



NCYC 2025
November 20-22

Indianapolis, Indiana

iNCYC



PRAYER

Reading (Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15)

Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian. Leading the flock across the desert, he came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There an angel of the LORD appeared to Moses in fire flaming out of a bush. As he looked on, he was surprised to see that the bush, though on fire, was not consumed. So Moses decided, "I must go over to look at this remarkable sight, and see why the bush is not burned." When the LORD saw him coming over to look at it more closely, God called out to him from the bush, "Moses! Moses!" He answered, "Here I am." God said, "Come no nearer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.

Reading (Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15)

I am the God of your fathers, “ he continued, “the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob.” Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. But the LORD said, “I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and have heard their cry of complaint against their slave drivers, so I know well what they are suffering. Therefore I have come down to rescue them from the hands of the Egyptians and lead them out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey.” Moses said to God, “But when I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ if they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what am I to tell them?”

Reading (Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15)

God replied, "I am who am." Then he added, "This is what you shall tell the Israelites: I AM sent me to you." God spoke further to Moses, "Thus shall you say to the Israelites: The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. "This is my name forever; thus am I to be remembered through all generations."

Questions for Silent Reflection

- ▶ In what moments or interactions with youth have I sensed that I was standing on “holy ground”? How can I remain aware of God’s presence on this journey with youth?
- ▶ How can I see, listen to, and understand the hearts and struggles of the youth entrusted to me? How will I allow space for their voices to be heard and held with compassion?
- ▶ What is God sending me to do during NCYC—not just logistically, but spiritually? How might God want to use me as a vessel of encouragement, witness, and love?
- ▶ How can I trust in the “I Am” who will be with me in the busyness, fatigue, and joy of this journey? Where will I most need to lean on God’s presence as “I Am”?

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

- ▶ For all those accompanying young people to NCYC: That they may recognize the sacred ground they stand on as they listen, guide, and support youth on this journey of faith. We pray to the Lord. **R.**
- ▶ For any chaperone who, like Moses, may feel unworthy or uncertain about their role: That they may be strengthened by the presence of the great “I Am” who goes with them and works through them. We pray to the Lord. **R.**
- ▶ For open hearts and eyes: That we may see, hear, and know the real needs, hopes, and joys of our young people, and respond with love and patience. We pray to the Lord. **R.**

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

- ▶ For the young people attending NCYC: That the witness and accompaniment of those that care for them will help them encounter the living God in a deep and personal way. We pray to the Lord. **R.**
- ▶ For the Church: That all lay ministers, volunteers, and leaders—especially those preparing for NCYC—may be renewed in their call to share the Gospel with courage and compassion. We pray to the Lord. **R.**



Prayer of Blessing

- ▶ O God of the burning bush, You appeared to Moses in fire and mystery, calling him from ordinary ground into sacred purpose. You named Yourself I Am—ever present, ever faithful—and sent Moses to walk with Your people toward freedom and promise. Bless us who, like Moses, have heard Your call to accompany Your people—especially the youth of Your Church. Help us make them attentive to the sacred ground they stand on in every conversation, every challenge, and every moment of joy.



Prayer of Blessing

- ▶ Let our presence reflect Your compassion, our patience mirror Your mercy, and our guidance draw others toward Your truth. May we not be afraid of the task before us, for You go with us. You are our strength, our voice, our peace. Amen.

The slide features a light gray background with a decorative blue geometric pattern on the right side. The text is centered and reads:

**YOUTH MINISTRY
CHAPERONE TRAINING
VIDEO**



<https://youtu.be/KmQrIFVkip0>

NCYC CHAPERONE VIDEO



<https://youtu.be/34iaWTzQKpg>

**Departure: Wednesday
November 19**

**Bus 1 - Gina Capellazzi
(Captain)**

**-Depart: 3:00pm- St.
Marianne Cope- Guardian
Angels Church (Henrietta)**

Bus 2 - Sean Esposito (Captain)

**-Depart: 3:00pm- St.
Marianne Cope- Guardian
Angels Church (Henrietta)**

Bus 3 - Corey Ginett (Captain)

**-Depart: 3:30pm- Our Lady
of Peace- St. Stephen
Church (Geneva)**



We have used Anderson bus company for many years now with excellent results! Buses are equipped with bathrooms, comfortable seating, ample storage and outlets for charging. It is important to arrive 30 minutes prior to departure to allow time for buses to be loaded and keep your group on schedule! We have a parish group leader on each bus that serves as a bus captain. The bus captains keep in communication with the diocesan staff and serves as a liaison with the bus drivers. Dress comfortably but please no pajamas. A small travel pillow and light blanket are allowed but we do not have room for large items as our buses are quite full.



