



May 13th, 2022

Dear Confirmation Student!

Such a great thing, that you get to be part of KV77-camp! We welcome you to the Activities Centre of Partaharju on Thursday July 28th. Please, make sure that you arrive between 11:30 and 1 pm. This letter contains all the information needed concerning your stay at Partaharju. Please, make sure that your parents see this letter also. There is lots of information for them, too!

Arriving to Pieksämäki and Partaharju

Everybody takes care of their own travelling arrangements. Busses and trains stop at Pieksämäki, from where it is easiest to take a taxi to Partaharju. The distance between these two places is about seven (7) kilometres.

Ready, set, go!

We start the camp program at 1 pm. Lunch is served from noon to 1 pm (this is including the Confirmation payment). If the parents or relatives will have lunch, you need to order it beforehand. Cost is 14 euros for adults and 10 euros for children between 3-12 yrs. If you like to hire bed linen and towels, you can do it for 10 euro/package.

Visiting day

Your family and friends are welcome to visit our camp **on Tuesday August 2nd**, between noon and 4.00 pm. The lunch is served also on the visiting day from noon to 1 pm (Ham and potato casserole, and vegetable casserole. The 15-euro's price includes coffee. The price for children (3-12yrs.) is 11 euros. Please inform the number of people having lunch on the visiting day and on the confirmation day *with following Participant Card.*

Confirmation day in Partaharju on Saturday August 6th

We'll welcome your parents, relatives, and friends to the Confirmation Day in Partaharju.

Confirmation takes place at the **Partaharju activities Centre** outside under bare sky at the amphitheatre there is lots of space, up to 3000. The Mass and closing ceremony will last somewhat an hour and half. You will walk to the amphitheatre in 10 - 15 minutes from the Partaharju parking slot. The way there is unobstructed, so you can quite easily manage e.g., with a wheelchair. The Mass is going to be streamed online (website address will be informed later via email).

The timetable of the day is following:

- 10:00 Checkout
- (10:00 Baptisms if needed (only for litigans families))
- 11.00 The group photo is taken at Partaharju (with the Celebration costumes on)
- 11:30 Lunch at Partaharju main building and yard outside.
- 13:00 starts Confirmation Mass and camp closing ceremony at amphitheater

Please notice that the lunch is served (15 /11 euros) also for your guests to enjoy (pike-perch soup). *Please let Partaharju staff know the amount of the guests and their food allergies and diets with a Participant Card.*

At the Confirmation, you'll wear a white dress, an alb. It reminds us of the white baptism dress, which we wore when baptised. The Alb is long, nearly to your ankles. It is also made from thin fabric. Knowing this, it would be a good idea to try to wear some sober colours under the alb. Please, choose the socks and shoes you're planning to wear carefully too. (High heels are not a very good option for walking on the sand road to the amphitheatre.)

When planning your baptism, your parents asked godparents to be the Christian guides for you. Your baptism goes together with your confirmation. In baptism your parents brought you before God and the pastor blessed you. Your confirmation has many similar elements to that. You can stand before God yourself, say the Creed and take a blessing. The blessing means that we pray for God's mercy, love, and kindness to your life now and in the future. Please ask one godparent or relative to bless you at the Confirmation together with the teachers.

The group photo's

A Photographer will take a group photo of our camp members on the morning of the Confirmation Day in Partaharju. *You may claim the picture before and after confirmation in Partaharju for the price of 25 euros.* If you wish to have a picture from your YCV (Young Confirmed/Church Volunteer) ("biggies") or small group too, the prize is 30 euros, all three pictures are 35 euros. (The photographer can also take some portraits of you. She'll make a popup studio at Partaharju, and photos are taken after Mass. Filming and one file 60 euros and additional photo 20 euros. Registration beforehand katrievauhkonen@gmail.com or +358504009575.). You can pay with cash or card.

