



NATIONAL CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE 2023

WHAT IS NCYC?

The *National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC)* is an exciting, biennial three- day experience of prayer, community, and empowerment for Catholic high school age teenagers and their adult chaperones. The schedule includes general sessions and workshops addressing a wide variety of topics as well as opportunities for reconciliation, daily liturgy, and special activities such as concerts, a dance, a comedy club, and thematic village.

WHERE WILL NCYC BE IN 2023?

- *NCYC* is in downtown Indianapolis, Indiana
- *NCYC* is November 16-18 (Thur – Sun)
- All events are currently planned to be held at Lucas Oil Stadium and the Indianapolis Convention Center
- We will be staying in The JW Marriott arranged by the Archdiocese.
- **Students will NOT be able to leave and return to the conference for any circumstance. If a student must leave at any point, they will not be permitted to return.**

WHO MAY ATTEND?

Any teens enrolled in grades 9 - 12 in the Fall of 2023.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE ST. LUKE ARCHINDY PACKAGE?

- *NCYC* Conference Ticket
- Hotel Room (currently 4 per room)
- Three (3) dinners, three (3) ala carte breakfasts, and \$15 lunch stipends.
- Trade Items (T-shirts etc.)
- ArchIndy *NCYC* Rally on November 16
- Pre-*NCYC* Formation Meetings and Reunion Evening

WHAT IS THE THEME FOR NCYC 2023?

The theme of *NCYC 2023* is **FULLY ALIVE**. This theme focuses on Genesis 1:23-27. Each of the General Sessions will focus on an area of the theme.

WHAT IS THE THEMATIC VILLAGE?

A key feature of *NCYC* is the Thematic Village. Past villages included a theme-based combination of interactive games and activities, hands-on service projects, and traditional exhibit booths. Participants create items, participate in physical activities, listen to live music, and pick up resources and souvenirs from leading Catholic vendors all in the same venue. Thematic Village is a unique venue incorporating traditional exhibits with interactive educational and recreational activities, and we are prayerful that it will be included in some way again this year!

WHO WILL SUPERVISE OUR YOUTH PARTICIPANTS?

- Adult chaperones from St. Luke will be attending *NCYC* at a ratio of at least 1 adult per every 6 student participants.
- **ALL chaperones must have a completed the current Safe Parish course and current Background Check. Please do this now if you want to be considered as a chaperone!**
- If you would like to chaperone, contact Leighann Eckrich to be put on the chaperone waitlist. There are specific break-out sessions catered to adults at *NCYC*.
- Don't worry teens; your parents are busy working, so they will NOT be in your way!

WILL MY CHILD BE EXCUSED FROM SCHOOL?

Yes! Your child should be excused from school. Our experience has been that the Catholic schools **and** the public high schools will excuse the teens from school. The only exception is if your child is struggling academically. St Luke will provide each high school about 2 weeks before *NCYC* with the names of the participants to be excused. The high schools will also want permission from the parents. Finally, closer to the event, an Excused Absence Memo from *NCYC* will be available for your use.

ARE THERE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULTS?

- *NCYC* volunteer needs are pending. Usually the conference needs over 1,000 volunteers so you will be kept posted once decisions have been confirmed.
- Volunteer areas have included Hospitality / Liturgy Set Up/ Safety, Security and Crowd Management / Thematic Village Assistance / Transportation / Lost and Found / Hallway Directors / Etc.
- **ALL volunteers must have a completed and current Safe and Sacred Course and current Background Check. Please do this now if you want to volunteer.**
- An electronic registration for all volunteer positions will be available when needs are determined. The link will be emailed, and published in the bulletin and *YM Updates*.
- Volunteers are usually needed from 6:00AM-11:00PM (shifts are typically 1-3 hours long), at the Indiana Convention Center and Lucas Oil Stadium.
- **Volunteer Perks** have included happy, warm, and good feeling seeing 8,000+ high school youth celebrating their faith, free t-shirt, free limited parking, and snacks! Must be at least 18 years old.

WHAT HOTEL INFORMATION DO I NEED TO KNOW?

- Our students will be staying in a St. Luke room block at JW Marriott. Address: 10 S West St, Indianapolis, IN 46204.
- **Students will only be rooming with other students in our St. Luke group.** This stricter guideline is for safety!
- Participants must sleep in the room you are assigned.
- **NO ONE** is allowed in your room unless they are registered for *NCYC* and are of the same gender as the occupants.
- Males and females are not allowed in one another's rooms ... period.
- Rooms are arranged with 4 participants to each room(subject to change).
- *NCYC* curfew is 12:00 (Midnight). All North Deanery Groups will follow this same curfew.

DURING THE DAY WILL THERE BE CHECK-IN / MEETING TIMES?

- YES! We have times where we will stay with our parish groups. There are also times when you are free to join up with any friends attending *NCYC*.
- There is also a **Code of Conduct Form** that we expect the *NCYC* participant to sign and those rules are expected to be followed. Anyone in violation will be sent home immediately.