1:00-2:00 A.M.
ARRIVAL
Thursday,
November 20

Members of the diocesan team will be there to greet you and get you to your room swiftly so that you can get right to sleep.



Hampton Inn Indianapolis Downtown

Our Hotel

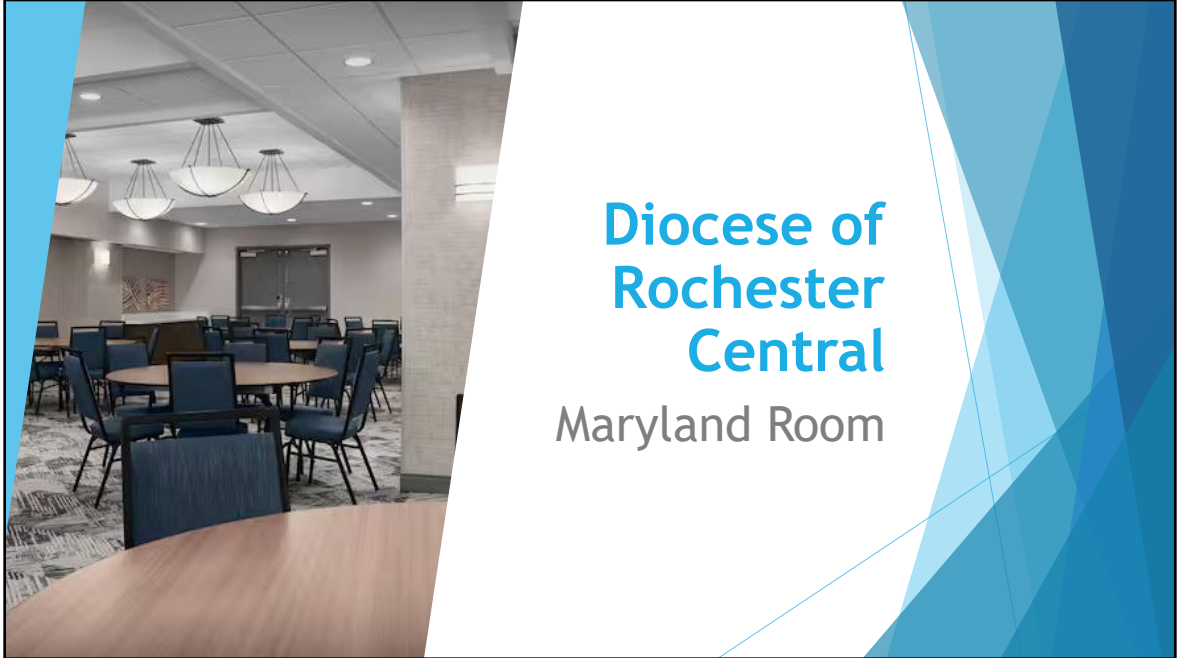
The Hampton Inn is about a 5-minute walk from the convention center and about a 15-minute walk from the stadium. Because of that, it may be tempting to return to the hotel during a break. NO ONE is allowed to return to the hotel for any reason. If there are extenuating circumstances you think require a return to the hotel, please contact one of the members of the diocesan team to get approval to return to hotel. During NCYC 2023, we did have a couple of parish groups come back together to the hotel to debrief the day before going to dinner. This is okay! Just let us know ahead of time. To ensure, our pilgrims are abiding by this policy, a diocesan team member will be in the hotel lobby throughout the day.



The hotel just finished a complete renovation of rooms and public spaces. Each room has beds, 42-inch LCD TV, free WiFi access, microwave, refrigerator, coffeemaker, work desk and chair. The bathroom offers fluffy towels, a shower with WaterPik showerhead and a curved shower rod for extra light and space in the shower.

If a young person needs something in their hotel room (extra pillow, blanket, towel, etc.), they should tell a chaperone. Chaperones should be the only individuals contacting hotel staff. The only people that should be in each hotel room should be the people assigned to that room. There is not to be any gatherings in hotel rooms. This includes a brother and sister in separate rooms visiting one another. This ensures the code of conduct is being followed.

As a sign of Christian charity and of our gratitude, we ask that our group tip the hotel housekeeping staff. As a guide, the tip should be \$2.00 per person per day.



We are blessed to have the Maryland Room as our home base during our entire stay at the Hampton for the conference. This will be a great space to gather as a parish group before/after the day's conference activities. It is a place where you can find a diocesan team member if you need something. The space is located on the floor just below the lobby. The one downside to the space is that it can only accommodate about 75 people at one time. Our group is about 150 pilgrims.

