



NCYC 2009: Kansas City

News for Diocese of Cleveland Pilgrims

Youth & Young Adult
Ministry and CYO Office

Over 320 Pilgrims from over 20 Parishes! ~ Oh My!!!

Dear Youth Leaders,

Thank you for all your prompt registrations for NCYC! We appreciate the recruitment and fundraising efforts you are making! We have secured 6 Motor-coaches and over 100 hotel rooms for this pilgrimage! Surely, a once in a lifetime experience for your teens!

Participating Groups & Parishes Include: The Community of St Malachi; Elyria Catholic High School; Holy Angels; Holy Spirit; Sacred Heart Chapel, Lorain; St Agnes/Our Lady of Fatima; St Aloysius; St Angela Merici; St Barnabas; St Clare; St Clarence; St Joan of Arc; St Joseph, Amherst; St Joseph, Strongsville; St Julie Billiart; St Justin Martyr; St Martha; St Mary; St Noel/Divine Word; St Raphael; and St Rita

NCYC 2009 will see the return of a Region 6 Gathering for all pilgrims from Michigan &

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SAY NOT THAT YOU ARE TOO YOUNG!

Ohio. This dinner will take place onsite at the convention center in Kansas City prior to the Opening Session of NCYC. It will be a great opportunity for your teens to begin connecting and trading items with people from Region 6!

Local pilgrimage gatherings will include an Evening Pilgrims Potluck at Camp Corde

on July 23rd. Here we will have a chance to kick back, vote on T-Shirt designs and meet our Bloggers! Details on the T-shirt & Blogging Contests as well as a Potluck RSVP are inside this newsletter.

Save the date for our Send Off event all day on October 17! All teens and adults must attend this event.

Dates to Remember

- **June 15th.** Entry Deadline for Blogger Contest
- **June 29th.** All Registration Forms, Scholarship Forms, Electronic Spreadsheet and \$200 per pilgrim payment due to YYAM Office.
- **July 1st.** Entry Deadline for T-Shirt Design Contest
- **July 23rd 6-9PM.** PILGRIMS POTLUCK at Camp Corde, Parma
- **September 1.** Final Payment Form and Monies due to YYAM Office.
- **October 17.** Send Off Event: Mandatory for all pilgrims, including adult chaperones.
- **November 18.** Evening Departure for Kansas City
- **November 19.** Regional Dinner: NCYC Begins!!!
- **November 19-21.** NCYC!
- **November 22.** Travel Home.

NCYC Digital Pilgrimage and Parent Connection

NFCYM has joined with MyCatholicVoice to create online resources for those traveling to Kansas City. Files include pictures, songs, videos and updates on speakers, workshops and MORE! In June a Video Contest begins for all your young Steven Spielberg's!

NCYC 2009 will also include a Parent Track both onsite and through MyCatholicVoice coverage of NCYC. The Cleveland Diocese will begin hosting an NCYC 2009 Facebook group in July thanks to the efforts of Jacki Knox and teen bloggers.

Please encourage parents and

teens to join these online communities together.

Making the parent connection can be the difference between NCYC being a one-time roller coaster with Jesus or igniting lifelong discipleship in Christ!

Websites to Connect With!

Clevelandcyo.com

Mycatholicvoice.com/ncyc

NFCYM.org

[Cleveland NCYC 09 Facebook TBA](#)

Virtus.org



ADULT LEADERS: Training Chaperones

SO...NCYC 2009 includes a 13-hour bus ride (which, given the trip home, equals 26 hours of travel time), 4 days in Kansas City and 3 nights in a hotel.

As youth minister you serve as one-part gatekeeper and one-part cruise director ~ you need other adults who are able to share this load with you.

When recruiting and training your adults keep the following in mind:

Teens need Adult Mentors, not Peers in an Older-person Suit. Look for leaders who are comfortable with their age and their abilities. Adults can relate with teens without becoming children themselves. Be aware of how your leaders interact with your teens...All of these are important indicators.

Do adults create an atmosphere of mutual respect among themselves and the teens? Do they follow through on your discipline policies? Do adults have a sense of humor? Are they flexible when needed? Are they level-headed even when tired?

Expect Adults to get Trained. Use the NCYC Chaperone policies to review your expectations of the adult leaders on your team. **Make sure they attend the mandatory training session at the Send-Off on October 17th.** Stress that at NCYC all adults share in protecting and guiding all 20,000+ teens! It is a joyful but demanding role.

