



**Diocese of Rochester
2025 National Catholic
Youth Conference
November 20-22, 2025**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The NCYC Experience

What is NCYC?

The National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) is a powerful three-day experience of prayer, community, and empowerment for Catholic teenagers (of high-school age) and their adult chaperones.

The schedule includes keynote presentations, prayer, workshops, liturgy, and opportunities to participate in reconciliation and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, as well as recreational activities, concerts, and exhibits. A key component of NCYC is the interactive exhibit hall which is a blend of traditional exhibit booths with interactive areas featuring service projects, games, recreation, live musical performances, arts and sports. NCYC is sponsored by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, Inc. (NFCYM).

What is the NFCYM?

The National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM) is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to foster the development of youth ministry within the Catholic Church. The Diocese of Rochester is a member of NFCYM. Learn more about NFCYM here: www.nfcym.org.

What does NCYC as a pilgrimage experience mean?

Attending NCYC is more than just a trip; it can be a life-changing experience. The goals of a pilgrimage, especially for young people, should reflect the general goals for youth ministry found in *Renewing the Vision* and Listen, Teach, Send. As a reminder, some of those goals include:

- Drawing young people into responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the faith community
- Empowering young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today
- Fostering the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person

Why attend the NCYC?

Youth and their adult chaperones attend NCYC because they want to:

- Gather together with other Catholic youth on a national level;
- Learn more about themselves and their relationship to God, and the Catholic Church; Celebrate their Catholic faith;
- Meet thousands of other Catholic youth, sharing beliefs and experiences;
- Recognize their role in the life of the Catholic Church.

When and where will NCYC be held?

All activities for NCYC will take place at the Lucas Oil Stadium and Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis, Indiana on November 20-22, 2025. The Diocese of Rochester pilgrimage group will depart for Indianapolis on Wednesday, November 19, 2025.

Who can attend NCYC?

The National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) is open to all high school aged youth and their adult chaperones.

- Youth attendees must be in high school at the time of NCYC (November 2025). When promoting NCYC, don't forget to include this year's 8th graders, as they will be 9th graders in November 2025.
- Adult Chaperones must be age 21 or older and be in compliance with Diocese of Rochester Safe Environment Policies.
- This IS NOT meant to be a conference for College Age or Young Adults, however, if you have young adults who have attended in the past and are interested in attending as Young Adult Assistants, they may be permitted to attend with the permission of the parish group leader.

Ratio of Adults to teens

Each group should have at least 1 adult for every 6 youth. The 6:1 ratio does not include the group leader. If there are male and female youth in your group, it is recommended that you have male and female adults. Diocesan priests attending are not considered chaperones – this is to ensure that they are free to care for the pastoral needs of the whole delegation.

What will be our Transportation?

The Diocese of Rochester will travel by coach buses provided by Anderson Coach & Travel to the conference. Learn more about Anderson Coach & Travel here: www.goanderson.com

From most areas of the Diocese, it is approximately a 10-hour drive. Buses will depart between approximately 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. depending upon departure site on Wednesday afternoon (November 19) from various locations around the Diocese. While we will strive to have your bus departure site be close to your parish, you may have to travel up to approximately 45 minutes to your site.

Buses will arrive at our hotel in Indianapolis between approximately 1:00 a.m. and 2:00 a.m. Thursday morning (November 20). Buses will only make brief bathroom stops. Pilgrims should pack a dinner to eat on the bus.

Buses will depart directly from Lucas Oil Stadium or our hotel on Saturday, November 22 at approximately 11:00 p.m. to return home. Buses will return to the Diocese of Rochester at approximately 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 23.

What hotel will we stay at?

The exact hotel will not be known until early 2025. The Diocese of Rochester will reserve a block of rooms through NFCYM at the hotel we are assigned. Hotels are always well-known hotel chains that are safe, clean, and have a good reputation.

How many youth to a room?

There will be two youth of the same sex in each room. Additional youth can be placed in each room if odd numbers or other situations warrant the addition.

How many adults to a room?

There will be 2 adults of the same sex in each room. Married couples will room together. Private room requests are handled on a case-by-case basis– please contact Office of E&C!

Will we be staying in rooms by parish?

For the most part, hotel rooms will be assigned by parish to make the job of the adult chaperones as easy as possible. Each parish will need to provide the Diocese of Rochester with rooming lists. In an effort to reduce the overall cost and to utilize our block of rooms effectively, if a parish does not completely fill each room, we may need to assign youth from different parishes to share. If that is the case, the parish group leader will be notified first.

How will we get from our hotel to the conference?

NCYC hotels are located throughout the Greater Indianapolis Area. Many hotels are within walking distance to Lucas Oil Stadium and Indiana Convention Center. If our hotel is within walking distance, it will be the responsibility of adult chaperones to accompany their group from the hotel to the conference and back. If our hotel is not within walking distance, we will have bus transportation each day.

Do we receive swag and trading items?

Once again, the Diocese will provide each pilgrim with some swag for the conference. The exact diocesan swag for NCYC 2025 will be determined at a later date.

Parishes can choose to purchase and bring, or even make their own items to trade while at the conference. There are some great, inexpensive items through Oriental Trading and on Amazon. Speak with veteran leaders to find out some of the unique ideas.

