



THE SPOOKY RIDE

By: Angel, Gio, and Gavin

The drive here was a roller coaster of emotions. When we were getting ready we were very excited because we'd been anticipating this trip for a long time. As we were driving, we were cracking jokes, especially Angel. Afterwards, boredom struck like lightning and we had to come up with something quick or we'd be sitting in an awkward silence the entire trip. Then Gio said, "I spy!" We enjoyed that game for a few minutes until boredom struck again like a raging fire spreading to each one of us. Then Gio said, "What's something you can't explain?" After he said that we started sharing spooky and scary stories.

EXCITING TRIP

By Natalie and Stephanie

We were feeling very excited because our class got to go on a camping trip for three whole days. We were also super-joyful and surprised since we were the only class out of our school and diocese that were going on the trip. It was very nerve-racking because we realized we wouldn't see our parents for three days and we would be experiencing something new. Days and months passed. It was time to go camping! We thought the hour drive would be boring, but it wasn't. We saw cows eating grass and different views, pretty clouds and sunny skies. When we got to camp we saw yellow flowers everywhere! They were very pretty! With everything we've done so far, we are very grateful this was our first time experience.

AXE THROWING

By Peter and Ciaran

On April 23, 2025, a group of five young men called the Martyrs went axe throwing. This is a sport in which you throw an axe at a target (they used hatchets instead). The target was a wooden square that had two circles in the middle, one inside the other. If you got it in the inner-most circle, you got two points. If you hit the

board anywhere else, it was worth one point.

The feelings they felt while throwing the axes were both thrilling and extremely fun. Most of them had never thrown a hatchet before. They got a final score of 45 points.

Most people reading this article might think, "Why is this so important?" Well, it teaches them not to give up, even if you miss the target, or if something does not go as planned to keep going. It also helped them with accuracy and strength.

AXE-THROWER

By Michael

Axe throwing is my favorite thing I have done so far. I never thought I could hit the target, but I still was able to do it. It was annoying to miss, but rewarding to hit. Lack of experience was the hardest challenge in the activity. Overall, it was fun.

Advice: Try to sleep. It is very hard to fall asleep.

CAMP KATERI

By James

My favorite thing is axe throwing because I think I did it the best. One thing I have never done was going camping and axe throwing. One way I found Jesus was when I got here.

Advice: Do not wear socks when you go to the creek.

THE GUTTER BALL EXPERIENCE

By Morgan and Audrey

On the first day at Camp Kateri we (Elise, Bella, Morgan, Audrey, Natalie, Violet, and Stephanie) walked over to a field where Miss Hums was setting up some sort of game. She taught us how to plan Gutter Ball. We took a "gutter" and stood in a line. When a ball was rolled down, everyone would try to keep it from falling. Once the ball rolled through a players' gutter, the player would break off and rejoin at the end. If the ball made it into the bucket placed at the end, everyone would win.

If it didn't, they lost. It was a team effort.

After many attempts, we had accomplished this feat several times! We could have gotten frustrated and given up, but we worked hard and helped the ball find its way into the bucket. This game goes to show perseverance will help us have more fun!

A NEW EXPERIENCE

By Bella and Elise

It was our first day at camp. We had some free time and decided to try out Nine Square. Basically Nine Square is Four Square but with squares made out of metal bars. We were playing volleyball in a group and Mrs. Shanahan introduced us to Nine Square. After we started we were having fun by making memories and talking to people we don't normally talk to. It was a new experience, but a fun one!

SHE HIT THE GREEN BALL

By Anja

My favorite part so far has been hitting the target in archery and playing Nine Square. I love to pull the arrow back, line it up, and then the swish of the arrow as it slices the air. In Nine Square, I like hitting the ball as it rushes towards me. I also like the satisfaction of getting someone else out and moving up.

In particular in archery, when I finally managed to hit the red (not bullseye, but better than my record). I felt so proud. Most of the other girls did better, but I could have this small victory. It was so cool when Raquel hit the green soccer ball!

My advice for future 7th graders is this: Double check your bags to make sure you have everything before you leave. Take a shower at the end of the day. Don't wear white socks to the creek.

