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Filled with the love of Christ, young people are called to be witnesses of the Gospel wherever they find themselves, by the way they live.

Youth ministry has to be synodal; it should involve a “journeying together” that values the charisms that the Spirit bestows in accordance with the vocation and role of each of the Church’s members, through a process of co-responsibility.... Motivated by this spirit, we can move towards a participatory and co-responsible Church, one capable of appreciating its own rich variety, gratefully accepting the contributions of the lay faithful, including young people and women, consecrated persons, as well as groups, associations and movements. No one should be excluded or exclude themselves.

- Pope Francis, Christus Vivit - Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation to Young People and the Entire People of God

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MESSAGE FROM THE Executive Director

What an exciting year it has been for the pastoral field of youth ministry with the release of *Christus Vivit*, an apostolic exhortation by Pope Francis, that directly addresses young people. This document has lighted the path for evolution at NFCYM to meet the current and future needs of young people and those who accompany them. Organizational change is never easy, but when we believe in the mission, plant roots in Christ, and trust the Holy Spirit to guide the way, we move forward with hope.

This year we took risks, leaped into the unknown, and let the Spirit lead us in:

- *Passing revised bylaws*
- *Implementing policies and procedures to govern our work*
- *Bringing our mission and vision to life with new branding*
- *Launching new project teams*
- *Bringing forth new leaders in the field*
- *Establishing the National Catholic Youth Conference as an annual event, and more*

Symbolized by our new logo, Christ leads NFCYM as we accompany each other and the young church in encountering Him. United in Christ, all things are possible, even the unimaginable. Let's continue to dream in 2020 and allow God to surprise us. The best has yet to come. If you believe in our mission, then join the conversation at nfcym.org and together, let's empower young people to be missionary disciples.



Christina Lamas
Executive Director

LEADERSHIP NFCYM Board

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Bishop, Diocese of Cleveland

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Christina Lamas

Executive Director, NFCYM

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

As part of a church continually on the move along our pilgrimage of faith, it is nice to pause for a moment to celebrate our accomplishments and to look toward the future, where our vision will be lived out.

This past year, Holy Fire expanded from Chicago to include an exciting and engaging ministry with junior high teens in Nashville. Membership was engaged in the important work of the National Dialogue and the Synod on Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment that was called for by Pope Francis. Archbishop Christophe Pierre, in particular, played an important role by joining us in the National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry in Tampa, and at our Annual Membership Meeting in Colorado Springs. We continued vital conversations that helped us to hone in on our mission, values, and vision. We also have welcomed Popes Francis' gift of *Christus Vivit* and have begun to unpack its many insights and challenges.

We are excited to continue to welcome new members and their gifts that strengthen our efforts.

May we dream big as we accompany young people along the journey of faith and encounter the Lord in our lives and in the work that we do.

MESSAGE FROM OUR Episcopal Advisor



***Our future as a church rests
in the hands of
today's youth***

My dear brothers and sisters,

It is my pleasure to serve as the new Episcopal Advisor for the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM) and help advance their mission to support and strengthen those who accompany young people as they encounter and follow Jesus Christ.

Our future as a church rests in the hands of today's youth as tomorrow's priests, religious, and lay faithful. Therefore, it is vital to invigorate their faith and encourage young people of all diverse realities to be active participants and witnesses of Christ's love now. This is precisely what NFCYM equips members to do.

Pastoral leaders, the youth, and their families are accompanied by NFCYM through a variety of resources, including webinars, events for youth and adults, and opportunities to connect across the nation and discuss how to better serve young people.

I look forward to my time with NFCYM, and I am keeping you and our youth in my prayers.

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus,

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Nelson J. Perez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Most Reverend Nelson J. Perez, D.D.

Bishop of Cleveland

Episcopal Advisor for NFCYM



Empowering youth to be missionary disciples



TYING IT ALL TOGETHER

Our Focus

We, as the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM), seek to empower young people to be missionary disciples. That's why we equip pastoral leaders, youth ministers, parents, and others as they accompany youth to be Christian witnesses in their daily, and ever-changing lives.

