are ready for death at any time. But there is a special grace given to those who have a terminal diagnosis, because God has given us advanced warning to take the necessary steps to enter his kingdom. Rejoice in his love for you, especially if you are not yet prepared to die, since he has granted you that preparation time.

PAUL CHALOUX

Paul Chaloux was born in Maine in 1960 to Paul and Dolly Chaloux, the oldest of 6 children. He grew up in Northern Virginia and attended public schools. After graduating with a chemical engineering degree from the University of Virginia in 1982, Paul worked for over 30 years as an engineer, manager, and strategist for IBM in upstate New York. While there, he also served as a catechist for 15 years at St. Columba Parish in Hopewell Junction, NY. In 2015, after earning a master's degree in religious education from Fordham University and retiring from IBM, Paul was accepted into the Ph.D. program at the Catholic University of America to study Catechetics, with the goal of teaching future catechists. However, his plans changed dramatically when he was diagnosed with early-onset Parkinson's Disease just after moving to Washington, DC for his studies. His new neurologist, after learning that Paul was studying theology, asked him why people suffer. He had no answer since it was not his intended field of study, but the question intrigued him enough to cause him to take up the subject. Five years later, having earned his PhD in moral theology, Dr. Chaloux wrote Why All People Suffer for general audiences as a follow on to his dissertation, The Grace Concealed in Suffering: Developing Virtue and Beatitude, which he defended at CUA on March 5, 2020. Dr. Chaloux currently teaches theology as an adjunct professor at the Catholic University of America and serves as a catechist at St. Agnes Parish in Arlington, Virginia. He has been married for over thirty years to his wife Sue and they have 4 adult children and 3 granddaughters.

Happy New Year!



ĐOÀN SAVIÔ TÔNG ĐỒ ĐỘI TRƯỞNG/ĐỘI PHÓ



2024 LENTEN SPIRITUAL BOUQUET CAMPAIGN

NAME:_____ DIVISION:_

All are invited to join us on 40-day spiritual journey this Lent as we unite to fast, pray and give alms as our offering to Jesus. This calendar offers suggested daily activities to keep your heart focused on the spirit of the Lenten season.

16 FEBRHARY Ash Wednesday Stations of the Cross Choose something to offer to God Before TNTT, gather friends to at 9PM EST with Fast, pray and offer this Lenten whether it be go and say hi to Lenten Spiritual Bouquet Liên Đoàn Ra Khơi & giving something Jesus in the season to God by Liên Đoàn Joan d'Arc Eucharist at your up or doing attending Mass something extra. church. https://url.veym.net/ ViaCrucis to receive ashes. 19 21 22 18 Before TNTT, gather 1st Sunday of Lent Pray the Divine Stations of the Cross Fast from playing friends to pray 10 Go through your Praises in the video/computer/ Refrain from using at 9PM EST with Read and reflect Hail Mary's, clothes and morning. vour headphones on the Temptation phone games to reflecting on the 4th donate to charity for the day and be Liên Đoàn Sinai & Liên Đoàn Gioan Phaolô II of Jesus. Luminous Mystery. spend time with what you no (visit url.veym.net/lent for the prayer) present instead. your family longer wear. (visit url.veym.net/lent for the mystery) Mark 1:12-15 https://url.veym.net/ instead. ViaCrucis 25 99 2nd Sunday of Lent Starting today, Make a list of 10 Before bedtime Refrain from social make a 40 DAYS Read and reflect on things you are grateful for in your tonight, reflect on media to spend commitment to the Transfiguration time with your siblings and family. your day and life, and write refrain from of Jesus notice where God OF LENT "God is good!" after each one. buying things that was present. Mark 9:2-10 you don't need. Virtual Stations of the Cross Stations of the Cross Gather your at 9PM EST with **Every Friday at 9 PM EST** MARCH friends and pray 10 Hail Marys Liện Đoàn Thánh Gia & https://url.veym.net/ Liên Đoàn Đức Mẹ Mân Côi for the souls in ViaCrucis purgatory. S S M 8 Pause & Reflect 3rd Sunday of Lent Stations of the Cross Watch an episode of Wonders of the Mass Read and reflect As a family, pray for at 9PM EST with Visit Jesus at Read and reflect Visit/call your on Jesus justified the repentant tax the sick and poor. Eucharistic grandparents or on Jesus Cleansing & reflect on how it's Liền Đoàn Inhaxiô Loyola & Liên Đoàn San Diego Adoration to reflect the elderly. the Temple. related to you collector. (visit url.veym.net/lent on your Lenten Journey so far. significantly. for the prayer) Luke 18:9-14 John 2:13-25 ViaCrucis 10 12 13 4th Sunday of Lent Visit Jesus in the Pray a Prayer for Put money (any Wonders of Eucharist at a Read and reflect amount) into a Vocations. the Mass church if you can. on how Jesus donation iar and Spend time raised Lazarus out add a little each series (visit url.veym.net/lent examining your of the death. for the prayer) day for the rest of conscience. the Lent season. John 11:1-45 (visit url.veym.net/lent for the prayer) 14 16 Virtual Stations of the Cross Stations of the Cross Invite your family to add to your Pray for all Every Friday at 9 pm EST at 9PM EST with mothers, expectant donation jar, and mothers and those Liên Đoàn Nguồn Sống & Liên Đoàn Phaoló Hạnh https://url.veym.net/ ViaCrucis together with them who desire to be mothers. https://url.veym.net/ ViaCrucis 20 94 23 Solemnity of 5th Sunday of Lent With someone else. Pray the Petition St. Joseph Stations of the Cross Receive the Refrain from pray the Prayer for Refrain from the for St. Joseph's at 9PM EST with Sacrament of watching YouTube the Unborn, asking Visit internet and Blessing. and TV for the day and find time to sit Reconciliation url.veym.net/lent God to protect life. spend time with Liên Đoàn Đaminh Saviô & today if you can, for project ideas Liên Đoàn Biến Đức your parents. (visit url.veym.net/lent or mark your in silence for 15 (visit url.veym.net/lent for the prayer) you can do to for the prayer) calendar to go on minutes. celebrate St. https://url.veym.net/ ViaCrucis another day. Joseph 24 25 Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord **VEYM** Attend Mass or **Holy Thursday** Palm Sunday Take a walk receive Spiritual Read and reflect Take time to reflect outside to be Communion. Pray for those who 2024 LENTEN SPIRITUAL on Palm Sunday on His love in the with nature and Bring your donation will be receiving of the Lord's praise God for Sacrament of the