LOW ON POINTS

By Raquel

I had low points and bad aim in archery. There I was, praying that this last arrow of mine would hit the soccer ball that got you 15 points. No one in my group had hit it, even though they had great aim. I prayed that morning as well that I would gain confidence to do something new and accomplish something great or small. When the last activity of the rotation came, I really hoped I'd accomplish something. I was there with my last arrow on the last round hoping and praying hard that I would hit the ball. I let go and the arrow went flying. "Boom!" I had done it! Everyone there cheered

for me and clapped because I had accomplished something great!

Advice for next year: Pray and don't give up.

A BULLSEYE HIT

By Paxton

A favorite part of the camping trip was when our group did archery. It was really fun because using dangerous things for leisure activities is really cool. I always try the best I can at sports and activities. Archery is a fun way to test myself to see how good I can be at something. Our whole group did pretty well. Vince and I both got over 300 points. It was also really fun to hit the balls that dangle on ropes from the ceiling. They were worth 15 points and were really satisfying to hit. Overall, I enjoyed our experience and hope to do it again.



Here's some advice for future campers: Bring extra socks because they get dirty and wet really easily. Watch out for puddles and mud, because it's everywhere. Don't get in trouble.

THE CABINS

By Alainah and Brigid

When 7th grade first heard about the camping trip we thought our cabins were going to be old bunk beds with bugs. But when we saw the cabins they were different from what we thought. Some cabins were old but there were new cabins and new beds. There were no bunk beds in our cabin, which was nice! We all got our own bed. Our cabins were so clean! The cabins smelled like fresh new wood. When we slept in the bed it was a lot more comfortable than we thought.

ONLY FOUR HOURS OF SLEEP

By Peter

My favorite thing that has happened on this trip was trying to fall asleep. Every time the room was quiet someone moved, then someone talked, soon everyone was talking and laughing. Also, if you needed to go to the restroom you would have to take someone with you. By the way, only like two people got some sleep. For me, I only got four out of eight hours.

For all you soon-to-be 7th graders two things I would recommend are: make sure you pack good, warm clothes. Secondly, always have fun, but be aware of the surroundings because I heard someone found a snake and I saw daddy-longlegs and lots of ladybugs.

A FUN MORNING RUN

By Violet

On Thursday morning, April 24, 2025, I woke up bright and early to go on a run with a couple other kids from other cabins. The Cross Country coach, Mrs. Cassidy, went on the run with us! We went on the run at 6:45am. It felt nice to get the fresh air. We did stretches before the run so we would not get injured. Then off we went on the run. We ran a little over a mile. It felt good to have the wind blowing in our faces. Overall, the morning run was so much fun and good exercise.

BIG FISHING SURPRISE

By Josie

Before our class knew we were going fishing, our teachers told us we had a surprise guest. None of us knew who it was going to be. Then walked out our former science teacher, who we all loved, Mr. Mulholland. After he arrived they told us we were going fishing. When we found the lake, we started fishing. Many people caught blue gills. Although we couldn't fish all day and Mr. Mulholland couldn't stay longer, we had had a big surprise and had a lot of fun.

THE CREEK

By Bella

On Thursday we went to the creek for one of the rotations. When we go there, we were all so nervous because of what the others had said. We got to the mud slide. I was a little scared and nervous to go down because I didn't want to fall and slip on my face or run into the tree. When I went down, I realized it wasn't as bad as I thought it would be. I wanted to go down again! After the mud slide, we went to the bridge and don the way there Elise saw a snake and picked it up. She was holding it and we were kind of scared. We went to the bridge and we had a stick race. When Mrs. Shanahan said that, we were kind of confused. After she explained it we all ran to find a stick. I found a small one because I didn't want the big stick to get caught on anything while going down the creek. When we went on the other side, we waited and I saw mine first. On our way back we found some clam shells and picked them up. When we came back we realized that it wasn't that bad and we all had a good and fun time. We were so muddy!

Advice: Try something new and don't be scared to get muddy or gross. Also, make new friends or get to know someone better.



