

REGISTRATION

All parish or school groups must register through the Office of Youth Ministry at the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown.

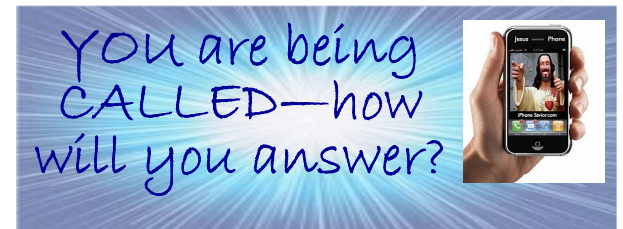
Interested participants should contact their Pastor, parish Director of Religious Education, Youth Minister, Catholic High School Principal or Catholic High School Campus Minister for additional registration information.

For additional information on this wonderful opportunity, contact Francine Swope in the Youth Ministry Office (814)317-2646 or by email at fswope@dioceseaj.org.

More information about NCYC is also available on the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry website at www.ncyc.info. There are promotional videos, the theme song, and lots of great information about NCYC.

Initial registrations are due in the Youth Ministry Office with a \$100 deposit per participant no later than **March 15 2017**.

During NCYC, scores of young people were asked by *Criterion* staff members to describe the experience of NCYC in one word. Below are their responses; the larger the word, the more often it was used.



A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP MARK

Some of the best times I have spent with young people have been at the last three National Catholic Youth Conferences.

Seeing teens on fire with their faith is amazing. You can't believe how uplifting it is to be with over 20,000 young people energized and celebrating their faith!

I hope you will join me and the diocesan group in November of 2017 for what I promise will be the faith experience of a lifetime!

+ Mark J. Buttelrose



Bishop Mark poses with some members of the diocesan group.

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NCYC is sponsored by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry.

NCYC 2017/ CALLED



What is NCYC?

The National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) is the largest Catholic youth gathering in the U.S., with over 20,000 young people, clergy and religious, and adult chaperones attending from all over the country. It is a *pilgrimage of faith*. NCYC is an exciting, biennial three-day experience of prayer, community and empowerment for Catholic teenagers addressing a wide variety of topics including Catholic spirituality and prayer, social justice issues, sexuality and leadership.

There are also opportunities for reconciliation, daily liturgy, Eucharistic Adoration, prayer experiences, and other special activities like dances, concerts and a comedy club. The conference sessions are held in the Indianapolis Convention Center and the large sessions are held in Lucas Oil Stadium.

NCYC features a huge interactive thematic park where hundreds of exhibitors, musicians, games, hot meals and learning centers of all types will be available.

Who Can Attend NCYC?

Any high school aged Catholic members of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown aged 16 or over and their adult chaperones (with proper clearances) are invited to attend.

When and Where is NCYC?

NCYC 2017 is scheduled for November 16 to November 18, 2017 in *Indianapolis, Indiana*. *The theme for this year is "CALLED"*.

Why Attend NCYC?

NCYC is not just a "trip" it is a pilgrimage of faith. The experience is designed to offer high school students and their adult chaperones multiple opportunities to learn more about our Catholic faith and grow closer to Jesus.

From general sessions to workshops to occasions to be of service and participate in the sacraments to the chance to dance or play basketball, NCYC attempts to engage the head, heart, and hands of all participants.

NCYC helps our youth participants learn more about who they are, their place in the church, and gives them the opportunity to celebrate their faith.

Since it is a national event, it also allows them to meet and interact with thousands of other members of the faith from across the nation. To see there is more to the church than what is their own backyard!

Where Will We Stay?

The National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry has secured hotel blocks near the Convention Center and Lucas Oil Stadium where NCYC takes place. The diocese has submitted its choice of hotels for our stay. Hotel information will be shared once it is received. They are chains like, Fairfield Inn, Hampton, Holiday Inn, Quality Inn, Wingate, Best Western, etc.

"Many are called but few are chosen."

- Matthew 22:14

Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown group from 2015



What is the Cost?

The cost is \$625.00 per person (quad occupancy). It includes Deluxe motor coach transportation, (leaving from several diocesan areas) 3 nights in a hotel, continental breakfast at the hotel each morning, lunch each day (ex. Panera/Subway meals) a pizza party on Thursday, a special luncheon at a restaurant with Bishop Mark on Friday, all NCYC conference registration, administrative fees, taxes and tips, t-shirts and a diocesan sweatshirt. Pre-registration to attend is required. Initial registrations are due no later than **March 15th**.

A payment plan is offered after the initial \$100 deposit is paid.

Initial Deposit due by March 15.....	\$100.00
May 15.....	\$175.00
July 15.....	\$175.00
September 15.....	\$175.00

*In 2015, several of our diocesan groups did special fund-raisers and were able to raise enough money to cover everyone for the pilgrimage!! (Fundraising ideas are available upon request from the Youth Ministry Office.)

The diocesan group will depart November 15 (late afternoon) and return on November 19 (early morning). Please note: *Due to state guidelines, students are eligible for "Religious Release Time" to attend this event. A memo is available to present to their high school at the Diocesan Youth Ministry Office.*

NCYC2017 ~ CALLED

**YOU
NEED
TO
ANSWER**

YES!!