



ST. MARY'S
ACADEMY
FAITH COMMUNITY JUSTICE RESPECT



Who goes on the trip? A maximum of eighteen seventh and eighth-graders travel with Ms. Fernandez and Ms. Garcia to meet our WLS instructors.

What is the cost? \$5,000 total (\$500 deposit and two-payments)

When is the trip? November 14 to November 26, 2019

Where do we go? Ollantaytambo, Peru. The group stays in a hostel right in the middle of the small Incan town. From our home-base, the group travels to our partnering schools, hiking areas, historical sites such as Macchu Picchu, and much more. Also, students travel in small groups to their homestays twice a day for lunch and dinner.

Why Peru? "Peru built many rural schools in the 1990s, but the quality of education remains low. Schools are overcrowded and underfunded and teachers receive little training or support. Schools are regularly shut down due to national teacher strikes calling for higher wages. According to a recent survey by the World Economic Forum, Peru's elementary schools are among the worst in the world. The lack of access to quality education has many associated consequences, among them higher levels of poverty,

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illiteracy, and underemployment. In Peru, 50 percent of the population lives beneath the poverty line" (from WLS Peru Travel page).

How do I know if I'm ready? The qualities that are needed are many: relative emotional and social maturity, flexibility, and adventurous spirit, openness to unfamiliar foods and cultural traditions, responsiveness to directions, good health, a desire to learn, and a stick-to-it attitude. Academic motivation and good standing are essential components of acceptance.



STEP INSIDE A WLS PROGRAM

"This experience and the wonderful people inside and outside of our group have changed my perspective on everything. I have said this countless times, but I do not want to leave."

- ST. MARY'S ACADEMY, PERU 2015

Logistics Calendar Phase 1:

- 5.10.19 Applications are due.
- 5.17.19 Applicants are notified.
- 5.21.19 Acceptance forms are due with \$500 non-refundable down payment.
- Summer '19 Students fundraise \$200 for Peru collaborative partnership projects.
- Fall '19 Students enroll in 8th-period Peru Culture Elective.