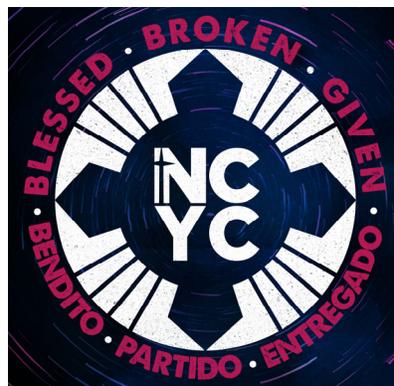




NCYC 2019

PRE-EVENT INFO

FOR PARTICIPANTS & PARENTS





Office for Youth
and Young Adults

DIOCESE OF GARY

9292 BROADWAY
MERRILLVILLE 46410-7088

219-769-9292
Fax: 219-738-9034
Web: www.garyoyya.org

November, 2019

Dear NCYC Participant (and your parents!):

We are just a few weeks away from the 2019 National Catholic Youth Conference!

We trust you have been preparing for your trip to the NCYC. We hope your parishes have embraced your participation in this event.

Thank you for your cooperation in the registration process. There were a lot of forms and stuff, but you came through!

This packet includes some more information you'll need to prepare for the trip. If you still have questions, do not hesitate to contact your group leader or contact Kevin Driscoll (email yyakev@yahoo.com, cel: 552-4060).

Your group leaders and the diocese are excited about the trip, and we hope you are, too! NCYC promises to give you a perspective of the Church and Catholic youth ministry on a much larger level. In turn, the conference is richer for the gifts YOU bring to it! With youth attending from every state in the country, we are once again reminded of Paul's letter to the Corinthians: *There are many parts, yet one body.* (1 Cor 12:20)

Blessings in Christ,
Kevin Driscoll
Diocese of Gary NCYC Coordinator

Vicky Hathaway
Ministry Consultant for Youth and Young Adult Ministry





NCYC MISC. NOTES & FREQUENTLY ASKED Q'S...

Who's going?

Welcome aboard! to the following parish, cluster & school groups that will comprise the Diocese of Gary Delegation to NCYC '19:

Andean High School, Merrillville · Catholic Communities (Sacred Heart, Wanatah-St. Martin of Tours, La Crosse-St Mary, Otis) · Holy Name, Cedar Lake · Holy Spirit, Winfield · La Porte Catholic Church · Nativity of Our Savior, Portage · Our Lady of Sorrows, South Haven · St. Ann, Gary · St. Edward, Lowell · St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Valparaiso · St. Helen, Hebron · St. John Bosco, Hammond · St. John the Baptist/Whiting-Robertsdale Cluster · St. Mary, Crown Point · St. Matthias, Crown Point · St. Michael, Schererville · St. Patrick, Chesterton · St. Paul, Valparaiso · St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Student Center, Valparaiso

Our delegation is currently at nearly 270. Over 20,000 participants are expected.



What do I owe?

Updated billing statements have been sent to group leaders. Parents/Teens, please ask your group leader first about who should receive your payment (different groups handle collection differently).

What is the NCYC?

The National Catholic Youth Conference is an exciting, biennial experience of prayer, community, and empowerment for Catholic teenagers and their adult chaperones. The schedule includes keynote addresses, concurrent and workshop sessions addressing a wide variety of topics. There are also opportunities for liturgy, reconciliation, prayer and worship, recreation and special activities such as concerts, exhibits, and the interactive thematic village.

Who sponsors NCYC?

The National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, Inc. (NFCYM) sponsors NCYC. Located in Washington, D.C., and led by an energetic and creative national staff, the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM) is a membership organization working on behalf of youth and diocesan youth ministry leadership across the country and on U.S. military bases in Europe. NFCYM serves as the youth ministry liaison to the USCCB. Members include nearly all Catholic dioceses, and over 70 youth-serving collaborating organizations.



Why attend NCYC?

Youth and adult participants attend the NCYC because they want to:

- Gather on a national level
- Learn more about themselves and their relationship to the Catholic Church
- Celebrate their Catholic Christian faith
- Meet thousands of other Catholic youth
- Share beliefs and experiences
- Recognize their role in the larger Catholic Church

In a distinctly Catholic setting, the National Catholic Youth Conference invites participants to encounter Christ, experience church, and be empowered for discipleship.

What will I "get" out of NCYC?

For some, the speakers will be remembered the most. For others, the dynamic closing liturgy. For others, the chance to celebrate your faith with others from across the country. The "meat" of the conference is in the large gathering sessions and workshop sessions. Each round will have multiple choices. A sample of topics covered include: Catholic identity, Catholic social teaching, cultural diversity, family relationships, forgiveness, global issues, leadership, self-esteem, sexuality, spirituality and prayer, and social justice.

How are we getting there? When do we leave? When are we comin' back?

