PRAY & SERVE

The Montefalco Service trip challenges students through an intense experience of prayer, service, culture, and friendship.

We will spend six workdays helping a low-income family in Chalcatzingo or Jonacatepec (Morelos, Mexico) to build a more permanent, dignified home. Participants should fundraise before the trip for the cost of construction materials.

Our residence will be the former hacienda *Montefalco*, a large complex inspired by St. Josemaria Escriva and visited by the saint in 1970.

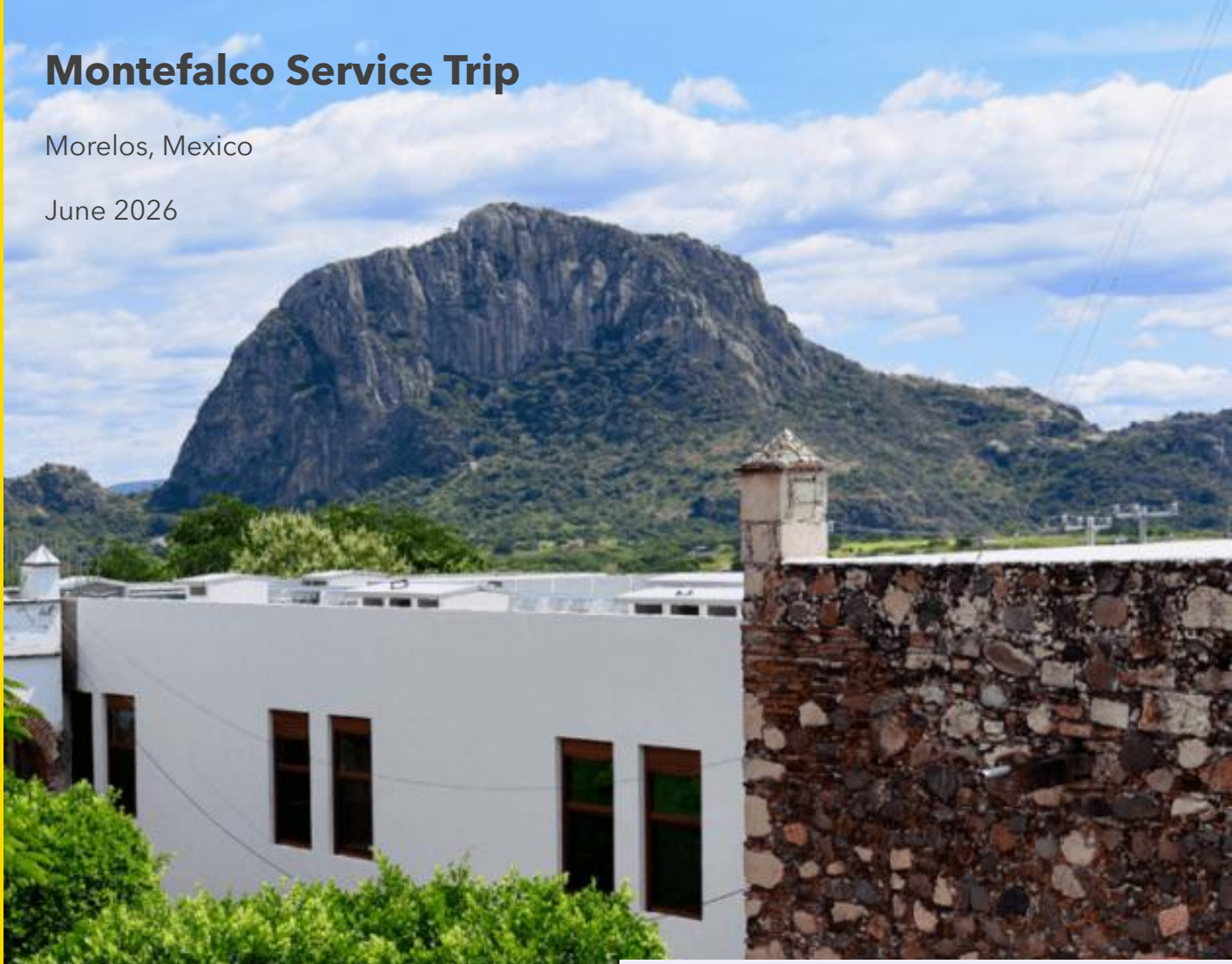
The trip will include a pilgrimage to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe and visits to cultural sites in Mexico City.

The group will be accompanied by a Catholic priest, and students will have opportunities to participate in practices of piety such as daily Mass and the Rosary.

Montefalco Service Trip

Morelos, Mexico

June 2026



2026

Montefalco

Service Trip

ITINERARY

- **June 12:** Arrive, hotel in Mexico City
- **June 13:** Visit Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe; tour Chapultepec Castle; transportation to Montefalco
- **June 14:** Hike *El Peñon* (cover image)
- **June 15-20:** Construction project
- **June 21**: Return to Mexico City
- **June 22:** Flight back to New York

TRIP DETAILS

- **Dates:** June 12th to June 22nd
- **Sponsor:** Youth Service International (ysi.org)
- **Location:** Ex-hacienda *Montefalco*, Jonacatepec, Morelos, Mexico
- **Total cost:** $1,325, airfare included
- **Priority application deadline:** 2/15
- **Contact:** Jeff Pawlick (773-209-1509, jpawlick4@gmail.com)

PROJECT:

Through an employee at Montefalco, we met *Gloria*, a Chalcatzingo resident with a mentally handicapped daughter. The family lives in a small, fragile shelter. On her property, Gloria has laid foundation and placed rebar (image at left) for a more permanent, dignified home, but lacks funds for materials and labor to complete the building. That will be our project.

PAST TRIPS:

Montefalco has been hosting American students for service projects for at least the past fifteen years.

APPLICATION:

Interested students should apply at: https://ysi.org/montefalco-service-trip/. They should describe the reasons for their interest in the trip and their experience in similar programs. Those who have engaged with and formed friendships at other service and mentoring programs will be given priority.