What are the meal options?

Parish groups need to make their own arrangements for meals. There are numerous eateries near the Indiana Convention Center and Lucas Oil Stadium that welcome groups. A Downtown Indianapolis dining guide is available here: www.icclos.com/attendees/dining-guide/. In previous years, there were also meal options at the Indiana Convention Center itself. The Diocese of Rochester will provide breakfast each day (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday). Breakfast offerings will be based on our hotel assignment. Updates to meal options will be made available as they develop.

Costs

The NCYC 2025 pilgrimage package includes the official NCYC Registration Fee, lodging, breakfast daily, diocesan swag, and motor coach transportation.

*NOTE: More items may be included in the NCYC 2025 pilgrimage package as preparations for the pilgrimage unfold and financial obligations become clearer. If more items are included in the pilgrimage package, group leaders will be notified.

Early Bird Rate (Nov. 18-Dec. 31, 2024)- \$1,250.00
Regular Rate (Jan. 1-Mar. 31, 2025)- \$1,300.00
Late Rate (Apr. 1-June 1, 2025)- \$1,350.00

Additional Costs:

Pilgrims may choose to bring spending money for NCYC souvenirs and other merchandise available from vendors at the conference. If pilgrims do bring spending money, it is recommended that they bring no more than \$150.00.



Schedule for Payments

Payment	Due Date	Cost
Early Bird Registration Deposit	December 31, 2024	\$ 350 Per Person
Regular Registration Deposit	March 31, 2025	\$ 350 Per Person
Late Registration Deposit	June 1, 2025	\$ 350 Per Person
1 st Payment (All Registrations)	June 1, 2025	\$ 450 Per Person
2 nd Payment (All Registrations)	August 1, 2025	\$ 450 Per Person
Registration Fees	August 1, 2025	Varies by Parish

Cancellations, Refunds and Changes

While the Diocese of Rochester completely understands that we live in a world where one's circumstances can change instantly, it is important that good financial stewardship is practiced. If a pilgrim is no longer able to attend INCYC, the Diocese of Rochester will work with the pilgrim's group leader to find someone to take the pilgrim's place. The funds the parish paid for the pilgrim not attending will be applied to the pilgrim taking their place. There are fees associated with a substitution made after June 1 (see below). If all substitution efforts have been exhausted and someone is not found to take the pilgrim's place, the Diocese of Rochester will work with the individual parish to determine if any funds can be refunded. The Diocese of Rochester cannot guarantee any refunds, and, like a substitution, there are fees associated with a cancellation (see below).

NOTE: THE DEPOSIT IS NON-REFUNDABLE!

Fees for Delete/Substitution

Per Delete/Substitution	June 2-August 1, 2025	\$60
Per Delete/Substitution	August 2 –October 1, 2025	\$100
NO CHANGES	AFTER October 1, 2025	



NCYC 2025 Tentative Schedule

Wednesday, November 19	
2:00-5:00 p.m. <i>(Exact times TBD)</i>	Depart for Indianapolis (<i>youth may need an early dismissal from school</i>)
Thursday, November 20	
1:00-2:00 a.m. <i>(Exact times TBD)</i>	Arrive at Indianapolis Hotel (<i>Hotel TBD</i>)
TBD	Breakfast
TBD	Diocesan OR Regional Liturgy
TBD	Depart for Convention Center- Circle Center/Interactive Exhibit Hall
Varies by Group	Dinner
7:00 - 7:45 p.m.	Gathering & Entertainment
7:45 - 10:00 p.m.	Opening Session I
10:30 p.m.	Return to Hotel
12:00 a.m.	Lights Out
Friday, November 21	
TBD	Breakfast
TBD	Depart for Conference
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.	Gathering & Entertainment
9:00 - 10:45 a.m.	Prayer & General Session II
10:45 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Interactive Exhibit Hall Open
11:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Chapel Open
11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.	Breakout Sessions – Round A
12:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Reconciliation Available
Varies by Group	Lunch
1:30 – 2:45 p.m.	Breakout Sessions – Round B
3:30 - 4:45 p.m.	Breakout Sessions – Round C
5:30 - 6:15 p.m.	Daily Mass
Varies by Group	Dinner
7:00 - 7:45 p.m.	Gathering & Entertainment
7:45 - 10:00 p.m.	Prayer & General Session III
10:30 p.m.	Return to Hotel
12:00 a.m.	Lights Out



Saturday, November 22	
TBD	Breakfast
TBD	Pack Buses / Depart for Conference
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.	Gathering & Entertainment
9:00 - 10:45 a.m.	Prayer & General Session IV
10:45 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Interactive Exhibit Hall Open
11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Chapel Open
11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.	Breakout Sessions – Round D
12:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Reconciliation Available
Varies by Group	Lunch
1:30 – 2:45 p.m.	Breakout Sessions – Round E
3:30 - 4:45 p.m.	Breakout Sessions – Round F
Varies by Group	Dinner
7:00 - 7:45 p.m.	Gathering & Entertainment
7:45 - 10:00 p.m.	Closing Mass
10:30 p.m.	Depart for Diocese of Rochester

Sunday, November 19	
9:00 a.m. <i>(Exact time TBD)</i>	Arrive in Diocese of Rochester

Diocese of Rochester Contact:

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