While the Diocese of Gary Office for Youth & Young Adults (hereafter, "OYYA") is organizing registration and hotel, OYYA is not handling each group's transportation. Direct all transportation questions to your group leader. OYYA recommends that groups arrive Thursday afternoon, to get a jump on the festivities. The first official NCYC activity is the Opening Session at 8pm Eastern Thursday night, but Thursday afternoon is a great chance to browse the HUGE thematic village before it gets crazy busy, and to settle into your hotel rooms. NCYC ends appr. 10:30 pm Saturday night. **Heading home Saturday night is STRONGLY discouraged**, and will not result in any cost savings, as all hotel fees are already locked in.



Where will we stay during NCYC?

The Diocese of Gary has a block of hotel rooms at the **Courtyard by Marriott-Downtown Indianapolis**. This hotel is a short stroll to all NCYC activities. To avoid confusion (our diocesan group contains many parishes and subgroups), group leaders are encouraged to direct Kevin Driscoll for hotel questions rather than contact the hotel directly. **In the event of an emergency, parents/family members should contact their group leader or another adult in the group first.** Other numbers: Kevin Driscoll (OYYA) cel, 219-552-4060. Please note teens will

spend very little time at their hotel, but if you wish, you may call the hotel at 317-822-9029. NCYC pricing was calculated by the number of teens placed in a room. If you are not comfortable sleeping in the same bed as your roommate, sleeping bags, pillows, blankets, **air mattresses**, etc. are allowed for floor sleeping. "Rollaway beds," cots, etc. will NOT be allowed, and should NOT be requested. Most youth rooms will have 4 teens in one room with 2 queen beds, and some were placed in a room with 1 King and 1 pullout sofa bed.



There is complimentary Wifi throughout the Marriott complex, including the Courtyard.

"Mixed-group rooms"

In an effort to save money, most group leaders unanimously requested that the OYYA place as many teens into rooms as possible, even if that meant grouping together teens from different groups. There are a number of teens who will share a room with teens they never met. OYYA encourages teens to take advantage of the opportunity to meet some new friends, and always remember to **BE KIND!** Get to know your new roommates and talk about your NCYC day! Group leaders were given the rooming assignments in late October.



Arrival & Check-In Info:

Group leaders, you should plan to pick up your group's materials at the hotel (Courtyard by Marriott-Downtown Indianapolis) any time between 10am and 5pm Eastern Thursday. Please consult the October 25th "Mega-Info NCYC Group Leader E-mailing" for specific details about arrival and parking. Teens, follow your group's leader's instructions on hotel procedures. Participants should remain in the hotel lobby until group leaders have met with Kevin and/or Vicky.

Hotel rooms will not be available until 3pm Thursday. Group leaders will be given instructions about where to store belongings if they arrive earlier.

Do we ever really sleep at these things?

Parents, we ask your help in these regards. Yes, it's important that teens be well rested to experience all that can be experienced during the daylight hours. But it's also critical that adult chaperones be well rested, too, to ensure the safety of your child all day long. That cannot happen if we have to man hotel hallways or knock on doors all night long. If problems persist, we ask that you be understanding if we employ your help via telephone.

How do we get around during NCYC?

Once you arrive at the hotel, there is no need for motored transportation! All NCYC venues are within walking distance. In fact, thanks to Indianapolis' Skywalk system, in the event of bad weather, you could almost never have to walk outside! That said, it's still a **lot** of walking, so plan to wear comfortable shoes.

Who is “in charge?”

Your parish’s group leader is the person *most* responsible for keeping tabs on youth during the trip. Other persons assuming leadership roles are: **Kevin Driscoll**, Diocese of Gary NCYC coordinator, **Vicky Hathaway**, an experienced NCYC group leader and new Diocese of Gary Youth Ministry Consultant, and **Alfredo “Pepe” Flores-Carrillo**, who is traveling down a day early to help Kevin and Vicky organize the nearly 300 sets of participant materials for easy Thursday check-in.

Information from the NFCYM will be communicated to us and will be passed along to group leaders. There is a lot to see and do at NCYC, but **no teen should ever be alone**. Group leaders should have an idea where you will be at all times and check-in times are recommended. Teens with celphones: you should know your leader’s number and the numbers of all adults in your group!

Do I need spending money? & What about eating?

Meals are not provided in your package. Depending on appetites, participants should bring an estimated \$70-100 for at least 9 meals (2 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 3 dinners). Breakfast is NOT included at our hotel. Our hotel does include a small, free refrigerator in each room. There will be a diocesan gathering after the Thursday night opening session that includes pizza. This was included in your package price.



Downtown Indianapolis provides literally hundreds of dining options. A dining map is included here, and we also recommend **Google Maps** and the **Visit Indy** smart phone apps for restaurant listings.

We encourage teens to seek out more than just “junk” food, fast food, etc.! NCYC can be exhausting, and often a poor diet leads to illness, and no one wants to get sick and miss all the fun!



A number of vendors will also sell items. You may also wish to bring some money should you choose to purchase Christian & Catholic-themed items from the 100+ vendors in the NCYC Exhibit Area. Great souvenirs to boldly proclaim your faith after NCYC!

