



## NCYC.....Afterward

It takes months of planning, lots of details, crazy amounts of pizza and diet coke, so much fundraising it scares me.....but planning the pilgrimage to the National Catholic Youth Conference with 756 of my closest friends was amazing.

Really, the young people and their chaperones say it better than I ever would be able to. Here are a few of their comments. Enjoy!

I loved the energy and enthusiasm for our Catholic Faith among all the youth there (and chaperones too!) It was a great way for Catholic youth to share and celebrate their

faith with their peers. I loved hearing the stories from the keynote speakers...that was the best part for me!

"It changed everything in my life. I now know what I want to do with my life and it is all because of this journey."

"...I still can't believe that I was blessed enough to actually go and that it's actually over. This has been such a life changing experience and I know I will never ever forget what I learned these past 48 hours. This was definitely the opportunity I needed to solidify my faith in God and to realize the importance and power of this faith...I would definitely relive the whole

weekend all over again in a second...."

"NCYC opened my eyes to the world around me... the music and the mass was my favorite part. Knowing that our Bishop was the one who inspired everyone at mass was amazing....."

"This trip was Amazing, it was one of the best times of my life. Being in the arena with thousands of other people who believe the same thing as you is incredible and so touching.... EVERYTHING moved me. I know my life has changed (for the better!!) ....."

## Prayer for Wrapping Presents

I always hate wrapping presents! I save it until the last minute and then I rush through to get it all done fast. I received this prayer from Lee Nagel this morning and thought it was great. So I'm sending it to you!



Dear Lord, I am tired.

I sit here surrounded by ribbons and paper, gifts and tags and I struggle to feel the spirit of giving. I can barely remember which gift is for whom and at moments it all seems so far from your birth.

Help me to take this moment to think of the many gifts you have given to me, the many ways your grace has

blessed my life. Help me to remember that each gift is a tiny mirror of the generosity

I see so clearly in your life and of the many ways you shower me with such lavish and undeserved love. Let me sit here for just a moment and feel that joy in my heart. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. <http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Advent/>

## ***Dates to Remember.....***

### **January 2008**

Jan 1	Happy New Year!		
Jan 4-5	DYC Overnight	Notre Dame Retreat House	7:00 pm Friday —noon Saturday
Jan 4-5	IMPACT Team	Notre Dame Retreat House	7:00 pm Friday —5:00 pm Sunday
Jan 5-6	IMPACT Retreat	Notre Dame Retreat House	1:00 pm Saturday—5:00 pm Sunday
Jan 10	Monroe County YM Gathering	St Helen's Church	9:30 am—12:30 pm
Jan 15	Finger Lakes YM Gathering	St Patrick, Victor	10 am—1 pm
Jan 18	Richard Gaillardetz	St Bernard's	3:00 pm—4:30 pm 7:00 pm—8:30 pm
Jan 19	Richard Gaillardetz	St Bernard's	10:00 am—11:30 pm 1:00 pm—2:30 pm
Jan 20	Richard Gaillardetz	St Bernard's	1:00 pm—2:30 pm
Jan 21	Martin Luther King Holiday		
Jan 22	Rally for Life	Washington DC	
Jan 29-Feb 3	NFCYM Meeting	Little Rock, AK	

### **February 2008**

Feb 9	The Rock Retreat Jr Hi Retreat	Holy Family School Dansville	10:00 am—3:00 pm
Feb 12	Genesee Valley YM Gathering	Place TBA	10:00 am—1:00 pm
Feb 14	Southern Tier YM Gathering	St Patrick, Owego	11:00 am—1:00 pm
Feb 17—22	Foundations Leadership	Camp Stella Maris	7:00 pm Sunday—5:00 pm Friday
Feb 28	Regional Meetings for Catechetical Leaders & Youth Ministers Presenter: Tom Driscoll		9:00 am—12:30 pm

### **March 2008**

Mar 1	Scout Recognition Day	St John of Rochester, Fairport	
Mar 11	Public Policy Day	Albany, NY	
Mar 15	DYC Meeting	Pastoral Office	11:00 am—4:00 pm
Mar 18	Finger Lakes YM Gathering	Epiphany, Sodus	10:00 am—1:00 pm
Mar 20	Monroe County	St Joseph, Penfield	9:30 am—12:30 pm
Mar 21	Good Friday		
Mar 27	YM Retreat	Camp Stella Maris	9:30 am—3:00 pm