THE STATS: WHERE WE ARE NOW

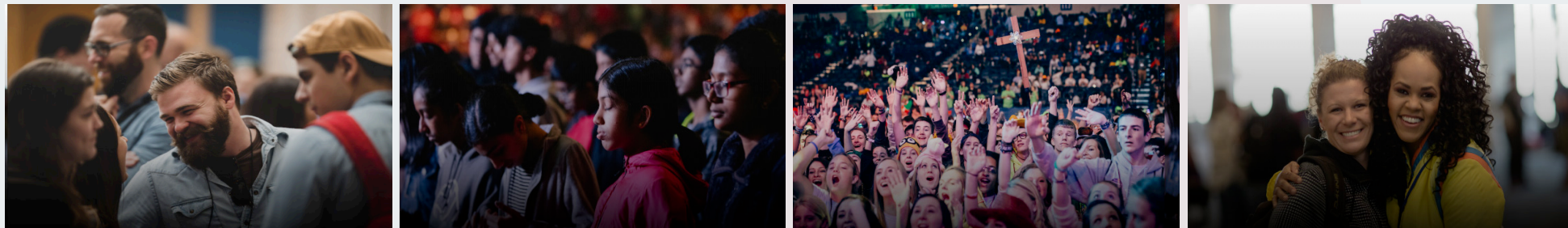
200,000+ teens experienced Christ at National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC)

35,000+ middle school youth experienced Christ at Holy Fire

35,000+ pastoral leaders supported through National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry (NCCYM)

650+ diocesan leaders trained through the New Diocesan Directors' Institute (NDDI)

650+ adults connected through ministry networks



TYING IT ALL TOGETHER

Our Future

NFCYM's mission is to support and strengthen those who accompany young people as they encounter and follow Jesus Christ.

Through that mission, NFCYM empowers young people to be missionary disciples while striving to be diverse, up to date, and relevant in everything we do. This serves as the foundation for building future goals.

In the upcoming years NFCYM will focus on the following goals in support of our mission.

Goal #1:

Identify and equip adults in ministry to respond to the diverse needs and gifts of young people.

Goal #2:

Provide opportunities for encounters with Christ through dynamic engagements that foster mature discipleship and authentic accompaniment among adult leaders and young people.

Goal #3:

Partner with parents to enhance their confidence and ability to accompany their children to seek, know, and love Christ.

Goal #4:

Support, engage, and develop members to make a greater impact in the field of pastoral ministry to young people.