THE UNEXPECTED SNAKE

By Elise

I really liked when I saw a snake and caught it. Ever since I go to camp Kateri, I wanted to show my friends that I could hold a snake because they didn't believe me. When I saw the snake, I was in the water at the creek. Most people didn't see any snakes, so I was glad I saw three! When I finally saw it I was so happy I ran over there, of course waited for Mrs. Shanahan's approval to hold it, and finally did! It was really calm in my hands. After I took a picture with it, I let my snake go.

Advice: Bring lots of different pairs of all clothes! Prepare to get wet and muddy.

THE SURVIVAL

By Kylie

A place that really stuck out to me was when my group got to go to the creek. My favorite moment that happened while we were visiting the creek was when we role-played being in the Amazon Rainforest. We also loved the part when we got to collect clam shells. Another part was when we got the chance to swing on the rope connected to the tree because I really enjoyed how fast it went. I also really liked learning survival stuff.

My advice next year's 7th graders is bring more stuff then you need, especially clothes and socks.

DIRT

By Natalie

My favorite part so far was getting all wet and muddy at the creek, especially sinking into the mud and water. The mud got all over me from waist to feet. There were even two snakes (pretty small). A bunch of clam shells were everywhere along the shore part of the creek. What was pretty hard was getting around since the mud was so slippery. The mud also had a rocky-ish feeling.

Advice: Bring an umbrella and extra clothes

THE ADVENTURE OF 7TH GRADE

By Morgan

One thing that I did that I have never done before was walk in a creek. I always see them on the side of the street and want to swim. I also liked using a compass to find our way to the cookies. It was so fun going on our own adventure. One God moment was when I went to bed and prayed that my stomach would feel better, and it did!

My advice is if you feel homesick, remember God is with you. Also, bring two pairs of shoes (not white, if possible). Finally, try new things!

THE GRACEFUL, AWKWARD, TIMID, CLUMSY JUMP

By Vince

As we were going along, we came to a narrow and shallow stream. The water was very cold. We could either jump across and save time, wade across, or hike around it. We all chose to jump it. All made it over: Paxton's graceful, long-legged leap; James's awkward fall; my slip that sent me sprawling; and Michael's timid step across. After that particular obstacle, there were more and new dangers ahead.

Advice: Bring extra socks!

MEMORABLE MOMENT

By Samuel

My favorite moment was probably when my group went to the creek. There was a big log that my group had to walk on. The log was a bit slippery, so everyone had to be careful.

I also liked when we first got into the water. It didn't reach any higher than our knees due to the path it took. Part of the route was rugged with thorns, sticks, and brambles. At the end we took our own path. It was definitely not the best idea.

Some advice I'd give to next year's 7th graders is to really enjoy every moment you have at the camp, even if activities might not be your favorite.

THE CREEK

By Alainah

One of my favorite parts of this trip so far was when Mrs. Shanahan took my group to the muddy, slimy creek. When we were walking there, most of the girls were nervous to get wet or muddy. When we were going down the slope she told us to hang on to the grass. I slipped all the way down. When we were walking through the water it was not very high. But one part that was under the bridge was to our shirts. In the end, we all had a great time and had so much fun. I think that this field trip is helping us bond more with not only our classmates but with our teachers. I've gotten to try new things that I've never done before.

I would tell the next 7th grader to bring clothes that they do not care about.

STUCK IN MUD!

By Ciaran

My favorite part of this trip was playing in the creek while we were in the water. Mrs. Shanahan told Peter and me to race to the bank. Peter and I were running and then suddenly we went straight down! Peter was really stuck, but I was not. So, I trudged through the mud. When Gavin came, he was too late to see what happened, so Mrs. Shanahan told him to run to the bank. Gavin did as she said and got so stuck he could not move! Eventually, he got out and everything was okay.

Advice: Bring 2 to 3 extra sets of clothes!