Mass collection is for all, including teens: There is a collection during the Closing Mass of NCYC. This provides a good opportunity to teach your teens about Stewardship, and let them know that ALL are called to give, including teens. Money collected goes to support the NCYC Scholarship Fund. Teens, parents, please set aside \$5, \$10, or whatever you feel is appropriate to contribute to the collection bucket Saturday night. You are helping a neighbor in need get to NCYC!

Who do I contact in an emergency?

In the event of an emergency, please first contact the youth minister from your parish via cellphone, then Kevin Driscoll via cellphone (219-552-4060). If a call should ring to a voicemail, please leave a message, as reception is often intermittent in downtown areas, and sometimes it’s simply too loud to take a call. If an emergency should happen at the conference, both the Diocesan/Parish leaders have parents’ contact info, and so do conference organizers (it was part of the registration).



What about behavior?

In the notarized forms, all teens and adults agree to follow the Code of Conduct provided by the NFCYM. To make sure there is no confusion, I have included another copy in this packet. If for whatever reason you feel that these policies are unreasonable, please let a group leader know now...so we can avoid unpleasantness on the trip! In a nutshell: we respect your right to have fun within the prescribed rules. We will uphold our end of the bargain if you uphold yours! Adults will also be held accountable for our behavior, and if you feel your rights are not being respected, please contact another adult on the trip.

What should I wear?

Be casual! Inappropriate attire will not be allowed, and in a questionable case we will allow the team of youth ministers present to help decide what "inappropriate" is! Generally speaking, jeans and t-shirts/sweatshirts are a-okay. The average high for mid-November in Indianapolis is 45. One NCYC (2013) started at 50°, but by the Saturday night walk back to the hotel the windchills were below zero, so a coat, stocking cap & gloves should also be packed. Each participant will receive two t-shirts, one to keep and one to trade.

"Funwear" is not the exception at NCYC, it's the norm! Just be prepared: someone may offer you a trade for that fun hat! (See below!)



What is "trading" or "trade items"?

A tradition at NCYC is to trade items with teens from throughout the country. Come prepared! Oftentimes the items are personalized with something that represents their region of the country. The better the item the better the trade! All teens will receive 2 diocesan t-shirts as part of their NCYC fee. One is to keep- you'll need to wear it on Saturday night- and the other is yours to give away (or keep that one too, it's up to you). It's all a fun excuse for teens to meet other teens from all over the country. Make, create or purchase and personalize items to trade with other teens such as buttons, pins, bookmarks, bead necklaces, pencils, message cards, clothespins, hats, tees, squirt guns, pens. I suggest purchasing/making unmarked items, then slapping a printed label on them to save money.



Is this a lot of churchy stuff?

Yes. And you'll be so glad it was! Most teens leave NCYC saying they've never experienced "church" as dynamic and exciting as it is at NCYC!

What about gettin' out of school?

Enclosed please find a form that should work in most cases. If it doesn't, please let Kevin Driscoll know as soon as possible.

What steps are taken to ensure participant safety?

NFCYM takes the safety and security of NCYC participants very seriously, working closely with facility, local law enforcement, and emergency response personnel to avoid emergencies where possible and planning for emergency response. Security and medical personnel are always on-site during NCYC programming hours. In addition, NFCYM requires that all participants wear event credentials to gain access to NCYC activities and tags participants' bags so that they may be identified from unauthorized gear present in the facility. **Therefore, all participants are reminded about the importance of wearing their lanyard/nametag!** Due to security requirements, attendees will pass through metal detectors and be subject to a bag search each time they enter the facility. In order to facilitate the speedy search of bags, attendees should limit what is brought with them each day to only necessary items. Backpacks, purses, and/or other bags being brought into NCYC venues must be marked with a special tag, which will be distributed to group leaders at registration. Tags should not be removed until after the conclusion of NCYC, as untagged bags may be searched. Unattended bags may be removed and discarded by security personnel.



Additionally, we are asking parish/school adult leaders to perform **random bag checks** upon arrival at the hotel and throughout NCYC. This is not meant to invade privacy. It is to ensure that future events continue. If anyone is thinking of bringing anything to NCYC they shouldn't: **don't**.

Stay hydrated

Participants may bring a refillable water bottle for drinking water. There are plenty of water fountains throughout the Convention Center.

The LORD does righteous deeds, brings justice to all the oppressed.
(Psalm 103:6)

From NFCYM...

Donation Items - What to Bring

Time to start gathering items to donate, here is a list of organizations and items:

- WaterStep - used shoes
 - Friends of Haiti - school supplies
 - Terre Haute Catholic Charities - personal toiletries (shampoo, soap, deodorant, tooth paste, tooth brush, lotion)
 - St. Elizabeth's - household supplies (toilet paper, paper towels, size 4 and 5 diapers, disinfectant wipes, all-purpose cleaner)
-



These items should be bagged and taken to the thematic village at the Indiana Convention Center.

