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The Creation of Engaged Youth Ministry Advocates

What do you think happens when you mix parents, their teens, and the NCYC pilgrimage experience together? You create a group of powerful youth ministry advocates who are engaged and on fire with both faith and the desire to see it continue to grow "back home." What better ministry support could leaders hope for at their parishes and throughout the diocese than parents who will readily speak to the value and critical need for continued support of youth ministry programming and the people who lead it?



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Plug Parents into the Pilgrimage Virtually

Even parents who cannot attend NCYC in person can participate since NFCYM will be supplying a virtual feed of all NCYC General Sessions and other conference activities.

With **FIVE GOOD** reasons to make room for parents at NCYC, please get the word out now to group leaders and parents so that local groups can begin getting more parents on board for the dynamic and life-changing experience of NCYC.

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NCYC is sponsored by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry

2011 NCYC
Indianapolis
November 17-19, 2011



Important Reasons to Make Room for Parents at NCYC



1 Engaging Parents Is a Top Priority for Youth Ministry Leaders

When local and national youth ministry leaders are asked about the workshop topic of most interest to them, the same title has appeared at the top of the list since 2006: Parent Involvement. It is a fact that comprehensive youth ministry is most effective when we engage and integrate parents fully in our shared ministry to and with young people. Leaders know this is a huge need and yet continue to seek effective strategies that will bring about that reality. The NCYC pilgrimage provides just that, not to mention the added benefit of a higher chaperone to youth ratio!



2 The Research Says So!

Dr. Christian Smith's landmark *National Study of Youth and Religion* found that the biggest influence upon the teens' faith is that of his/her parents. The more that faith is shared and talked about in the home, the greater the faith quotient of the young people in that home. It makes sense then that the more we form parents in faith and the more we engage them in vibrant prayer and worship and meaningful faith dialogues, the more likely parents will share that faith with their children and teens. Few opportunities provide a better environment to share and grow in faith than NCYC.



3 Parent Programs and Resource Areas

At the 2011 NCYC, parents will be invited to enjoy a specially designed parent resource and networking area in addition to choosing between two breakout sessions in each of five rounds that are specifically aimed at parents of teens, including one Mega Session in each round. So while the teens choose from among the dozens of breakout sessions designed specifically for them, their parents will be in good hands as well, networking with other parents and growing in faith as they listen to such nationally recognized presenters as Doug Brummel, Mark Hart, Tom East, Greg "Dobie" Moser, and Roy Petifils around topics like:

- The Family That Prays Together
- Talking with Teens about Taboo Topics
- The Gift of Parenthood
- Parenting Teens and Their Screens
- Building Strong Catholic Families