A HOT SHOWER

By Gavin

My favorite part in the camping trip is when my group went into a deep clay pit in the creek. It all happened when we were walking into deep water. When Mrs. Shanahan told us to climb up the bank. When I started walking I fell down and the water was to my waist. When you moved you got deeper, like quicksand. Eventually we got out and all of us were laughing. Then we had the struggle of getting out, mostly because of the clay slide. You slid down it, but couldn't really get back up. So I had to travel further down the creek and found a little trail to get up the hill. It was very hard to get up. I fell many times while trying to get back up. Alas, I finally was up. I realized that I left Angel down there. I told him to go to the trail. He tried, but couldn't. So Gio and I had to go help. The water was also very cold. Angel still couldn't get up. Eventually we got him out and all went to take a hot shower.

Advice: Bring lots of extra clothes. You will need them.

THE SINK MUD

By Brigid

My favorite part of camping was when we went in the creek. My entire leg went down into the mud and the water was up to my chest. Then when I tried to step out, my other leg went down into the mud. The mud was soft, but felt so weird between my toes. When we got out, my shirt was covered in mud, so were my legs and hands. But it was so fun walking in the water and helping my friends out of the sink, sand, mud stuff.

My advice is to bring extra clothes in case they get soaked. Mine were drenched!

THE CREEK WITH CREVICES

By Angel

The creek is very muddy with the mud staining you and your clothes very quickly. I is also very slippery and you have to cling on for dear life if you want to climb or cross something. The creek has a lot of water with water from the creek seeping into everything around it. The creek has a lot of vegetation with roots, vines, trees, brambles, and shrubs everywhere. The life in the creek is diverse. There are bugs, clams, fish, turtles and snakes. The creek itself is very sloppy and steep.

When exploring the creek, be careful of branches, spikey shrubs, and sink holes.

THE LUNCH

By Vince and Paxton

The stomachs of the 7th grade were growling, they needed food now! At 12:00 the class was summoned by the ring of a bell. A long line snaked its way into the kitchen, where food awaited. The hungry people reached in and earnestly grabbed their equal portion of food, helped along by Violet, Brigid, Josie and Stephanie. They were the food helpers for the day. The food contents were pizza, chips, fruit and milk. The massive line of people marched their way through the kitchen with their plate of sustenance. They approached their desired table and lowered their bodies onto the benches. The people were also offered refills on cups of milk. The 7th grade loved devouring their pizza and left the Bosco Breezeway in peace.

IN THE JUNGLE

By Camilla

One of my favorite parts of camping was going in the creek. At first, we were all like, "Why are you going in the water, Mrs. Shanahan?" No one wanted to go in until Brigid was ready and slid all the way down! There was not one person in our group who was not soaking from a fall in the creek or mud on their clothes, hands, feet, or face. We all had so much fun screaming and holding hands just to find out that if one person falls, you will to! Everyone got a shell that people found on the bank. When it was time to get up the slope, Mrs. Shanahan said, "Ok, everyone hold on to weeds and branches!" Soon after, Josie listened to her advice and slid down after pulling on a loose branch. We all laughed. Once the hike was complete we walked back to camp all talking. We got back and had fun figuring out how to rinse off and when to shower. Over all, for the first time going in the creek, it was a great experience.

In the beginning, I was certain that no matter what, who, when could make me do anything slightly dangerous. When in doubt, do not listen to my feelings. You will never forgive yourself.

A QUICK PEEK INTO A CREEK

By Stephanie

My favorite thing I've done camping so far is going into the creek. I was a place with lots of mud and water, of course! We would try to find a place to go down but it was very slippery. With lots of screams and falls we got down. It was rough to walk in. Some parts were muddy and some were rocky. Some parts were deep and some parts weren't. Though it seems scary, it's really fun! One really fun thing about it was finding shells. I would walk through the water and step on something hard. Is it a rock or a shell? I would pick it up and have a shell with rocks on it. Sadly, it was time to leave. Then we rinsed off because there was lots of mud on us.

MAKE A FUN MEAL

By Violet

My favorite thing that has happened is when we were able to make our own meal. I loved how we had to follow the instructions and to get the right meal and pay attention to which one was ours. Also, just the fun of making the meal was awesome. The meal turned out so good and was very delicious. Also it was very easy to clean up. I have never had the thought to make a meal like that. We also had an excellent chef to help us learn how to make the meal. I was very grateful that I was able to try and make a meal, but it was very difficult in some ways.