### **April 2008**

Apr 8	Genesee Valley YM Gathering	Place TBD	10:00 am—1:00 pm
April 10	Southern Tier YM Gathering	Blessed Trinity, Owego St Margaret Mary worship site	11:00 am—1:00 pm
April 12	Faith Through Sports	Sacred Heart Cathedral	1:00 pm—3:00 pm
April 13-27	Catholic Relief Services Sue	Nigeria, Africa	
April 15	DYC Nominations Due		
April 27	Jr Hi Youth Rally	Camp Stella Maris	3:00 pm —8:00 pm

### **May 2008**

May 10	Run for the Young	St Lawrence, Greece	9:30 am
May 13	Finger Lakes YM Gathering	Place TBA	10:00 am—1:00 pm
May 15	Monroe County YM Gathering	St Pius, Chili	9:30 am—12:30 pm
May 20	May Day with Bishop Clark	Belhurst Castle	Time TBA

# A new year..... Let's look at Youth Ministry Goals

Traditionally people tend to sit back and review the year that was.....and think about plans for the year. Let's look at how close we came to moving toward our goals for Youth Ministry in 2007. What are some ideas for moving toward a more comprehensive Youth Ministry for 2008?

## Goal 1

### *Youth Ministry ... it's about discipleship*

The first goal of youth ministry is “to empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today.” (RTV 9). Young people are “searching for a noble adventure”, a compelling and challenging vision of life, and a cause worth their commitment. They hunger to hear the Good News that finds response in discipleship. As their companions on this spiritual journey, some of the ways the Church fulfills this first goal of youth ministry is by ...

- Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus through witness and word to young people.
- Enabling young people to live as disciples through their involvement in service, ministry, and leadership opportunities.

- Providing young people the faith skills for discipleship.

## Goal 2

### *Youth Ministry ... it's about connection*

The second goal is “to draw young people to responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the Catholic faith community.” (RTV 11). Young people have a hunger for connection, to be in relationship, and to belong. Family, peers, school, youth serving organizations, and church are primary connections for young people. Some of the ways the church fulfills this second goal of youth ministry is by ...

- Being a ‘youth friendly’ community that welcomes young people, values their participation, and calls forth their gifts.
- Integrating young people into the liturgical, pastoral, and ministerial life of the parish community.
- Creating opportunities for young people to enter into healthy relationships of trust and respect with their peers and with adults.
- Promoting Catholic identity and religious literacy through programs of adolescent catechesis.

## Goal 3

### *Youth Ministry ... it's about gifts and growth*

The third goal of youth ministry is “to foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person.” (RTV 15). Adolescence is an important time for mental, spiritual, social, and physical growth. Their experiences and relationships greatly influence their healthy and positive development. The Church strives to surround young people with the best possible external scaffolds—networks of caring relationships of family, school, peers, and other adults—while young people are developing their internal psychological and spiritual backbone—their values, life skills, commitments, and moral compass. The church fulfills this third goal of youth ministry by...

- Enabling young people to develop a personal relationship with Jesus.
- Actively supporting positive youth development and fostering healthy values and life skills.
- Supporting families of young people by providing resources, programs, and services.
- Providing opportunities to experience and express caring, service, and compassion for others.

***“They hunger to hear the Good News that finds response in discipleship”. RTV***

## We Need Your Help

Over the last few months and years the staff in the Department of Evangelization and Catechesis have served a lot of people. Thousands of e-mails and phone calls; numerous gatherings, programs, and meetings; and so many appointments we can't even count them all. In youth ministry alone this fall we handled registrations for NCYC, CYO, Hands of Christ, Jr Hi Adventure Day, and the Youth Ministry Retreat.

Coupled with registrations for the

Anniversary Mass, Fall Days, Marriage Prep and Internet Safety, we handled over 5,000 registrations in just September and October alone.

Mary Greenblatt and Sylvia Mancuso, both part time secretaries, make sure that every registration is accurate and complete. They even have made exceptions to deadlines to enable people to be part of the programs we offer. This can be a challenge at times. We are asking you for your help to make sure that you

register for programs on time.

We need to know how many people will be attending a gathering, event etc to make sure we have the appropriate amount of materials and comfortable space. Getting your registrations in on time assures that a program will happen and we won't have to cancel, it makes a difficult job more manageable for Mary and Sylvia and it honors their time. So *please* help us help you by respecting deadlines.