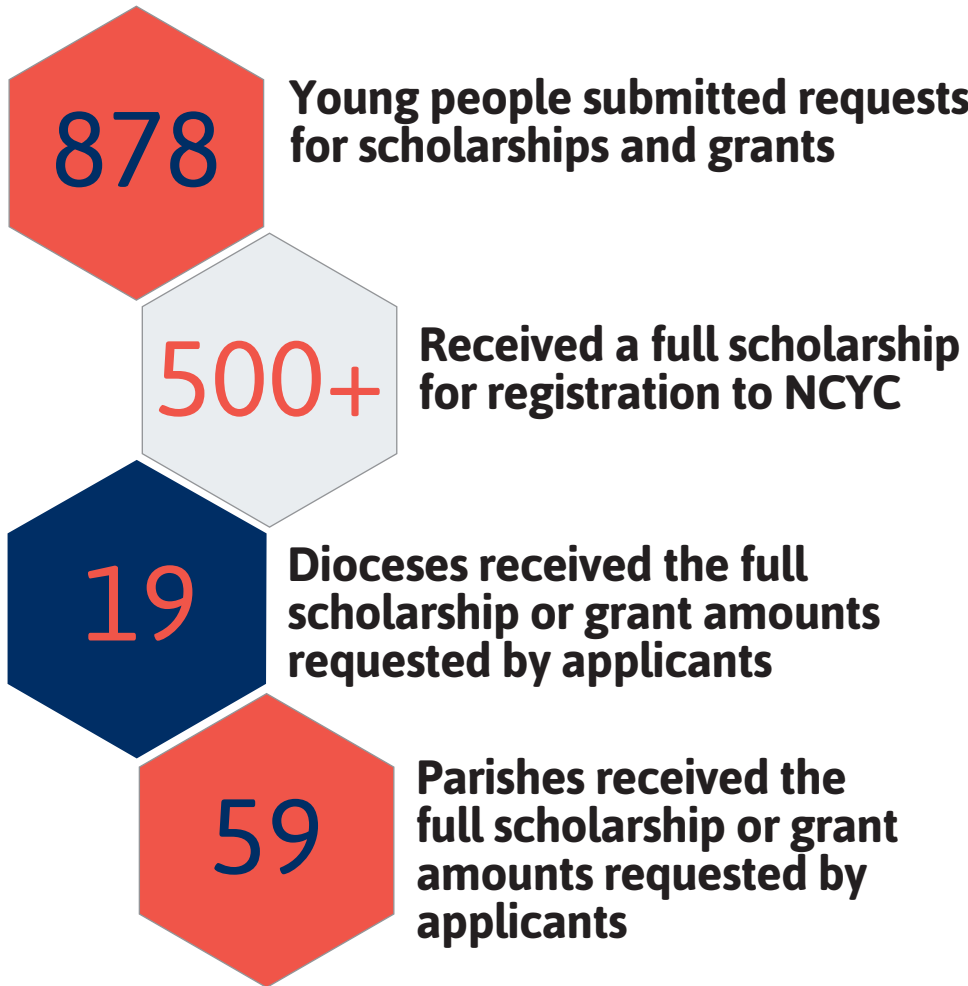
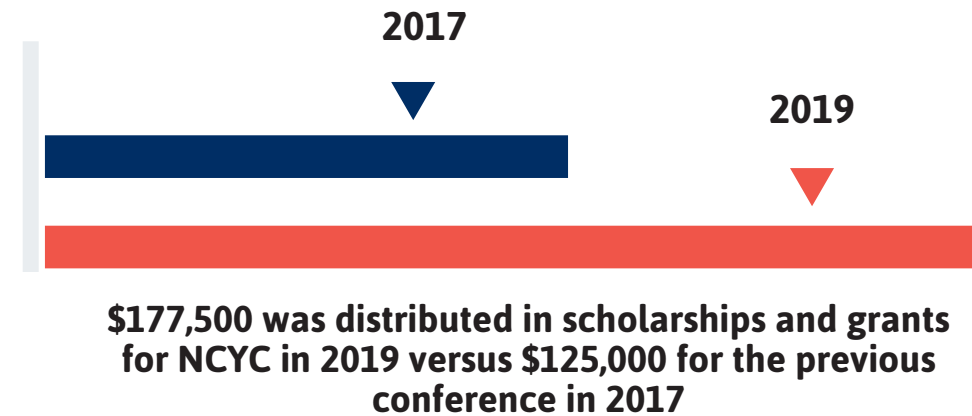
Scholarships

Making an Impact

In a distinctly Catholic setting, the National Catholic Youth Conference invites high school youth to encounter Christ, experience church, and be empowered for discipleship. For many, their participation is not only life-affirming, but also life-changing.

Each year the need for aid increases among young Catholics who want to experience NCYC. NFCYM has challenged itself to create more opportunities for scholarships and grants with a focus on impacting the local and regional church. In 2017 the NFCYM Scholarship Fund was created. It is a restricted fund that has the opportunity to grow year-over-year while disbursing more aid than ever before.

