



# Adopt-A-Rat at St. Pat's



## Who:

Adult parishioners may participate by "adopting" VMI Rats during the first few months of a very difficult year of training at the Institute. Participating families are paired and matched to these pre-Cadets (our newest parishioners), who are often very far from home. It is a chance for the Rats to relax and maybe enjoy a comforting meal when they are allowed off post.

## What:

The Adopt-A-Rat program is run by the chaplain's office at VMI. Local churches help to match two or more Rats to a host family, who will offer them some time away from the "Rat Line" (an extremely intense, first few months of training). Some host family options might include: taking them out to eat, letting them eat-in with your family, letting them study, or simply allowing them to relax in the comfort of your home. **St. Patrick's wants to fully participate so that every Catholic Rat will have a host family.** Please prayerfully consider providing some Catholic fellowship for these cadets.

## When:

Rats have very limited free time. This is usually for a few daytime hours on a Sunday. You could meet your Rats for Mass and then invite them back to your house for breakfast, rest and relaxation. They are typically so tired from the high demands of the Rat Line that they are so appreciative just to be able to even take a short nap on the couch.

## Where:

Your home. These students are missing their own families and are more than happy to be welcomed into your home, your weekend family routines and traditions.

Why:

I will give you rest. Exodus 33:14

You are to give them the first portion of your ground meal so that a blessing may rest on your household. Ezekiel 44:30

He welcomed us to his home and showed us generous hospitality for three days. Acts 28:7

Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Romans 12: 13

Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. Hebrews 13:2

Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. 1 Peter 4:9

We ought therefore to show hospitality to such people so that we may work together for the truth. 3 John 1:8

If you are interested in helping with Adopt-a-Rat Program, or in any other way with this ministry to these young adults, please fill in your information and put into the offertory basket or bring by the parish office by Aug 25, 2024:

\_\_\_ Yes, I am willing to adopt 2 or more Rats (list how many you would like to adopt)

\_\_\_ I am interested in the Adopt-a-Rat program, but need more information. Please contact me.

\_\_\_ Special preferences such as male or female cadets, branch of service, etc

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

[saintpatsrats@gmail.com](mailto:saintpatsrats@gmail.com)

Contact:

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