Breakfast



THURS.~FRI.~SAT. (Starting at 6:00am)

- Eggs
- Bacon/breakfast sausage
- Hot biscuits with gravy
- Waffles
- Bagels/pastries/croissants/muffins
- Fruit
- Yogurt
- Cereals
- Coffee, tea, juice, and milk

Complementary breakfast will be served daily during our stay at the Hampton. The breakfast offerings will be the same as what you find at other Hampton and Hilton properties. The breakfast area, which includes some seating, can be found on the floor directly above the lobby and will be open each day starting at 6:00am. The seating in the breakfast area cannot accommodate our entire group at once. The Maryland Room will be available for additional breakfast seating. We will allow parish groups the flexibility to decide when they eat breakfast. If we find that the breakfast area is too congested and this approach does not allow hotel staff to replenish breakfast items, we may ask parish groups to stagger when they eat breakfast.

If a pilgrim has any dietary needs that will not be met by this daily breakfast, please consult with us on how we can make sure they get the nutrition they require. Please note that coffee is offered in the breakfast area. It is important to talk with young people about caffeine intake and the long days they will be experiencing. Loading their systems with caffeine and then crashing in the afternoon will make it very difficult to sustain the energy required for the pace of the conference!



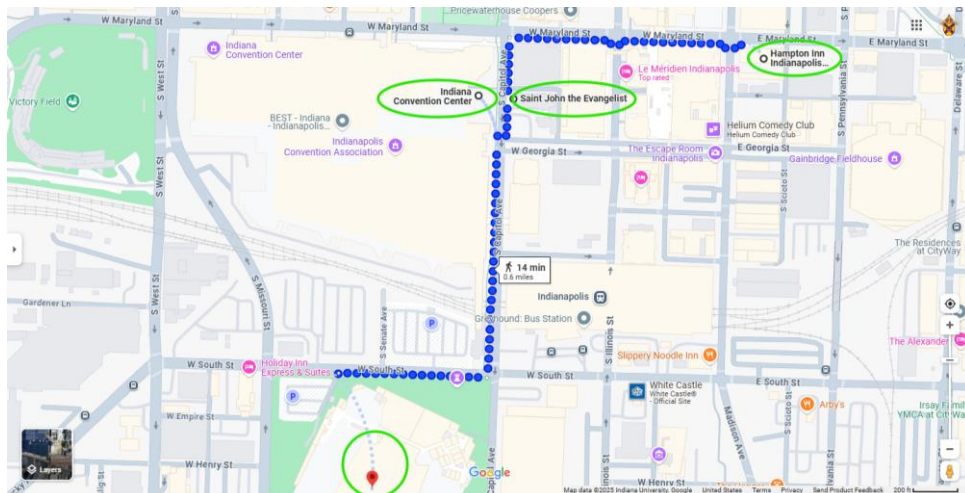
Indiana Convention Center & St. John the Evangelist Church

The Indiana Convention Center is where you will spend most of your time during NCYC! This is where the breakout sessions take place. It is also the home of the Interactive Exhibit Hall. The breakout sessions will take place in various spaces within the convention center. The colored boxes you see circled are spaces inside the convention center that have been used for the conference. We are still awaiting details as to what spaces will be used this year. The interactive exhibit hall usually spans across several spaces. A prayer chapel is created in one of the convention center spaces and is open for several hours each day. Reconciliation is available for several hours on Friday and Saturday. Daily Mass will be offered several times each day at St. John the Evangelist.



Lucas Oil Stadium

Lucas Oil Stadium is the home of the general keynote sessions on Thursday evening, Friday, and Saturday. It is also where the closing Mass will be on Saturday evening. The staff of the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM), the organizers of NCYC, work with local authorities to ensure the well-being of all those at NCYC. If you see something suspicious, unsafe behavior/situations, etc., please notify one of the members of the diocesan team or NFCYM staff.



The Lay of the Land

This map just gives you an idea of where the conference spaces I just mentioned are in relation to our hotel. Our hotel, the convention center, and St. John the Evangelist are towards the top of the map. Lucas Oil Stadium is the location circled at the bottom of the map.

THURSDAY November 20, 2025

6:00 A.M. - Noon

- ☐ Breakfast: 6:00-9:30 AM
- ☐ Meet & Greet with Diocesan Staff/Snack Bag Packing
- ☐ Registration Open
- ☐ Leave Hotel
- ☐ Circle Centre Mall
- ☐ Mall scavenger hunt available for groups.