New media = New evangelization!

You have a power and responsibility by your baptism to spread the Gospel. Like Mark, Matthew, Luke, and John, you can write a Gospel...in a tweet, snap, 'gram, etc.! Use your mobile device for the glory of God! Post pics and reflections to Snapchat, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and more. Use **#ncyc**



Get the NCYC APP!

While it is not available YET, as of early November, we are told it is coming! So check the App store and Google Play store before NCYC. It combines convenient access to:

- Conference schedule (including sortable displays of breakout sessions by rounds or types)
- Listings of speakers and exhibitors, links to social media feeds
- Reception of real-time alerts during the conference
- General information

The app also allows personalization by creating a login identity with an email address. Once logged in, participants can create a custom schedule, choose exhibitors to visit, or take notes during breakout sessions.

Workshops

NCYC offers different types of breakout sessions for various audiences. Some are huge, some are more intimate. Most are for high school teens, but some are designed specifically for adult leaders/chaperones, and others are designed specifically for college-aged chaperone assistants.

OYYA strongly recommends that youth and adults spend some time browsing the Breakout Sessions section of the NCYC website (ncyc.info/rounda), or the app when it is available) and arrive in Indianapolis with some idea of which sessions you'd like to join. Adult leaders, please work with your teens and other adults leaders to allow teens to participate in sessions they choose without leaving teens alone. Some sessions reach capacity and will close, so be prepared to have a backup plan.



A special diocesan gathering Thursday night after Opening Ceremonies!

WHOOOOO WANTS PIZZA?! After you exit Lucas Oil Stadium Thursday, head back to the Marriott complex. Between the stadium and the Courtyard by Marriott is the JW Marriott Convention Center, which is where we will have a large room set aside for us to have a pizza party/social. It's a great chance for groups to see their brothers and sisters from throughout NW Indiana. We will also have a closing prayer service together.

What's this I hear about being Communion Guides?

We will play a key role in bringing Eucharist to thousands! AND we will ALL have reserved seating on the floor of Lucas Oil Stadium for Closing Mass! Details later in this packet, after the schedule page.



LOVE THY NEIGHBOR!

No Human Chains: In can get congested in the convention center hallways. To keep groups together, participants will often grasp arms and walk down hallways, etc. forming a “human chain.” NFCYM is asking group leaders to tell teens NOT to do this. It is a safety concern and quite annoying for anyone trying to cross paths. Instead, NFCYM encourages group leaders to get creative and use something identifiable to hold up and follow, eg. an umbrella, sign, flag, etc. **General Sessions at Lucas Oil Stadium:**

Stadium: Do NOT save seats, and move toward the center of rows. Create a plan for your group, and if your group is large, break it up, so this is not an issue. Again, **Do NOT save seats!** Bags & Coats should not occupy empty seats. Also, utilize ALL 4 GATES! North gate is closest to Convention Center, so gets heaviest traffic, but you can also use the east, west, and south gates.

What can teens do to prepare in advance?

Read through these materials, browse ncyc.info for the NCYC website, install the free NCYC App on your smart phone, and then pray for the success and safety of your trip!



A few good smart phone apps to get: **Google Maps** and **Visit Indy** app. These are helpful if you are searching for restaurants downtown.

Tip: Texting is a God-send when things get loud and crowded. Because group texting threads often get broken up, groups might consider using **WhatsApp**, **GroupMe**, or similar as an efficient and effective way to communicate.

What can parents do to prepare?

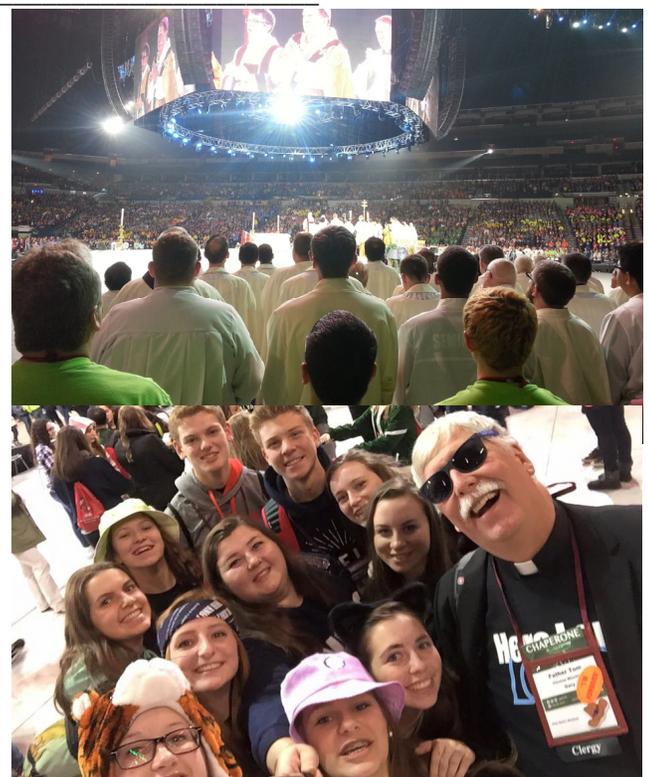
Read through the materials enclosed, browse ncyc.info for the NCYC website, install the free NCYC App on your smart phone, and then pray before, during, and after for the success of the trip! When they return, talk with them about the experience and perhaps about future opportunities for church and/or youth ministry. Understand it is not uncommon for your teen to be on an emotional “high” for awhile! That’s a good thing!