VIRTUS is NOT optional. All adults and young adults must be in compliance with Diocesan Protecting God's Children policies. Proof of compliance is needed by June 29. For a list of training sessions log on to www.virtus.org

CHECKBOOK NEWS: Fundraising & Scholarships

Raising money for a trip like NCYC requires commitment and a multi-layered approach. Here are few tips we've received from NCYC veterans:

- Look for an adult who can help spearhead your group's fundraising campaign. Look for someone with good organizational and communication skills.
- Expect teens to contribute through sales campaigns and labor. Sponsor carwashes, staff concession booths at city events. Need a unique event? Try hosting a toy wash in your neighborhood!
- **Submit teen scholarship applications by June 29th to the YYAM Office.**
- Look for fundraisers with low overhead! Sandy Smith 440-984-3059 at Celebrating Candles gives 50% of money collected back to the group. Susan L. Chocolateers of Elyria also earns a 50% payback and unsold chocolate can be returned.
- Solicit donations from local businesses to raffle off at parish and civic events.
- Request scholarship monies from parish Knights of Columbus, Mother's Club and Holy Name Societies.

Knock. Knock.

Who's there?

Cash?

Cash-who?

I didn't realize you were some kind of Nut!



- Partner with a local restaurants. Applebee's, Max & Erma's and Harry Buffalo all have fundraising programs.
- Keep your pastor informed of your fundraising plan, goals and status. His support can do much to increase your efforts!

Need more ideas? Check out www.easy-fundraising-ideas.com

SMALL GROUPS: Helping Teens Digest NCYC.

Don't let NCYC become a Jesus Amusement Park. We've all had experiences of a family vacation at Cedar Point or Disney World...They all begin the same.

The family saves for days, weeks, months, years. Everyone is keyed up for the trip and piles into the car. Before long someone has taken up more than their fair share of the backseat and complaints begin. Finally reaching the destination, we rush through the park, pulling, tugging, dragging each other from place to place. We stay for fireworks then squeeze back into the car. Crumpled and fatigued.

On the way home maybe we wonder what all the fuss was about and perhaps regret some of the scrimping and saving it took to get us there. Why? Because we consumed the park. We let the hurry, hype and bustle of the event distract us from the whole purpose of the trip.

Small group downtime can help make NCYC an experience of renewal for your teens instead of a weekend of consumer-style Jesus.

Look over the conference schedule and find pockets of time to be with your teens.

Resource adult leaders so they can take advantage of unexpected downtime.

Small group time might be used for a round of discussion or it might be a time of quiet people watching. Gentle affirmations throughout the weekend can help create space for reflection in your teens.

The Youth & Young Adult Ministry Office has many resources on teens and small groups dynamics. Feel free to contact Mark (ext 25), Georgia (ext 26), or Margaret (ext 28) to learn more.

PAPERWORK CORNER: What forms do I need? When?

The Yellow Brick Road to Kansas City is full of paperwork ~thank you for your steady work to make sure every pilgrim has what they need to participate in NCYC! Hopefully this checklist will help in keeping your timeline up to speed and desk clear:

- ▽ **Excel Spreadsheet, Now-June 29th.** Track registrations on the **Excel Spreadsheet** sent to you by the Youth & Young Adult Ministry Office. Email it to lbttaylor@clevelandcatholiccharities.org as soon as it is completed but no later than June 29th, please.
- ▽ **June 29th.** Housing request (Form B) and ALL liability waivers and medical release forms are due with a \$200 per person payment.

- ▽ **June 29th.** All adult and young adult leaders must be Virtus Compliant.
- ▽ **June 29th.** Request for Diocesan Scholarship (Form H) is due.
- ▽ **September 1.** Final payment worksheet (Form J) and final payments are due.

Thank you again for all your careful attention to these deadlines. It helps keep our administrative costs down which helps more money go towards providing a great pilgrimage experience!

Forms are available online at

www.clevelandcyo.com



Need a Hand? Contact Margaret Vogel at 216-334-1261 ext 28, or by email at mjvogel@clevelandcatholiccharities.org.

SEND-OFF: A Party with a Purpose

On October 17th all teens, young adults and adults attending NCYC will gather for our Send Off Event from 11AM to 3PM.