Noon - 10:00 P.M.

- ☐ Daily Mass at St. John the Evangelist Church: 12:10 PM
- ☐ Interactive Exhibit Hall Open: 2:00 PM
- ☐ Eucharistic Procession: 4:00 PM
- ☐ Parish Dinners
- ☐ Opening NCYC Session: 7:00 PM

10:00 - 11:00 P.M.

- ☐ Return to Hotel
- ☐ Prayer & Share
- ☐ Chaperone Meeting, as needed
- ☐ Curfew: 11:00 PM

Busy Day! PLEASE WEAR YOUR DIOCESAN T-SHIRT on Thursday as our group identifying gear. You can wear any comfortable clothes you would like to the conference. Please wear appropriate outerwear for the weather and shoes for walking. NO FLIP FLOPS OR HEELS and SOCKS are recommended in case there are long security lines in chilly temperatures!

CHAPERONE meetings will only take place if needed; We will be in regular communication with CHAPERONES via TEXT MESSAGES. When we reach curfew, please know that members of the diocesan team will be walking the hotel floors where our rooms are to ensure our pilgrims are in their rooms and quiet.

Friday November 21, 2025

- ▶ Breakfast- 6:00-8:30 A.M.
- ▶ NCYC Conference- 8:00 A.M. -10:00 P.M.
- ▶ Digital Encounter with Pope Leo
- ▶ Interactive Exhibit Hall
- ▶ General Keynote Sessions
- ▶ Breakout Sessions (Tracks for young people & adults)
- ▶ Music
- ▶ Parish Prayer and Share
- ▶ Trading
- ▶ Parish Lunch & Dinner
- ▶ Adoration, Daily Mass, & Reconciliation
- ▶ Evening Prayer at Hotel
- ▶ Curfew- 11:00 P.M.



As many of you are aware, we will have the opportunity to have a live conversation with Pope Leo on Friday morning. Please know that this encounter will be livestreamed and broadcasted on EWTN.

Encourage young people to have a plan for which breakout sessions they would like to attend. While they don't have to sign up ahead of time, some sessions fill to capacity so it is always good to have a backup plan if this happens.

Saturday November 22, 2025

- ▶ Breakfast: 6:00-8:30 AM
- ▶ Room Check-out & Bus Loading: 8:00 A.M.
- ▶ General Keynote Session
- ▶ Breakout Sessions (Tracks for young people & adults)
- ▶ Interactive Exhibit Hall
- ▶ Reconciliation
- ▶ Parish Lunch & Dinner
- ▶ Parish Prayer and Share
- ▶ Closing Mass: 8:00 PM (Don't forget about the collection!)
- ▶ Buses depart for Rochester immediately following Mass!!!

Keys to Being a Great Chaperone

- ▶ Make sure you and your pilgrims always have your credentials.
- ▶ Stay hydrated, eat well, and get sleep! Encourage your pilgrims to do the same!
- ▶ Have a plan if an unexpected situation arises.
 - ▶ *Example: Cannot find one of your group members in the convention center. Who is going to look for them? Who is going to stay with the rest of the group?*
- ▶ Make sure a young person always has a buddy!

Keys to Being a Great Chaperone

- ▶ Attend breakout sessions with young people.
- ▶ Limit distractions from home/work to be present with young people.
- ▶ Pray with young people and help them unpack their experiences each day through mutual sharing like giving highs and lows.
- ▶ If you are a chaperone who is also a parent of one of our NCYC 2025 pilgrims, allow your child to independently experience the conference.



NCYC 2025 Team

- ▶ Leslie Barkin
- ▶ Mark Capellazzi
- ▶ Don Smith

There have been several references to the diocesan team that will be present in Indianapolis for NCYC 2025. I wanted to briefly share who makes up that team. The team consists of the three members of the Diocesan Office of Evangelization & Catechesis: Leslie Barkin (Director of the office), myself, and Don Smith (Coordinator of Sacramental Catechesis). The three of us have been to several conferences, like some of you.