jar to offer to your

church (or bring it to

Mass the next time

you can attend.)

His creation.

Eucharist. Praise God

for journeying with

you on this Lenten

season.

BOUQUET CAMPAIGN

the Sacraments of

Initiation this

Easter.

Passion.

Mark 14:1-15:47

BETANIA XXII

Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. Mark 11:24

Location: Immaculate Conception Retreat Center – 600 Liberty Highway, Putnam, CT 06260

Time: 4pm March 1st - 2pm March 3rd

Fees: \$75.00 paid before/on February 11th \$95.00 paid after February 11th

Deadline: February 18th

SPACE IS LIMITED

REGISTER NOW







PHONG TRÀO THIẾU NHI THÁNH THỂ VIỆT NAM TẠI HOA KỲ VIETNAMESE EUCHARISTIC YOUTH MOVEMENT IN THE U.S.A. LIÊN ĐOÀN THÁNH PHAOLÔ HẠNH – ST. PAUL HANH LEAGUE OF CHAPTERS

www.liendoanphaolohanh.org

ANNOUNCEMENT LETTER

To: Chapter Chaplains, Assistant Chaplains (Religious and Lay), and all Chapter's Executive Officers
Concern: Lenten Retreat for Youth Leaders – Betania XXII

The St. Paul Hanh League of Chapters' Executive Committee extends our warmest greetings in the love of Christ to all Chaplains, Chaplain Assistants (religious and lay), Chapters' Executive Committees, and Youth Leaders of all levels.

Lent is the season when the Church calls all Christians to live the spirits of "silent prayer, quiet sacrifice, and sincere repentance". Every year during Lent, our Executive Committee organizes a retreat for all Youth Leaders, so that each of us may encounter the living Jesus who strengthens and increases our faith. The retreat helps us to understand the meaning of Lent and the reason why Jesus suffered and died for our sins. We invite all Youth Leaders to attend the retreat to re-enkindle the fire of faith within.

Theme: "Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it

will be yours." Mark 11:24

Location: Immaculate Conception Retreat Center • 600 Liberty Highway, Putnam, CT 06260

Time: From 4 pm Friday the 1st of March to 2 pm Sunday the 3rd of March 2024

Requirement: Youth Leader (Huynh Trưởng) or,

Knight of the Eucharist 18+, who is registered to attend Youth Leader Level 1 Training

Is currently active within the Chapter

Has recommendation from the Chapter's Executive Committee and Chapter's Chaplain.