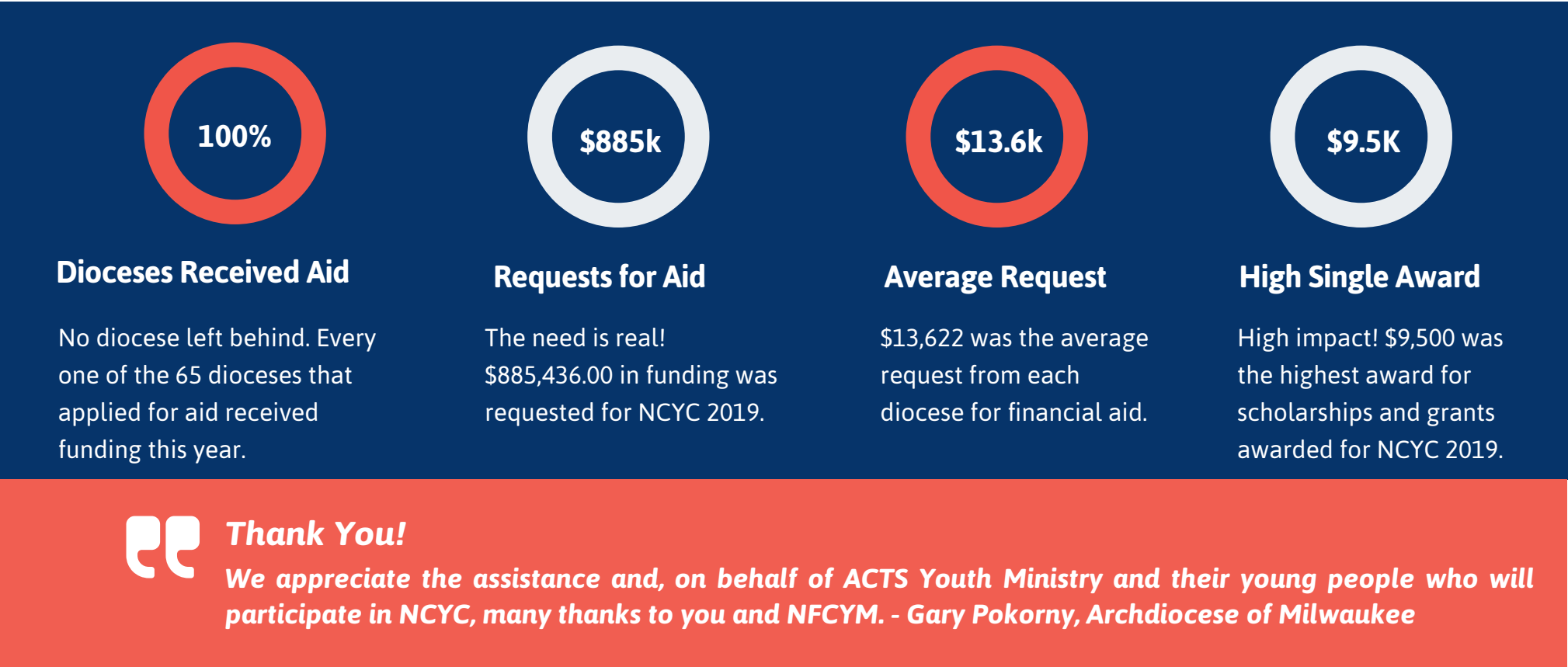
THE STATS: 42% MORE AID IN 2019



Helping Young Catholics!

Many families desire to send their sons and daughters to NCYC, but are unable to cover the costs. Therefore, in 2019, the scholarship process was redesigned to make a higher impact in communities with economic need. For the first time, NFCYM was able to help cover

the total cost of sending a high school pilgrim to NCYC, including transportation and housing. Over 500 registration scholarships were disbursed and \$65,000 in grant funding went towards travel and lodging. We pray we're able to assist even more for the 2021 NCYC.



THANK YOU

For Your Support

\$2500 and Up

Mark D. Pacione Foundation
His Eminence Joseph William Cardinal Tobin, CSsR

\$1000 to \$2499

Dillman Family Endowment Fund
Mr. and Mrs. Michael B. Gallagher
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Patin
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\$500 to \$999

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I believe in the work of the NFCYM and want it to continue for future generations. - Lisa Kurnik

\$250 to \$499

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Dong Xie

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Ms. Katie Zeigler
Miss Leah Zeldin

Donations reflect gifts given to
NFCYM between July 1, 2018
and June 30, 2019

2018 - 2019

Financial Report

LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	\$22,893.49	
Credit Card Payable	\$16,594.53	
Security Deposit	\$2,057.00	
State and Federal Tax Withholding	\$11,021.52	
Deferred Affiliation Dues	\$33,325.00	
Deferred Encuentro	\$18,876.47	
Deferred NCYC Registration	\$52,995.00	
Deferred Revenue - Publication	\$370.50	
Deferred Revenue - Holy Fire	\$2,500.00	
Total Liabilities	\$160,633.51	
CAPITAL		
Beginning Balance Equity	\$957,337.21	
Unrestricted Fund Balance	\$1,598,132.20	
Restricted Fund Balance	\$60,000.00	
Donor Restricted - Porticus	\$86,081.68	
Restricted - NFCYM Scholarship	\$15,278.16	
Restricted - Youth on Margins	\$292.07	
Donor Restricted - Raskob	\$18,844.57	
Net Income	(\$934,676.99)	
Total Capital	\$1,801,288.90	
Total Liabilities and Capital	\$1,961,922.41	