All NCYC general sessions & closing liturgy will be streamed live via the internet. A link to the stream will be available on the NCYC website ncyc.info/livestream.

Contact Info...

Parents, be sure to have this info handy during the NCYC should the need arise. Teens, enter these numbers in your celphones if you have one:

Parish Leader(s) Celphone #s: _____
Kevin Driscoll, Diocese of Gary Celphone #: 219-552-4060





Veronica Gantt

Veronica Gantt of Las Vegas, NV was visiting Columbus, Ohio on November 8, 2007 for the 2007 National Catholic Youth Conference, along with the rest of her group from her parish. Shortly after arriving, members of the group went out for a late-night walk to a fast food restaurant. On the walk back, sadly, Veronica was struck from behind by a hit-and-run driver and killed.

By all accounts, Veronica was safely removed from the main road and was an innocent victim of negligent driving. The driver was never caught.

I include this in the Pre-NCYC mailing not to scare teens or parents, but simply to raise teens' levels of awareness and due diligence. As you can see in the photo below, there will be times when you will be crossing and walking along busy downtown Indianapolis streets. There will also be times when you are traveling in packs. And there will be times when you are laughing and having a great time!

It sounds trite, but in memory of Veronica, I'll type it anyway:

Walk safely and use caution!



Walking south on S. Missouri St. toward Lucas Oil Stadium, from Courtyard by Marriott

DIOCESE OF GARY NCYC 2019 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Schedule current as of 10/24/19. ****All times Eastern!**** ICC=Indiana Convention Center; LOS=Lucas Oil Stadium