Fees: \$75.00 per person paid before/on February 11th, 2024 (online)

\$95.00 per person paid after February 11th, 2024 (online)

** Space is limited **

** All registration will be online and available on January 7th, 2024 **

Deadline: The deadline to submit registration is February 18th, 2024

Contact: Tr. Maria Goretti Maria Ta – mariata716@gmail.com

Once again, we ask for your help to encourage your members to attend this retreat. The hope is for them to learn from our honored guest speakers and their fellow VEYM members to rejuvenate to continue to serve God in their ministry to the youth.

May Jesus Christ in the Eucharist through the intercession of Mary and Saint Joseph bless you always.

Attested,

In the love of Jesus Christ, the Eucharist, Written in Boston, MA on January $\mathbf{1}^{st}$, 2024

LM **Phêrô Đặng Đinh Hà** Chaplain of St. Paul Hanh League of Chapters Tr. **Maria Lê Thị Phước** President of St. Paul Hanh League of Chapters



PHONG TRÀO THIẾU NHI THÁNH THỂ VIỆT NAM TẠI HOA KỲ

The Vietnamese Eucharistic Youth Movement in the U.S.A

BAN CHÁP HÀNH TRUNG UONG | NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1811 E. Center Street, Anaheim, CA 92805 | headquarters@yeym.net | 714-603-7586

MEMORANDUM

N24-001

January 13, 2024

To: League of Chapters and Chapter Chaplains

League of Chapters and Chapter Executive Committees

Subject: Tiberia XIX - Youth Leader Level III Training Camp

Dearest Chaplains, Chaplain Assistants, Youth Leader Trainers, and Youth Leaders:

The National Executive Committee is pleased to announce to all eligible members of the VEYM the following training camp, Tiberia XIX.

SA MẠC CẤP III LÃNH ĐẠO

YOUTH LEADER LEVEL III TRAINING CAMP, TIBERIA XIX

- 1. Location: Mt. Claret Retreat Center
- 2. Address: 4633 North 54th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85018; nearest airport with VEYM transportation service is "PHX"
- Date & Time: From 2:00PM Wednesday May 1st to 2:00PM Sunday May 5th, 2024
- Registration Fee: \$250.00
- Deadline: Apply by February 15th, 2024 (late applications will not be accepted)
- 6. Registration Requirements: (1) At least 21 years old; (2) A copy of a government issued photo ID and a VEYM self-portrait; (3) Certified as a Youth Leader Level II for at least six months; (4) Currently an active member of VEYM; (5) Registered in the VEYM membership portal and signed the VEYM Code of Conduct; (6) Application must be signed by the affiliated Chapter President, League of Chapters President, Chapter Chaplain, and League of Chapters Chaplain; (7) Chapter affiliated is in compliant with VEYM guidelines and policies.

TRAINING CAMP REGISTRATION INSTRUCTION

- Go to https://camps.veym.net/;
- 2. Click on the desired training camp to register;
- Fill out the requested information;
- 4. Complete the respective training camp application form (with all signatures required) and attached signed waiver;
- 5. Upload all required documentations and click "add to cart";
 - *A copy of government issued ID, a VEYM self-portrait, youth leader II certificate (from Cấp 2 promotion, NOT the certificate of completion received after camp), application form and waiver form with all required signatures;
- 6. Proceed to checkout.
- A confirmation email will be sent for your records.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Please send all cancellation request to headquarters@veym.net two weeks before camp start date to receive a full refund minus \$10 for the processing fee.

For all inquiries, please contact the National Executive Committee at headquarters@veym.net or Tr. Daminh Dào Đức Khánh at khanh.d.dao@veym.net. The National Executive Committee will review and will inform applicants of their application status and provide all pertinent information to prepare for the training camp after the registration deadline.

May Christ, through the intercession of Mother Mary and Saint Joseph, bless you and the good work that you are doing for His glory.



Đại Hội Về Đất Hưa VII REGISTRATION

Registration Fee: [*VEYM Registered Members]

\$225 BY FEBRUARY 17TH, 2024 \$275 BY MAY 9TH, 2024 \$325 BY JULY 9TH, 2024

Registration Fee: [*VEYM Guests]

\$275 BY FEBRUARY 17TH, 2024 \$325 BY MAY 9TH, 2024 \$375 BY JULY 9TH, 2024

*Registration includes lodging, meals, and activities!