To next year's 7th graders: this trip is very fun, but also has challenges. Always think of it as fun!!

CAMPFIRE

By James

Sister Mary Michael started a fire in the pit. We came and made camper stew around 6:00. We roasted the stew over the fire. We felt happy, tired, and content as it roasted. Then we made dessert and went to bed. It was very fun.

MUD AT THE CREEK

By Audrey

We trudge through the woods, that is Elise, Bella, Stephanie, Natalie, Morgan, Violet, Mrs. Shanahan, and I. Branches snap under our feet, birds chirp, and there is constant, happy chatter. After a minute or two of

disturbing the quite peace of the woods, Mrs. Shanahan stops us.

"Here is where we go in!" she says, a smile playing on her lips. You can tell she obviously enjoys the outdoors. She points out a muddy slide leading down to the creek. A fallen log serves as a slippery bridge, leading to the other bank.

We tumble down, shrieking, screaming, complaining, laughing. We crawl across the muddy, wet log in such a snail-like fashion. It feels like over ten years. When we finally reach the other side, we go right back into the water. Climbing across the log was only for the sake of climbing across the log. For outdoor practice, I guess.

I scoop up a handful of slippery mud. In the other groups, they had smeared mud over their faces, war style. I smear some on my face the same way. Elise wanders over to me, and starts smearing some on her face too.

"I wonder how many frogs have used the bathroom in this?" I remark.

Elise drops the mud in disgust. "That's disgusting!" she squeals. I just laugh and flick mud on her.

NATURE: A GIFT FROM GOD

By Violet

It is Wednesday afternoon as I sat on a swing looking out in the open, noticing what I saw. In the clear distance there were fields that look like they go on for miles. Then the trees look green, kind of like ones that are in a jungle. In the fields all the dust started to come up. It looked like a dust storm. As chirps from the birds began to sing their hearts out, they were glorifying God with the gifts He had given them.

MY GREAT EXPERIENCE

By Madelyn

My most favorite part during this three day camping trip was on April 23, 2025. Mr Rutledge, Camilla, Audrey, Mrs. Shanahan, and I were standing around the campfire, which was nearly out, and just talked, asking each other questions, laughing, and just enjoying the beautiful nature. It was really cloudy but this one spot was clear and the sun's magnificent rays were shining through. We were surrounded by all the trees, bushes, and even weeds. It felt like a short while talking, but it was like twenty to thirty minutes.

After talking, Elise asked Mrs. Shanahan to a race, meanwhile the rest of us walked a fast pace. We finally

yelled, "Three, two, one, go!" They sprinted off. It looked like it was going to be a close call. Elise beat Mrs. Shanahan by five seconds. We were all chatting when Fr. Kipper came out of nowhere and they all wanted to race. So Fr. Kipper, Mrs. Shanahan and Elise all raced down the hill. Elise took the lead, then Fr. Kipper, then Mrs. Shanahan. It was a close call, but they all were behind by two seconds each. That was my favorite moment. The whole trip was a great experience.

THE BEAUTY OF HIS CREATION

By Gio

One of my favorite parts of the field trip was the night we made stew and dessert. I thought it was really fun and learned good cooking methods. But my favorite part of that activity was cooking. The fire was on this large, tall hill. We could see this beautiful sunset. Sometimes a majestic cloud had light leaking through it, as if it were made in heaven. I really felt God there with all of us. He was showing us the beauty of His creation.

Advice: Pack extra clothes (seriously); be careful; try to make your bed comfortable; have fun and enjoy yourself!

*Question the beauty of the earth, the
beauty of the sea, the beauty of the wide
air around you, the beauty of the sky;
question the order of the stars, the sun
whose brightness lights the days, the moon
whose splendor softens the gloom of night;
question the living creatures that move in
the waters, that roam upon the earth, that
fly through the air; the spirit that lies
hidden, the matter that is manifest; the
visible things that are ruled, the invisible
things that rule them; question all these.
They will answer you: "Behold and see, we
are beautiful. Their beauty is their
confession of God. Who made these beautiful
changing things, if not one who is beautiful
and changeth not?"*

-St. Augustine