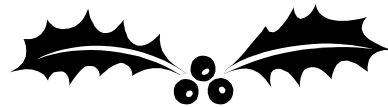
**Diocese of Rochester**  
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**We're on the web:**  
**www.dor.org**

## Christmas Carol Quiz

Figure out the Christmas Carol title from the clue.



1. Not here in an animal's dish
2. Smack the Passageways
3. Move and speak towards the elevated plains
4. Yahweh sleep you happy dudes
5. Hey! The #1 angelic beings belt it out.
6. It showed up on a cloudless 12 at night
7. Shaking Chimes
8. Happiness to the planet
9. 12-25 shrubbery song
10. Get here if you're reliable
11. Like a strainer + time when the sun is down
12. Small city of Christ's birth song
13. Quiet non-day
14. The premier not 12th letter of the alphabet
15. XII 24hrs. of 12-25
16. Not down on the roof of the home
17. Us Trio that's royalty from China (exist)
18. Us dream not us a happy December 25th
19. Spill the 411 on the baby
20. Small percussionist lad
21. Tim Allen's movie character will appear in a hood
22. Song about a hooped animal with a crimson schnozola
23. Chilled the crystallized H2O male
24. Don't stop the winter precipitation
25. Traversing in a 4th season amazing country



1. Away in a Manger
2. Deck the Halls
3. Go Tell It on the Mountain
4. God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen
5. Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
6. It Came Upon a Midnight Clear
7. Jingle Bells
8. Joy to the World
9. O' Christmas Tree
10. O' Come all Ye Faithful
11. O' Holy Night
12. O' Little Town of Bethlehem
13. Silent Night
14. The First Noel
15. The 12 Days of Christmas
16. Up on the Housetop
17. We 3 Kings of Orient (Are)
18. We Wish You a Merry Christmas
19. What Child is This?
20. Little Drummer Boy
21. Santa Claus is Coming to Town
22. Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer
23. Frosty the Snowman
24. Let it Snow
25. Walking in a Winter Wonderland

ANSWERS to Christmas Carol Quiz

## Check out these links

Access to Catholic Social Justice-  
[www.justpeace.org](http://www.justpeace.org)

Access to Catholic Social Justice  
[www.justpeace.org/prayer.htm](http://www.justpeace.org/prayer.htm)

Catholic Social Teaching,  
 Cleveland OH-  
[www.csnmail.net/~dsao/cst1.htm](http://www.csnmail.net/~dsao/cst1.htm)

Environment/ Heifer Project Interna-  
 tional Homepage-  
[www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org)

International Service Agencies-  
[www.charity.org/memberlist.php](http://www.charity.org/memberlist.php)

Catholic Relief Services  
[www.catholicrelief.org](http://www.catholicrelief.org)

Dead Theologians Society  
[www.deadtheologiansociety.com](http://www.deadtheologiansociety.com)

National Federation for Catholic Youth  
 Ministry [www.nfcym.org](http://www.nfcym.org)

U.S. Bishops  
<http://www.usccb.org/laity/ygadult/>  
 Vatican Web Page  
[www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)

The National Conference of Catholic  
 Bishops [www.usccb.org/](http://www.usccb.org/)

Catholic Youth Ministry Resources  
[www.cdow.org/cymresource.html](http://www.cdow.org/cymresource.html)

Center for Ministry Development  
[www.cmdnet.org/](http://www.cmdnet.org/)

Search Institute  
[www.search-institute.org](http://www.search-institute.org)

Disciples Now!  
[www.disciplesnow.com](http://www.disciplesnow.com)

Youth Specialties  
[www.gospel.net](http://www.gospel.net)

U.S. Catholic Online  
[www.uscatholic.org](http://www.uscatholic.org)

Teens Alive Ministries  
<http://teensalive.web.aplus.net/>

Ave Maria Press  
[avemariapress.com](http://avemariapress.com)

Saint Mary's Press  
[www.smp.org](http://www.smp.org)

Youth Ministries Network  
[www.yminetwork.net](http://www.yminetwork.net)

Catholic Planet  
[www.catholicplanet.com/](http://www.catholicplanet.com/)

Catholic Youth Network  
[www.catholicyouth.freeservers.com/](http://www.catholicyouth.freeservers.com/)