Our camp life

I enclose a list of things that make your life at the camp easier (the last page of the Participant Card). Please consider what else you might need, of course the list is somewhat general. The most important things you'll need that are connected to the confirmation training are the Bible, the **New International version**, /**Good News Bible** or **Finnish Bible year 1992** (or some other language you prefer), a pen and a notebook. Please, remember to take with you the "Participant Card" and the paper that'll testify that you've taken part in your parish life during your confirmation training. Please answer within a week to following query of teaching language and Confie-book language <https://urly.fi/2BTA>

We spend a lot of our time outdoors doing different activities or just hanging out. Partaharju gives us a great setting for example playing football (soccer), Frisbee-golf etc. Comfortable and proper shoes (f. ex. trainers) and some rainwear can be good to take with. You can bring your mobile or tablet and your instrument with you. However, you cannot use them always during a shared program and notice that **your own things are your responsibility at camp. We don't have locked cupboards for you.** Please remember rules on the internet, especially sending photos into different programs. Some campers will not give permission to use their photos. In Partaharju, there are free wifi.



**LASTEN JA
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Alcohol and intoxicants are strictly forbidden. Buying cigarettes is forbidden in Finland when you're less than 18 years old, so our camp is smoke free. Also snuff and electronic cigarettes are forbidden. If you know that it will be difficult for you to be without smoking, please contact me and your parents beforehand and discuss how you will deal with the issue during the camp (e.g., take care of starting nicotine replacement therapy in time before the camp). Energy Drinks are also not allowed.

Allergies, diets, and medicine

Please let Partaharju staff know about your food allergies and diets Fulfil this form latest 30.6.2022_ <https://urly.fi/2BTE> Your allergies, illnesses and medications are asked for in the Participant Card. Please, write them down carefully. We collect the forms when you arrive at the camp. All the information given by you is confidential.

Make sure that you've got your personal medication (also painkillers and allergy medicine) with you. In case you'd need to visit Pieksämäki health clinic, please take your health insurance card (SII card, "sairausvakuutuskortti") with you. If you live in an EU-area, it's good to have your European Health Insurance Card, EHIC with you. We've insured you in case of accidents at the camp.

Post

Your family and friends can send you 'snail mail' to:

Name of the camp member /Kv77
Partaharjukeskus
Partaharjuntie 361
76280 Pieksämäki
FINLAND

Reppukahvio

Sweets, ice cream, soft drinks, postcards, stamps, song books etc. are available in Partaharju Reppukahvio. They accept both cash and cards.

Our Camp

The teachers of the camp with me are Rev Kaisa Kahra, theology students Venla Raukola, Topi Rautiainen and Mio Kivelä, music teachers Marko Varonen and Ilona Vehmas and the ancillary teachers Kasper Karapää, Pihla Antila and Viivi Paavonperä. There are also 13 "biggies" YCV (Young Confirmed/Church Volunteer) ("isonen"). And there will be 75 Confirmation Students taking part. One of the greatest things about our camp is that you guys come from all over the world!

Homework's

*Some of you haven't returned all the homeworks given. **Do your homeworks into the Moodle as soon as possible, latest July 17th. If you have problems with it, email me right away (elise.kytta@lastenjanuortenkeskus.fi)!***

If you wish to get to know Partaharju beforehand, click yourself to their website. The address is <http://www.partaharjukeskus.fi>.

I'm here for you, so don't hesitate to contact me (I am on vacation from 11.6. -13.7.). You'll find all the Confirmation Training letters on our website <https://www.lastenjanuortenkeskus.fi/confirmation-training/> letters.

Coming camps

End of the summer we have a camp for all Confirmands and other young adolescents called q-tis (you can call it also "jatkoripari" follow up Confirmation") it'll take place in Partaharju on August 26th to 28th. The "biggie" YCV –training (Isoskoulutus) takes place in Partaharju from September 30th to October 2nd. You can also participate in Biggie –training via the internet either partly or whole course. To sign up for the course, please go to the www.lastenjanuortenkeskus.fi pages there leirit ja tapahtumat.

You are hearty welcome to the camp and Partaharju!

I wish you a joyful springtime and lots of sunshine on the behalf of your Confirmation Training team, "riparitiimi"!

Best wishes,

Elise Kyttä

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Kaisa Kahra

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