

Overview of HNOJ's Virtual Spring Retreat

We appreciate your patience in waiting for how we will proceed with Spring Retreat this year due to COVID. As you hopefully know by now, we have cancelled the in-person retreat, but have come up with an awesome at-home retreat experience which will occur on **Saturday, April 18 from 9am-3pm** (with an hour lunch break from 12-1pm). Please read the details below and be sure to register at hnoj.org/springretreat

- The theme of our retreat is "Anchor" where we will focus on the virtue of hope. The very Christian message is one of hope. Suffering is an inevitable part of life, and this particular time in which we live is making this especially clear. And yet, because of Christ, we have an unshakeable hope, a true anchor on which to stake our lives. This retreat will answer the questions, "What is hope? How do I reconcile the reality of suffering, pain, and disappointments with the Christian call to live in hope? How am I, a teenager, called to be a witness of this hope?" Through a series of virtual talks, prayer, and small group discussions, teens will navigate the very crux of the Christian faith: there is reason to hope in all seasons because of Christ.
- This retreat will take place on Zoom. Each participant will receive an electronic schedule which will include links to each zoom session so as to make the transition between meetings more seamless.
- This retreat **fulfills one of the retreat requirements** for Confirmation students in both Year 1 and Year 2. All teens, however, in grades 9-12, are welcome.
- **Registration is required** so as to set up zoom meetings, coordinate small group leaders, etc. Please register at hnoj.org/springretreat (no cost). *Note: Even if you registered for the original retreat, we need you to re-register for the virtual retreat. Also, you should have/will be receiving a refund for the original Spring Retreat if you registered previously.*
- All materials needed for this retreat will either be sent electronically, or for those who have no access to a printer, via mail. Those who need a copy sent in the mail will indicate so on the above registration link.

We are so grateful for the gift of technology so that, while less than ideal, we can still meet with our teens and accompany them on their faith journey.

Please direct questions to Ashley: acermak@hnoj.org