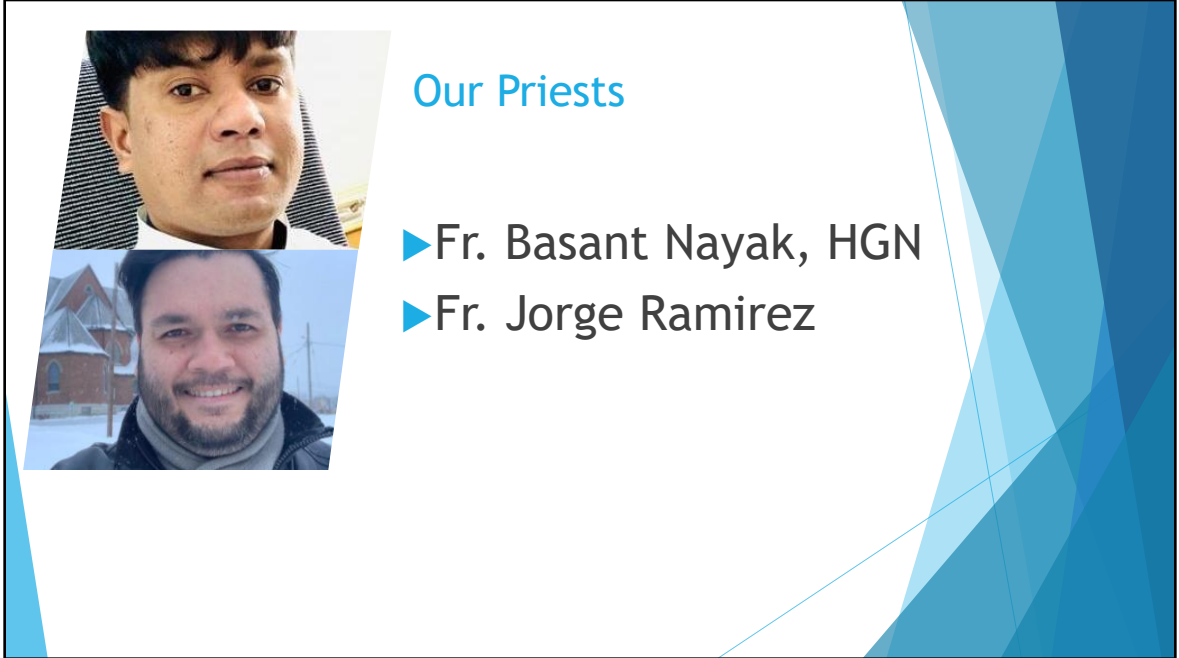


The diocesan team also consists three other members who will share their gifts to help ensure that NCYC is an enriching experience.

Patricia Capellazzi is an active member of the Parish of the Holy Family, was a part of the diocesan NCYC team in 2023 and brings 40+ years experience as a registered nurse. I am grateful God blessed me with a nurse as my mom!

Will Rein is the Pastoral Associate at Peace of Christ Parish in Rochester. Will has over ten years of parish ministry experience both here in our diocese and the Archdiocese of Boston. This is his first NCYC and he is looking forward to sharing the love of God with our pilgrims.

Kristen Smith, the wife of Don Smith, has extensive experience in youth ministry and college campus ministry. She is currently a campus minister for the RIT Newman community.



Our Priests

- ▶ Fr. Basant Nayak, HGN
- ▶ Fr. Jorge Ramirez

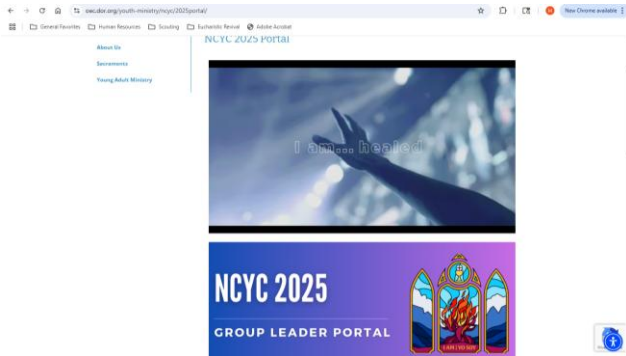
For the first time since 2019, we are blessed to have some of our priests joining us on the pilgrimage.

Father Basant Nayak is parochial vicar at St. John of Rochester in Fairport. Father Nayak is a part of the Heralds of Good News (HGN), a religious order of missionary priests from India.

Father Ramirez or Father George, as he is often called, is the pastor at Holy Trinity in Webster. He is originally from Colombia and was ordained as a priest for our diocese in 2016.

NCYC 2025 Portal

<https://oec.dor.org/youth-ministry/ncyc/2025portal/>



Our office has a portal for NCYC 2025. There is a section dedicated to chaperones with information that will help you be successful in your role.

There is an official conference mobile app that serves as your conference program while we are in Indianapolis. The app will be updated/launched by November 1 and can be found in your app store. If you already have the app from a previous year, it will automatically update itself.



Questions?