EMERGENCY PLAN: Should we need one, we have an emergency plan set to take place. Details will be given to participants, chaperones, and parents prior to *NCYC*.

SHOULD I BRING MY OWN MONEY?

- You will need your own money for any souvenirs. The amount you bring depends on you!
- *NCYC* will usually sell the 'General Session Talks' from the conference at varying packages and prices.
- You are responsible for your own snacks and any drinks (other than your drinks with provided meals).
- There will be 2 Mass collections. You are blessed, you should give!
- Any money you would need for Tipping. The practice of tipping is meant as a form of thank you, and downtown hotel employees rely on making good wages from tips. The best practice to save your money is: carry your own bags, say 'no thank you' if the doorman tries to assist you, ask an *NCYC* volunteer for assistance - not the hotel concierge desk.
 - As a general rule, each hotel room should tip on the morning of checkout - so plan on at least \$3 - \$5 per roommate, per night, to be left on the nightstand in your individual room.
 - Tipping is a great habit to get into and we would appreciate each individual participant to learn from this *NCYC* experience. Who knows, you may work in the service industry one day!

WHAT MISC INFORMATION SHOULD I KNOW?

- Students must attend 2 mandatory formation meetings prior to the *NCYC* weekend as well as a *mandatory* parent/student meeting. They are *encouraged* to attend the reunion a few weeks after *NCYC*.
- The following must be followed at all times. **If students disregard, they will be sent home immediately.**

- NO ONE is allowed in your hotel room that is not a registered *NCYC* participant.
- NO ONE is to EVER go anywhere without a "buddy". You are NEVER to be alone.
- NO ONE is allowed to go to the movies / shopping / sightseeing / etc. You are only to be at *NCYC* events and venues (except when dismissed for meals.)
- No need to pack a swim suit - there is NO TIME for swimming
- *NCYC* will have several service projects going on. More info to follow on projects and collections.

WHAT IS THE TOTAL COST TO ATTEND NCYC?

- We are very lucky that the Conference is right here in Indy – no travel expenses will be required, so our cost is less than our neighboring Catholic friends!
- The total cost is **\$575** (It's actually more but St Luke is underwriting the balance). Cost includes conference fees, hotel accommodations, meals, conference shirts and memorabilia. After **July 1**, late registrations will be subject to a late fee and may be waitlisted based on capacity limits.
- A **\$150.00 deposit is due upon Registration**. General Release and Liability Waiver Forms will be due prior to conference.

Fee Discernment:

Families should not allow the cost of *NCYC* to prevent their student(s) from attending! Realizing that families have differing abilities to pay, we have a voluntary 3-tier pricing program based on ability to pay. Please take a moment to look at the fee descriptions below, and pray about the price your family is able and willing to pay to attend *NCYC*. In no way will the amount paid influence or affect the quality of this experience for your participant.

- **Fee Plan A:** This is based on the actual cost (minus the St. Luke subsidy) of *NCYC* for a participant. Your family agrees to pay the total expense of \$575.
- **Fee Plan B*:** Your family agrees to pay the remaining balance after fundraising dollars have been applied.
- **Fee Plan C*:** This is based on a fundraising AND scholarship-subsidized rate. Your family agrees to pay a specific cost and accepts the fundraising and and scholarship

for the balance. We ask that families be responsible for at least \$285 (50% of total cost).

***Students are required to participate in the fundraising event after weekend Masses (dates TBD).**

Payment Schedule:

- **\$150 deposit (non-refundable) due upon registration**
- **July 1: Financial Agreements are due** . They are due upon registration for anyone registering after July 1.
- **Aug 1, 2023: 50% of Balance per Financial Agreement.** Families will be billed by July 15. ***Cancellations after Aug 1 are responsible for all fees unless a substitute can be found!***
- **Nov 1, 2023: Balance due.** Family balances will be billed by Oct 15 once all of the fundraising proceeds have been allotted.

WHAT FUNDRAISING WILL THE TEENS DO?

- Fundraising is a great way for the kids to bond before NCYC!
- We have submitted a request to Stewardship Commission on our proposed fundraiser. Participating students will need to be available after at least one Mass on the weekends TBD. Details will be forthcoming. Participating students are eligible for Payment Plans B & C as outlined above. ALL students are welcome to participate, regardless of payment plan! Please stay posted on those details.
- Additional scholarship/financial aid is available through the generosity of our parishioners. Funds were established through the hard work and success of past Extravaganzas, FallFests, and other parish events.

REGISTRATION

Online registration is at <https://www.fellowshiponegiving.com/App/Form/0f57fbc6-21af-4b6a-8446-10ea4eb8d016>

WHAT IF I THINK OF MORE QUESTIONS ABOUT NCYC?

Please contact Leighann Eckrich, Administrator of Youth Ministry and at leckrich@stluke.org, 317.259.4373 x244 or 317.918.8737 (c).