*Please see Memorandum for VEYM Members/Guests Eligibility.

*Absolute deadline to register is **July 9th**, **2024**.



TO REGISTER: https://vdh7.veym.net/.
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: https://vdh7.veym.net/.
QUESTIONS/CONCERNS: Email vdh7@veym.net

Camp Kulaqua Retreat and Conference Center

23400 NW 212th Ave, High Springs, FL 32643
Airport Code: MCO or JAX [limited transportation provided, details to follow]

02:00 PM Friday, August 9 - 02:00 PM Monday, August 12, 2024



PHONG TRÀO THIẾU NHI THÁNH THỂ VIỆT NAM TẠI HOA KỲ VIETNAMESE EUCHARISTIC YOUTH MOVEMENT IN THE U.S.A. LIÊN ĐOÀN THÁNH PHAOLÔ HANH – ST. PAUL HANH LEAGUE OF CHAPTERS

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www.liendoanphaolohanh.org

ANNOUNCEMENT LETTER

To: Chapter Chaplains, Assistant Chaplains (Religious and Lay), and all Chapter's Executive Officers
Concern: Eucharistic Youth Leader Training Camps Levels I & II Knights of the Eucharist, Damas 25 (ID: CI 0275) & Damas 26 (ID: 2H 026)

The St. Paul Hanh League of Chapters' Executive Committee extends our warmest greetings in the love of Christ to all Chaplains, Chaplain Assistants (clergy and lay), Youth Leader Trainers, Chapters' Executive Committees, and Youth Leaders of all levels.

In response to the needs of all Chapters regarding the development and training of Eucharistic Youth Leaders, with the approval of the St. Paul Hanh League of Chapters' Chaplain and the National Academic Committee, we hereby announce the following regarding Damas 25 & 26, Eucharistic Youth Leader Training Camps Levels I and II Knights of the Eucharist:

Location: Holy Cross Camp • 108 Cape Street, Goshen, MA 01032
 Nearest airport code for LDPH transportation services: BDL

Time: From 1 pm Thursday the 6th of June to 2 pm Sunday the 9th of June 2024

Registration Criteria:

I.<u>Level I:</u>

- 1. 18 years old
- 2. Currently active within their local Chapter
- 3. Has recommendation from the Chapter's Chaplain and Executive Committee
- 4. Has at least over 3 months preparation for training camp
- 5. *** All camp participants must have a valid membership ID number and their Chapter is current with annual membership dues. ***

II.Level II Knight of the Eucharist:

- 1. 20 years old and is certified as a Youth Leader Level I for at least 3 months
- 2. Currently active within their local Chapter
- 3. Has recommendation from the Chapter's Chaplain and Executive Committee
- 4. Has at least over 3 months of preparation for training camp
- 5. *** All camp participants must have a valid membership ID number and their Chapter is current with annual membership dues. ***
- Fees: \$100.00 per person paid before/on March 24th, 2024 (Online Level I / Level II KoE)
 \$110.00 per person paid after March 24th, 2024 (Online Level I / Level II KoE)

** All registration will be online and available on January 14th, 2024 **

Deadline: The deadline to submit the application is March 31st, 2024

Contact: Tr. Bao Hanh Tran - bhtran88@gmail.com

Once the application is received, the Academic Affairs Group will send information regarding the Pre-Camp Assignment as well as details regarding the preparations for camp. The new training requirements indicate that we are allowed from 18 to 50 participants per camp. Therefore, when the number of applications received exceeds that limit, applicants will be placed on a waiting list. For the good of the VEYM, the St. Paul Hanh League of Chapters' Executive Committee encourages all Chaplains and responsible Youth Leaders to motivate their members to get their application in early and provide opportunities for Youth Leaders to participate. In our league, we were not able to host a training due to lo regitrations. Most importantly, please pray for the success of these training camps Damas 25 and 26, Eucharistic Youth Leader Levels I and II Knights of the Eucharist

May Jesus Christ in the Eucharist through the intercession of Mary and Saint Joseph bless you always.

Attested,

In the love of Jesus Christ, the Eucharist, Written in Boston, MA on January 1st, 2024

LM Phêrô Đặng Đinh Hà

Chaplain of St. Paul Hanh League of Chapters

Tr. **Maria Lê Thị Phước** President of St. Paul Hanh League of Chapters





WONDERS OF THE MASS





A VEYM Video Series

EXPLORE the meaning of the Mass

UNDERSTAND its purpose

LIVE it daily

New episodes every Monday!