



**Diocese of Scranton
Diocesan Pilgrimage
November 20 – 24, 2019
Indianapolis, IN**

FEATURING...

- ❖ **20,000+ Young People Praising God together!**
- ❖ **Powerful Prayer** and liturgy experiences by and for young people
- ❖ **Christian Musicians**, bands and concerts each day and evening
- ❖ **Nationally Recognized Speakers and Performers** offering keynotes and concurrent sessions covering topics for Catholic youth and adults
- ❖ **Interactive Park** – a HUGE festival village inside the convention center. Visit the vocations center, check out a Catholic college or university, participate in several service projects, eat and hang out, listen to different musicians, review the latest publisher's material on youth ministry/youth culture and much more!!

2019 GROUP LEADER PACKET

Overview of NCYC

Costs ★ Fees ★ Deadlines

Steps for Organizing a Parish Group

OVERVIEW OF NCYC 2019

- ◆ The National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) is the largest Catholic youth gathering in the U.S., with 20,000+ young people and adult chaperones attending from all over the country.
- ◆ The vision for NCYC, according to the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM), the organization that produces NCYC is:
 - In a distinctly Catholic setting, the National Catholic Youth Conference invites participants to**
 - Encounter Christ.**
 - Experience Church.**
 - Be empowered for discipleship.**
- ◆ This is a pilgrimage of faith. NCYC is an exciting, biennial three day experience of prayer, community and empowerment for Catholic teenagers and their adult chaperones. The schedule includes general sessions and workshops addressing a wide variety of topics including Catholic spirituality and prayer, social justice issues, sexuality, and leadership.
- ◆ The NCYC features a huge Interactive Village where hundreds of exhibitors, musicians, games, hot meals and learning centers of all types will be available throughout the Conference.
- ◆ Parishes are asked to prepare their young people to attend this event by gathering the youth together on a regular basis and leading them in prayer, reflection, service, and community building experiences.
- ◆ Chaperone preparation should take place within the parish. This is to be lead by the Parish Group Leader, although material will be provided by the Office for Parish Life.
- ◆ We will be travelling to Indianapolis on Wednesday November 20th, 2019.
- ◆ The NCYC Closing Liturgy will be celebrated on Saturday night, bringing a close to the Conference. We will be leaving early Sunday morning (November 24th) to return to the Diocese of Scranton.
- ◆ We have a Diocesan Coordinating Team to help you with every facet of this event during the preparation period and the Conference itself.

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON NCYC TRIP PACKAGE INCLUDES:

**NCYC Registration Fees
Hotel Lodging
All meals while on the road and in Indianapolis
Taxes and Tips
Diocesan T-Shirt, Sweatshirt, & Hat, Region 3 T-Shirt
Motor Coach Transportation
Retreat before NCYC & Reunion after NCYC**

Before Scholarship

After Scholarship (based on \$225 full scholarship)

(Based on Early Bird Registration)

\$745	6 students in a suite	\$520	6 students in a suite
\$820	4 persons per room	\$595	4 persons in a room
\$890	3 persons per room (adults only)	\$665	3 persons per room (adults only)
\$1020	2 persons per room (adults only)	\$795	2 persons per room (adults only)
\$1390	1 person per room (adults only)	\$1,165	1 person per room (adults only)
\$795	† Clergy with two per room		
\$1165	† Clergy with 1 person per room		

PLEASE NOTE: The NCYC registration fee may be eligible for a scholarship. For those eligible, the scholarship will reduce your total cost by up to \$225. See the adjusted price. **THE NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS IS LIMITED.** Scholarship applications are due in the Office for Parish Life by Friday, April 12, 2019. The applications will then be sent from the Diocese of Scranton to the Catholic Youth Foundation USA who will determine the allocation of funds. Please submit the scholarship application to the **Diocese of Scranton, Office for Parish Life, 330 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503 by April 12, 2019.**
† Clergy are not eligible for the scholarship as they will receive a complimentary \$225 registration.

Miscellaneous costs: You may wish to instruct pilgrims to bring spending money for NCYC souvenirs and other merchandise available from vendors at the conference.