Thursday , November 21		
anytime appr. 10am – 5pm Eastern	Group leaders check-in with Kevin or Vicky to receive NCYC credentials	Courtyard by Marriott room TBD (text Kev prior to arrival)
12:00 pm–4:00 pm	Thematic Village Open	ICC—Halls C-G
12:00 pm–4:00 pm	Inspiration Nook Open	ICC—Room 116-117
12:10 pm–12:45 pm	Daily Mass	St. John’s Church
3:00 pm Eastern	Hotel rooms available for check-in	Kev or Vicky will communicate with group leaders
4:00 pm–5:00 pm	Daily Mass	ICC—Hall H
5:00 pm–5:30 pm	Eucharistic Procession from St. John the Evangelist to ICC	St. John’s Church to ICC
5:30 pm–6:00 pm	Eucharistic Adoration	ICC—Sagamore 3-7
6:30 pm–10:30 pm	Stadium Doors Open	LOS—All Gates
6:30 pm–8:00 pm	Gathering and Entertainment, Featuring for KING & COUNTRY	LOS
8:00 pm–10:00 pm	Opening Sess.: Emcees: Katie Prejean McGrady and Fr. Agustino Torres, CFR	LOS
10:30 pm – 11:30 pm	Pizza Party and Prayer for all Diocese of Gary delegates	JW Marriott Convention Ctr. location TBA
Friday , November 22		
7:30 am–8:15 am	Daily Mass	St. John’s Church
7:30 am–11:00 am	Stadium Doors Open	LOS—All Gates
7:30 am–9:00 am	Gathering and Entertainment	LOS
8:00 am–8:00 pm	Registration Open	ICC—1 st Fl Serpentine Lobby
9:00 am–10:45 am	Prayer and General Session, featuring Immaculee Ilibagiza	LOS
11:00 am–5:30 pm	Thematic Village Open; Inspiration Nook Open; Chapel Open	ICC
11:15 am–11:35 am	Rosary: Joyful Mysteries for the Intention of Parents	ICC—Sagamore 3-7
11:15 am–11:45 am	Mega Workshop Musical Warm Ups	ICC—Halls AB, H, I, J
11:30 am–12:30 pm	Daily Mass in the Extraordinary Form	ICC—Sagamore 3-7
11:30 am–5:00 pm	Music and Message Stage	ICC—Room 120-121
11:45 am–1:00 pm	Round A Mega Workshops and Workshops	ICC—various
12:10 pm–1:00 pm	Daily Mass	St. John’s Church
12:30 pm–5:30 pm	Reconciliation Available	ICC—Sagamore 3-7
1:15 pm–1:45 pm	Mega Workshop Musical Warm Ups	ICC—Halls AB, H, I, J
1:15 pm–1:35 pm	Rosary: Sorrowful Mysteries for the Intention of Young People	ICC—Sagamore 3-7
1:45 pm–3:00 pm	Round B Mega Workshops and Workshops	ICC—various
2:00 pm–2:45 pm	Daily Mass	St. John’s Church
3:15 pm–3:35 pm	Divine Mercy Chaplet	ICC—Sagamore 3-7
3:15 pm–3:45 pm	Mega Workshop Musical Warm Ups	ICC—Halls AB, H, I, J
3:45 pm–5:00 pm	Round C Mega Workshops and Workshops	ICC—various
4:00 pm–4:45 pm	Daily Mass	St. John’s Church
5:30 pm–6:30 pm	Daily Mass	ICC—Hall H
6:30 pm–10:30 pm	Stadium Doors Open	LOS—All Gates
6:30 pm–8:00 pm	Gathering and Entertainment	LOS
8:00 pm–10:00 pm	Prayer and General Session, feat. Katie Prejean McGrady, Mark Hart, and Fr. Agustino Torres	LOS
Saturday, November 23		
7:30 am–8:15 am	Daily Mass	St. John’s Church
7:30 am–11:00 am	Stadium Doors Open	LOS—All Gates
7:30 am–9:00 am	Gathering and Entertainment	LOS
8:00 am–8:00 pm	Registration Open	ICC—1 st Fl Serpentine Lobby
9:00 am–10:45 am	Prayer and General Session, featuring Sr. Bethany Madonna	LOS
After Gen. Session	All Diocese of Gary delegates meet for training on how to serve as Communion Minister Guides for Closing Mass	meet near stage on the floor of Lucas Oil Stadium
11:00 am–5:30 pm	Thematic Village Open; Inspiration Nook Open; Chapel Open; Reconciliation Available	ICC
11:15 am–11:35 am	Rosary: Glorious Mysteries for the Intention of Youth Ministers	ICC—Sagamore 3-7
11:15 am–11:45 am	Mega Workshop Musical Warm Ups	ICC—Halls AB, H, I, J
11:30 am–5:00 pm	Music and Message Stage	ICC—Room 120-121
11:45 am–1:00 pm	Round D Mega Workshops and Workshops	ICC—various
1:30 pm–2:30 pm	Adoration	ICC—Hall H
1:15 pm–1:35 pm	Rosary: Luminous Mysteries for the Intention of Vocations	ICC—Sagamore 3-7
1:30 pm–3:00 pm	Round E Discernment Sessions	ICC—various
3:15 pm–3:30 pm	Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help	ICC—Sagamore 3-7
3:30 pm–5:00 pm	Recreation Options: Dance (Hall AB); NCYC’s Top Talent Finale; Comedy Club	ICC
6:30 pm–11:00 pm	Stadium Doors Open	LOS—All Gates
	All Diocese of Gary delegates should sit in reserved seating on the stadium floor.	
6:30 pm–8:00 pm	Gathering and Preparation for Liturgy	LOS
8:00 pm–10:30 pm	Closing Mass	LOS



NCYC Closing Mass

Attention all Diocese of Gary delegates! (Teens AND adult leaders)

Because we have done such a great job in recent years, we were asked back! ALL Diocese of Gary delegates will serve as **communion guides** at Saturday night's Closing Mass. The Diocese of Gary has done this for NCYC since 2013 and it has been a great experience. We've done such a great job, they keep asking us back!

"What is a communion guide?"

During communion time, you will assist the priests to their various communion stations throughout Lucas Oil Stadium.

Congratulations to ALL of us! We will play a key role in bringing Eucharist to thousands! PLUS- I think this is the best part- **we will ALL have reserved seating on the floor of Lucas Oil Stadium for Closing Mass!**



The commitment is fairly small—we all must attend a **short training session on the floor of Lucas Oil Stadium after the Saturday general session ends at appr. 10:45 am.** After everyone leaves, head to the area on the floor near the stage.

To clarify, we will not be Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, we will be GUIDES. Everyone is assigned a section of the stadium and the guide will simply accompany a priest to that section and stand alongside the priest. Easy, huh?!



NCYC Adult Code of Conduct

(excerpted from *Safeguarding God's Children: NFCYM Policies for Protecting Young People*)

Young people are the most important gifts God entrusts to us. As an adult participant in an NFCYM-sponsored youth event or program, I promise to strictly follow these policies and the following standards as a condition of my providing services to either to my diocese/organization and/or NFCYM.

