

NCYC 2025 FUNDRAISING GUIDE

We know fundraising for a National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) pilgrimage can be challenging. Please note that our fundraising procedures follow Catholic School fundraising policies that you can find in the diocesan SharePoint.

For starters, it is wise to create a small fundraising committee. This committee made up of staff/team members and possibly some parishioners can help determine how scholarship money will be awarded. You can offer tuition assistance or scholarship monies based on participation and need. All fundraising money should go into a pool and scholarship money should be awarded from that pool. Assistance cannot be awarded based on services performed. Scholarship awards can be based on the applicant meeting some or all the following criteria:

- *Registered and supporting member of the parish
- *Participation in the life of the parish
- *Regular celebration of liturgy and sacraments
- *Commitment to prayer, study, listening, and dialog.

(Student Tuition Assistance Guideline/Student Tuition Policy Revised 3.19/Issued 9.09)

NCYC Additional Fundraising Basics

- Discuss fundraisers with the pastor/pastoral administrator and finance director.
- Make sure to keep the pastoral staff involved. They may even be able to help you out along the way.
- Discuss the group fundraising goal.
- There might be significant limitations on the type of fundraisers allowed by the parish. Be sure to gather this information before any additional planning.
- Identify an adult or form a team of adults that will spearhead fundraising efforts.
- What types of fundraising do we want to do? Selling/service, etc. It is acceptable to have fundraisers that involve individual sales such as selling candy or wreaths. However, fundraising efforts should avoid door-to-door sales by youth as there are safety concerns.
- Are youth allowed to raise all the money needed for the pilgrimage or is there an earnings cap? (Note: past experience indicates that requiring a financial commitment from participants helps to ensure that they will not back out of the pilgrimage at the last minute.)
- What happens if the goal is not reached? What happens to the extra money if the goal is exceeded?
- Create a plan with your finance director about how funds raised can be carried over to benefit the youth beyond the current fiscal year. This is an important discussion to have so that funds raised will not be lost before the conference date.

Ideas for FUNdraising: Fundraising can be a great way to build camaraderie among your group! Consider these events that can also provide parish life opportunities or be a face of the parish out in the wider community:

- Pancake Breakfast (Maple Weekend in March is a great time to host this!)
- Spaghetti Supper, Chicken BBQ or other special meal
- Talent night
- Recycling Drive
- Sponsored Walk or Run
- Lenten Fish Fry/Soup Supper
- Bottle / Can Drive
- Work with local restaurants to help staff a parish evening - % of sales goes to NCYC
- NCYC Angels: similar idea to a “giving tree”. Parishioners can “adopt” a youth from their parish for NCYC and donate to pay for part of their pilgrimage.
- Partner up with Catholic companies such as Sock Religious (<https://sockreligious.com/>) and Tiny Saints (<https://www.tinysaints.com/>)
- Widdy Up Online Fundraising (<https://www.widdyup.com/>)- plays to teens love of Tik Tok and YouTube, making videos