SAVE THIS DATE!



Attendance is mandatory since important information will be conveyed, not to mention all the FUN of being with 320+ fellow pilgrims! Location will be disclosed soon!

Highlights of the day include:

- ◆ Music, Lunch and Community Building!
- ◆ Orientation to Kansas City NCYC – Take possession of T-shirts and trading items!

- ◆ Training session for adult & young adult leaders.
- ◆ Prayer & Blessing.

“The world is a book and those who do not travel see only a page.” ~Saint Augustine

CHRIST REIGNS: Snapshot Kansas City!

The Diocese of Cleveland will be housed in Overland Park between two quality hotels that rest within 1-mile of each other! The hotels are a short 25-minute bus ride from the convention center. Daily transportation will be provided by our Lakefront motor coaches.

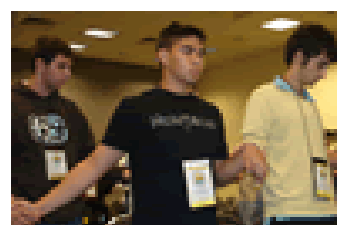
Between the Hilton Garden Inn and Embassy Suites we have secured over 100 rooms. Both hotels provide complimentary breakfast each morning and all rooms come equipped with a

refrigerator and microwave for added convenience!

Meanwhile at the convention center the NFCYM is planning its REIGN FOREST interactive exhibit hall. NCYC Veterans will remember that the interactive exhibit hall is where teens get busy with games, service projects and shopping.

The REIGN FOREST will also host a Catholic College Corner, where teens can connect with

Catholic Colleges and Universities from around the country, so encourage your upper-classmen to stop by!



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Prayer of a New Journey (adapted Catholic Charities Prayer for a New Year).

Walk closely with us, God. As we strive to live lives well...As we enjoy the treasures we've found in the field of faith...As we continue to surrender ourselves to you...As we journey into unknown territory of this pilgrimage...As we hurt in the process of loving our enemies...As we learn to accept our weaknesses and our strengths...As we open our hearts to the messengers you send to us...As we stay faithful to our relationship with you...As we give ourselves to the poor and powerless...As we keep searching for the truth...As we try to live in the heart of the scriptures...As we accept your constant love for us...

God of this new journey we are walking into mystery. We face the future, not knowing what the days and months will bring or how we will respond. Be love in us as we journey. May we welcome all who come our way. Deepen our faith to see all life through your eyes. Fill us with hope and an abiding trust that you dwell in us amidst all our joys and sorrows. Thank you for the treasure of our faith life. Thank you for the gift of being able to rise each day with the assurance of your walking through the day with us. God of this new journey, we praise you. Amen!

GET PAROCHIAL: Ways to Connect Parishes with their Pilgrims!

Parish life in this new millennium is indeed changing, but there will always be a need for Church to be expressed in small local communities galvanized for the Mission of Christ.



With just a few easy steps youth ministers can use the excitement of NCYC to build bridges between generations, parishes, and clusters.

- ⇒ Display an NCYC pilgrimage board in a place of prominence. When possible, include headshots of each teen along with a short quote stating what they hope to gain from NCYC.
- ⇒ Publicize the MyCatholicVoice/NCYC

website in your bulletin so adults with or without teens can share in the magnitude of this event. Ask for prayers!

- ⇒ Ask your pastor, school principal, DRE, and other parish leaders to write a letter of encouragement for your group. These can be read in Kansas City or throughout your pilgrimage prep.
- ⇒ Include petitions for teens and adult leaders in the Prayers of the Faithful at Sunday liturgy, especially on the weekend of the Send-Off, NCYC itself, and the first weekend home.
- ⇒ On the way home, be sure that each teen writes a thank you note to at least 3 people from their parish community. Let them choose whom to

thank, or come prepared with a list to divvy up.

- ⇒ During Advent schedule teens to speak in pairs at parish gatherings (Sunday Mass, Mother's Club, Knights of Columbus, Parish Council, etc.). They should offer thanksgiving for parish support and provide a brief witness about how their discipleship was deepened through NCYC.

Even if you cannot include all of these, just doing a few will go a long way to strengthen community ties!

Have another idea to share? Post it to the NCYC Cleveland Facebook Group coming in July!!!