I will:

Conduct myself in a manner that exhibits the highest Christian ethical standards and avoids even the appearance of impropriety, and therefore I will:

- 1) Report suspected abuse of any minor to the appropriate authorities.
- 2) Cooperate fully in any investigation of abuse of minors.
- 3) Develop and maintain the level of skill required to be competent.
- 4) Be knowledgeable of and adhere to all applicable aspects of *Safeguarding God's Children: NFCYM Policies for Protecting Young People*. (<http://www.nfcym.org/youthprotection/index.htm>)
- 5) Complete training in youth protection in my diocese or, if not available in my diocese, through the Boy Scouts of America's on-line training/certification program.
- 6) Treat everyone with respect, loyalty, patience, integrity, courtesy, dignity, and consideration.
- 7) Honor the equality of all people, avoiding all forms of discrimination and respecting the dignity of each person without regard to economic status, age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or physical or mental abilities.
- 8) Use positive reinforcement and communication rather than criticism, unhealthy competition, or comparison.
- 9) Become thoroughly familiar with the objectives and guidelines of the program in which I am participating and strive to achieve these objectives and communicate them appropriately.
- 10) Be aware of and adhere to emergency plans and evacuation routes appropriate to the program in which I am participating.
- 11) Be responsible and/or accountable for stewardship of all resources entrusted to my care.
- 12) Uphold the authority of those responsible for the program or activity in which I am participating and assist them in every way to encourage learning and to conduct fair and impartial events.
- 13) Avoid situations where I am alone with minors, always following the two adult rule.
- 14) Avoid any form of excessive familiarity, inappropriate language, or any situation and conduct that exploits or could give the appearance of exploiting another.
- 15) Follow practices that consistently exhibit no tolerance for any form of abusive behavior.
- 16) Follow practices that demonstrate appropriate relationships between all NFCYM personnel and minors that are important for a child's development and a positive part of ministry.

I will not:

- 1) Use physical affection to initiate inappropriate contact with minors.
- 2) Touch a minor in a sexual or other inappropriate manner.
- 3) Smoke or use tobacco products in the presence of minors.
- 4) Purchase tobacco products for or distribute tobacco products to minors.
- 5) Use, possess, or be under the influence of alcohol while supervising minors or while participating in an NFCYM youth event.
- 6) Purchase alcohol for or distribute alcohol to anyone under the age of 21 years.
- 7) Use, purchase, possess, distribute, or be under the influence of illegal drugs at any time.
- 8) Purchase, download, possess, or distribute pornography.
- 9) Pose any known health risk to minors (i.e., no fevers or other contagious situations).
- 10) Humiliate, ridicule, threaten, demean, nor degrade minors or others nor tolerate such behavior in the environment for which I am responsible.
- 11) Use physical discipline in any way for behavior management of minors. No form of physical discipline is acceptable. This includes but is not limited to spanking, slapping, pinching, shaking, hitting or any other physical force as retaliation or correction for inappropriate behavior of a minor.
- 12) Use profanity in any form in the presence of minors.

I have read *Safeguarding God's Children* (<http://www.nfcym.org/youthprotection/index.htm>), understand its meaning, and agree to conduct myself in accordance with its terms.

I hereby represent that I am not currently being investigated for, nor have I ever been convicted of a disqualifying offense as defined in *Safeguarding God's Children: NFCYM Policies for Protecting Young People*; I have never been terminated from employment or a volunteer position for reasons related to allegations of physical or sexual abuse by me; nor have I sought or received any medical, physical, or psychological treatment for reasons involving physical or sexual abuse by me.

I understand that should my response to any of the statements above change, I am obligated to inform my diocese/organization/NFCYM immediately. Moreover, I understand that should I admit to, plead no contest to, or be found guilty of an incident of sexual misconduct or other disqualifying offense, or if it appears that an alleged claim is substantiated; my services with NFCYM-sponsored youth events shall be immediately terminated. Further, I understand that my failure to agree to and abide by the Adult Code of Conduct will bar me from participation in any NFCYM-sponsored youth event.

LEADERS: Do not collect this page - this is for the participant to keep.

NCYC Youth Code of Conduct

(excerpted from *Safeguarding God's Children: NFCYM Policies for Protecting Young People*)

Youth participants will:

- Project an image of Christian consideration, sensitivity, and respect to everyone and to the property around them through language, dress, and behavior
- Refrain from inappropriate touching and verbal harassment
- Respect other persons and/or property
- Refrain from actions that could result in injury and/or damage to property
- Adhere to stated curfew
- Wear appropriate credentials in order to gain and maintain access to NFCYM events and activities
- Keep their personal belongings with them at all times
- Attend all scheduled activities, arriving promptly, and staying for the entire event
- Be aware of noise levels in lobbies, hallways, and sleeping areas, especially later in the evenings
- Maintain the spirit of the event
- Report problems of any kind to a trusted adult

Youth participants will not:

- Possess weapons of any kind
- Purchase, possess, consume, or distribute alcohol
- Purchase, possess, consume, or distribute illegal drugs
- Engage in any form of sexual activity or peer sexual harassment
- Purchase, download, possess, or distribute pornography
- Visit or gather in hotel rooms with the opposite gender

Youth participants will be aware of what are and *are not* appropriate behaviors in terms of relationships between adults and youth, and with their peers:

The following behaviors are generally considered appropriate at an NFCYM event:

