

Dear Families!

Happy New Year! I just received notification for the Higher Ground Retreats for 2026. Encourage your teens to attend a full week of worship and fun among Catholic peers.

**2026 Higher Ground Dates**

**Week 1: May 24 - 29, 2026**

**Week 2: May 31 - June 5, 2026**

**Registration opens February 1, 2026 (Early Bird Special-One Week Only)**

Higher Ground is for students who are **currently sophomores, juniors, or seniors** in high school. This program is sponsored by the Diocese of Grand Island's Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

Higher Ground is limited to 30 youth participants and 10-12 adult staff who gather in an informal atmosphere where they will build relationships of trust and have a lot of fun. This retreat is an incredible opportunity for students to grow stronger in their relationship with Christ while getting to know their peers from around the diocese. By the end of the retreat, students have a greater love for God and a new community of faith. ***Participants are required to stay the entire week with the exception of an emergency.***

The 2026 registration cost for Higher Ground is \$375 with an early bird rate of \$325 through February 8, 2026. A late fee of \$395 will apply to registrations received after April 15, 2026.

Higher Ground is held at Fort Robinson State Park near Crawford, NE. ***Transportation is the responsibility of participants, but if you need help getting to camp, our office is available to help coordinate rides.***

*When a family plans to attend 3 or more diocesan youth events in the same summer, please contact our office to find out about our family discount ([yya@gidiocease.org](mailto:yya@gidiocease.org))*

**Refund Policy**

We understand that extenuating circumstances do arise and that your child may not be