

September 12, 2018

Dear Colleague,

I want to recommend a unique opportunity to invest in your own personal formation, the National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry (NCCYM). Too often we put our professional development and renewal on hold. I cannot recommend this event strongly enough as it allows you to be with peers and colleagues, to see the latest resources, and to hear some of the best speakers in the country.

Enclosed is information on the conference sponsored by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry which is held every other year. This year's conference will be held from **December 6-8, 2018, in Tampa, Florida**. There will be over 3,000 adults in attendance from both youth ministry and catechetical leadership—volunteers, paid, parish, school, junior high, high school and more. Major Catholic publishers such as Harcourt, St. Mary's Press, and LifeTeen, youth ministry experts, universities such as Franciscan and Notre Dame, and countless other resources and organizations take part in the convention.

I know money is always a concern. Please consider approaching your pastor, pastoral council, Knights of Columbus, Knights of Peter Claver, or other groups to invest in your professional development. I will be writing to all pastors and principals encouraging their support both for you personally and financially. Please contact our office if this would be helpful to you.

Please see the attached sheets for detailed information about the trip and the process for registering. Please also consider sharing this information with any other adults in your parish or school who might be interested. If you have any questions, please call me at 504-836-0551, ext. 3219, or Terry Fricano at ext. 3221.

Sincerely,

Timmy McCaffery Director





National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry December 6-8, 2018, in Tampa, FL Trip Planning Instructions

Step One: Learn about NCCYM

Go to www.nccym.info and click on the links to NCCYM to explore conference highlights, keynote speakers, workshop sessions, exhibitors, prayer and worship opportunities, regional and national networking, and much more. There is a promotional video as well as conference information, speaker biographies, and sample schedules.

Talk to local colleagues who have been. Because the 2010 NCCYM was in New Orleans, many locals attended and experienced the outstanding speakers, workshops, and resources. A group of 30 from our archdiocese attended in San Antonio in 2014, and 25 went to San Jose in 2016 as well.

Step Two: Make the Decision to Attend & Inform the CYO/Youth & Young Adult Ministry Office

Please call or e-mail Terry Fricano at the CYO/Youth & Young Adult Ministry Office at 504-836-0551, ext. 3221 or cyo@arch-no.org to inform her that you intend to go to NCCYM 2018 in Tampa, **preferably by September 28, 2018**. This will help our office:

- 1. coordinate an archdiocesan and Region 5 gathering in Tampa
- 2. provide your pastor with encouragement to financially sponsor you
- 3. assist you with matching roommates for the hotel if needed
- 4. coordinate hotel reservations

Step Three: Make your transportation arrangements

You are responsible for booking **your own transportation** for this conference. There is no advantage to booking flights as a group. In researching airfare, we found most direct flights or those with one connection are around \$300. Fares may change in coming months. If you find flights below \$300, you should book them. You are free to book any airline that is convenient and cost effective for you; there is no preferred conference airline offering any special discounts.

To attend the main conference in its entirety, you should plan to arrive in Tampa no later than 1PM on Thursday, December 6, 2018, and depart Tampa anytime on Sunday, December 9, 2018. If you choose to register for pre-conferences taking place on or before December 6, you should plan your travel accordingly.

Step Four: Register for the Conference

The actual conference registration will be done online at http://www.nccym.info by each person individually. Register online with the conference registrar, Progress in Planning (form will open in a new browser window). There are several price levels. The Archdiocese of New Orleans is an AFFILIATED DIOCESE, so you will pay the most advantageous rate. Even so, registration fees for an affiliated diocese increase the later you wait to register. The rates are as follows:

August 31 - November 15, 2018: \$369 per person November 15, 2018, and later: \$389 per person

There is also a discounted **spouse pass** (Be advised that spouses must register together). There is also a student rate for full-time registered **students**. There are other optional fees depending on if you choose **pre-conferences or luncheons**.

Step Five: Make Hotel Reservations through the CYO Office

To assist with finding roommates within our group, the CYO/Youth & Young Adult Ministry Office will coordinate hotel reservations.

NCCYM has 6 designated conference hotels and it is important to utilize these hotels as the financial stability of the conference is based in part on NFCYM utilizing a certain number of hotel rooms in the contracted block. The CYO Office has reserved a block of rooms at the Tampa Marriott Waterside and Marina, which is located directly next to the Convention Center. Your room cost, PER ROOM PER NIGHT (not per person) with all taxes and fees included, assuming all occupants stay the same number of nights, would be as follows based on occupancy:

Single \$149 Double \$149 Triple \$149 Quad \$149

The main conference nights would be Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights. If you need extra nights before or after that, we can accommodate you if we know ahead of time. If your roommates do not stay the same number of nights, we will pro-rate the room accordingly. You may pay the CYO Office either by check or Visa/Mastercard. 50% of your hotel cost is payable to the CYO Office by October 5, 2018, and the balance by November 1, 2018. Please contact Terry Fricano to make arrangements.