- Side hugs
- Shoulder to shoulder or "temple" hugs
- Handshakes
- "High-fives" and hand slapping
- Verbal praise for a job well-done (not regarding physical attributes)
- Touching hands, faces (usually in context of a blessing), shoulders, and arms of minors
- Arms around shoulders
- Holding hands while walking with younger minors
- Sitting beside younger minors
- Kneeling or bending down for hugs with younger minors
- Holding hands during prayer
- Pats on the head when culturally appropriate

The following behaviors are generally considered inappropriate at an NFCYM event:

- Inappropriate or lengthy embraces
- Kisses on the mouth
- Holding children on the lap who are capable of sitting on their own
- Touching bottoms, chests, or genital areas
- Showing affection in isolated areas of a facility such as bedrooms, restrooms, bathrooms, closets, staff-only areas, or other private rooms
- Being in or on a bed with an adult
- Touching knees or legs of minors
- Wrestling with minors
- Tickling minors
- Piggyback rides
- Any type of massage given by minor to adult or another minor
- Any type of massage given by adult to minor
- Any form of unwanted affection or peer sexual harassment
- Compliments or put downs that relate to physique or body development
- Going to an isolated area away from the group, or being taken to an isolated area by an adult or peer

If a problem of any kind occurs during an NFCYM-sponsored youth event, young people will immediately go to a trusted adult to discuss the matter.

Youth and parents understand that failure to agree to and abide by the Youth Code of Conduct will bar youth from participation in any NFCYM-sponsored youth event.

Youth Participant Sanctions for Non-Compliance

For the most part NFCYM never has direct responsibility for chaperoning the conduct of youth participants in its programming and events. NFCYM relies on group leaders from participants' home dioceses or other chaperones to ensure that every young person attending an NFCYM-sponsored event is aware of the Youth Code of Conduct and the sanctions for non-compliance. Group leaders, chaperones, and/or parents bear the responsibility for sharing this information with youth participants. Their failure to do so does not excuse any inappropriate behavior on the part of youth participants nor does it affect NFCYM's ability to levy sanctions. Youth participants are held to the Youth Code of Conduct regardless.

If a young person violates the Youth Code of Conduct, any or all of the following sanctions may be implemented:

- Reporting of misconduct to local authorities, if the violation in any way violates local ordinances or laws.
- Dismissal of the youth from the NFCYM event or program by requesting that the group leader remove the youth from the event (whereby it would become the responsibility of the group leader/chaperone/parent to ensure timely, accompanied, and safe transportation home).



NFCYM
NATIONAL FEDERATION FOR
CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents, Principals, Athletic Directors, and Activity Directors

FROM: Christina Lamas, Executive Director

RE: Student Attendance at the **National Catholic Youth Conference, November 21-23, 2019**

The National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) is the premiere national gathering of Catholic high school age youth in the United States. More than 20,000 young people and their chaperones from around the country will meet for three days of educational sessions, catechesis, prayer, and service. NCYC is a unique opportunity for young people to strengthen their Catholic faith and identity, to meet other young people striving to live out positive values, to learn ways to cope with influences that conflict with what they know to be right, and to discover that they are strong enough to be countercultural. For many, their participation is not only life-affirming, it is life-changing.

The 2019 NCYC will be held in Indianapolis November 21-23. We at the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, Inc. (NFCYM) realize that attending this event will entail absence from school and extracurricular activities. I respectfully request that your students' participation in the conference be counted as an excused absence due to the nature of the program.

Without support from administrators like you, many students will be unable to attend. They and their families are committed to school and its related activities. If NCYC was an experience that would regularly take students from their classrooms, playing fields, and practices, I would not ask you consider excusing their absence. However, NCYC happens only once every two years. I hope you agree there are benefits to students taking a few days to deepen their understanding of another facet of their being. I believe the experience will add to their development as well-rounded members of the broader community.

For more information about the conference, feel free to visit our website, www.ncyc.info. In addition, please feel free to contact your local Catholic diocesan youth ministry director or our office in Washington, D.C. for more details.

Your cooperation in enabling your students to attend is greatly appreciated.

Supporting those who accompany young people

415 Michigan Avenue, NE, Suite 40 • Washington, DC 20017
Telephone: 202-636-3825 • Fax: 202-526-7544 • www.nfcym.org

INEXPENSIVE RESTAURANTS DOWNTOWN

This map was created for NCYC 2017 - if a place has closed, sorry!



The restaurants above are only a sampling of downtown restaurants with meals \$10 or less.

app.

I also recommend the [Visit Indy](#) smart phone



With about 20,000 teens, rest assured the longest lines will be at the least-expensive restaurants, especially chain restaurants with brand-recognition. A few suggestions to counter the lines:

- Go out for pizza. Since you're in groups anyway, split a pizza or two and save time and money .
- Consider the many downtown bar-and-grills. Teens tend to avoid these because they're bars, but many are more "grill" than "bar" during lunch and dinner hours, and they aren't much more expensive than what you might pay at Subway anyway.