REGISTRATION FEES & DEADLINES

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION - \$225 per person

NFCYM is introducing an Early Bird registration option for the 2019 NCYC. To qualify for the Early Bird Registration fee, the parish leader must complete and submit the parish registration form **by June 10, 2019**

REGULAR REGISTRATION - \$245 per person

To qualify for the Regular registration fee, participant records must be finalized and submitted to the Office of Parish Life by **September 10, 2019.**

LATE REGISTRATION - \$265 per person

Late registrations will be accepted through on-site registration, but a \$40 late fee will apply to each.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

(based on student early bird price)

May 10, 2019	\$150 Deposit
June 10, 2019	\$75
July 10, 2019	\$75
August 10, 2019	\$75
September 10, 2019	\$75
October 10, 2019	\$295 Balance Due

Please make **checks payable to Diocese of Scranton**, write **NCYC** in the memo and mail to:

Diocese of Scranton
Office for Parish Life
330 Wyoming Avenue
Scranton, PA 18503
Attn: Shannon Kowalski

*****Payments must be made collectively as a parish group. Please do not instruct your group members to submit individual payments directly to the Diocese.***

FORM DEADLINES

Scholarship Application	April 12, 2019
NCYC Parish Registration (if available by 5/10)	May 10, 2019
Diocese of Scranton/Office for Parish Life Release and Consent	May 10, 2019

REGARDING CANCELLATIONS, REFUNDS AND CHANGES

Please make sure that all pilgrims are aware of the following conditions:

- Additions/Substitutions after September 30, 2019 will be charged a \$35 fee.
- When a participant with a completed registration (usually after September 30) must cancel his/her attendance, and the spot cannot be filled by a substitution, NFCYM may refund the registration fee paid less \$40. Refund requests must be made in writing before November 1. Refunds will be processed in January 2020. Refund requests made after November 1 will be considered on a case-by-case basis. NFCYM limits refunds to 10% of the total delegation.

RECOMMENDED STEPS FOR ORGANIZING A PARISH NCYC GROUP

STEP 1 - Advertise and Promote:

Create an interest flyer/bulletin announcement highlighting some of the info youth and parents would like to know about NCYC. Spread the word through your youth ministry gatherings and be sure to include 8th graders who will be eligible to attend this event next fall. Show the NCYC promo video available online on YouTube.

STEP 2 – Register Your Parish:

Complete NCYC Registration Form (*not available at this time*)* and send it in with a \$150 per person payment by May 10, 2019. The name appearing on Registration Form will be the official Parish Group Leader for this event. At this time, however, we are limited to the first 130 registrants. After 130, registrants will be placed on a waiting list. If we reach an additional 20 registrations, we will add another bus.

STEP 3 – Create Your Leadership Team:

There are three important leadership roles for coordinating a successful NCYC Pilgrimage and it's important that the Parish Leader NOT take on all three.

- **Program Coordinator** – the designated Group Leader whose job is to make sure this event is first and foremost a pilgrimage of faith. This person must travel to NCYC.
- **Assistant Coordinator** – This person will help the program coordinator in planning details of the pilgrimage. This is the designated person who will step in and take over in the event of emergency during preparations or at NCYC. This person must travel to NCYC.
- **Fundraising Coordinator** - This person works with the parents to create a workable fundraising goal and subsequent plan to achieve that goal over the next few months.

STEP 4 - Create Your Fundraising Plan:

Visit the NCYC website for fundraising ideas, along with the process outlined to get all of the parents and youth involved in raising funds. It is important to create this plan NOW so those who might not be able to afford to go will have an opportunity to raise money to attend. (*Details on the NCYC website coming soon*).

STEP 5 - Collect All Forms and Complete Group Forms:

The Group Leader is responsible for collecting, checking and compiling all of the forms and money that is then sent to the Diocese. All checks for NCYC are made to the Diocese of Scranton. Therefore, schedule your PARISH DEADLINE 2 weeks before the DIOCESAN DEADLINE in order to do the necessary paperwork. Forms will be available online. **Please make sure that you make copies of all forms for your own files before sending the originals to the Diocese.**

STEP 6 - Meet with the Group Regularly:

Begin forming your small group into a community. Meet regularly, outside of your scheduled youth ministry sessions, to pray and share hopes, goals, questions, and concerns about this trip. Some helpful ideas and tasks to assist with your gatherings:

- Trading items with others at the conference is a big deal and a great way to meet people from all over the country!
- Develop a communication system (e-mail updates, postcards, NCYC bulletin board, and/or Facebook page) to update everyone on the progress and to answer questions or help make plans associated with the trip.
- Discuss what the group will do AFTER they return to try and share what they have experienced and learned with the rest of their parish community and to say "Thank You!"

**NCYC forms will be made available to parishes as soon as they are released by NCYC.*