

# Youth Ministry

## Homeless Immersion Project

Building a Structure of Support

### Box City

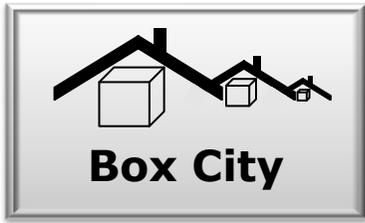
Here in the city of Milwaukee we are surrounded by people who are homeless. Homelessness impacts people for varied number of reasons. We are blessed to be surrounded by numerous organizations who help meet all the needs of the homeless. It is also important for us as Catholics to respond to that need through empathy, education, and advocacy. So, in solidarity for those or are in need and live without shelter we are inviting all youth to join in an immersion experience in which we will spend a night outside sleeping in boxes.

**When: 6:30 pm Saturday, May 27th— 7:30 am mass on Sunday, May 28th**

What: Teens will be participating in various activities to be educated about what Meta House does and why it is such an important need. It will culminate with spending a night outside.

We will pledge both our time and treasure in this activity, by asking students to help raise pledges for our chosen charity, Meta House. We will use the money as a direct donation to Meta House. Students are asked to help raise a minimum of \$25 in pledges.

Interested teens should complete the double-sided permission slip and photo release and forms, returning them to their Youth Minister by **Friday, May 19th, 2017**. Please see the advertisement for more information. If you have any questions, please contact your parish Youth Minister.



---

# Youth Ministry Homeless Immersion Project

---

Dear Box City Participant,

There are a few key things you need to know:

- We ask that you try and provide your own boxes to sleep in for the event. If you cannot bring one, one will be provided for you.
- Please do not bring any electronic items such as laptops, iPads or portable games. Cell phones may be brought, but the expectation will be that they will be turned off at beginning of the evening and will not be a distraction the remainder of the time present. They will be made available in the event of emergency.
- Please bring only things you will need to get through the night.
- Please eat dinner before you come to this event.
- Please do not bring snacks or sodas. Water will be provided for everyone there.

You can bring:

- Sleeping bag.
- Pillow.
- A blanket
- Warm clothing, layering is the best way to go. Hats and mittens would also be an item to pack if the weather gets cold.
- Cardboard box to sleep in

Please pack a change of clothing in case there is rain and you get wet.

Please let your friends know that they should not come and visit. There are security issues with letting people just drop in. If your parents wish to come and visit and sit by the fire they are more than welcome.

Parents must drop you off on Saturday evening and pick you up on Sunday morning. You will be very tired and we want you to get home safe. You will not be allowed to drive yourself home. Please contact me if this is a problem. We will conclude the event by attending the 7:30 am mass together as a group.

In case of an emergency overnight, parents can reach you by calling my cell phone 414-719-1590

I look forward to seeing you.

Best Regards,

Brian Jens  
Director of Lifelong Faith Formation  
St. Matthias Catholic Church