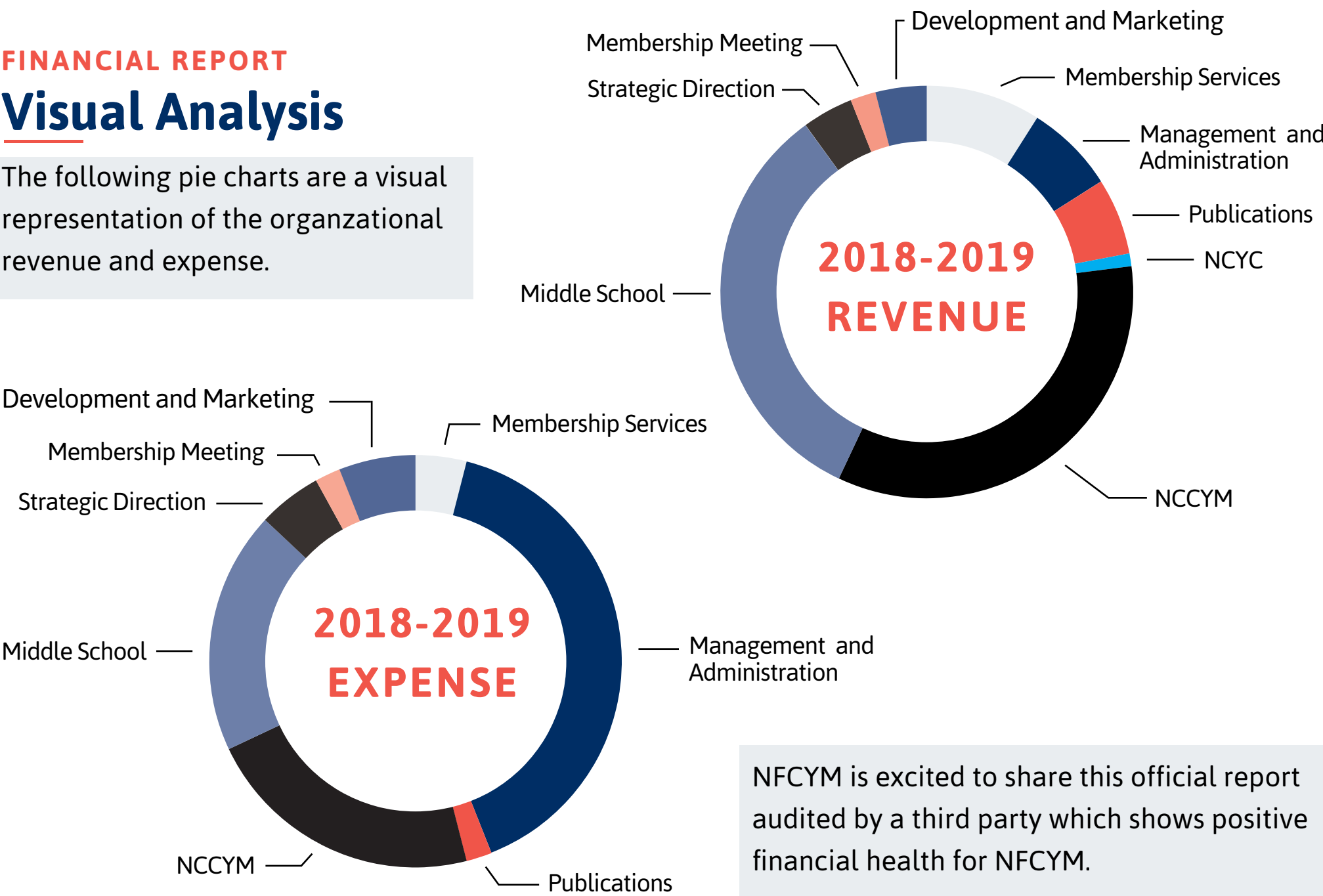
Income Statement 2018 - 2019

REVENUE	YTD ACTUAL	BUDGET
Membership Services	\$139,170.20	\$126,000.00
Management and Administration	\$112,329.17	\$12,000
Publications	\$94,084.77	\$99,000.00
NCYC	\$9,545.88	-
NCCYM	\$541,494.35	\$773,050.00
Middle School	\$537,852.18	\$468,435.00
Strategic Direction	\$64,446.75	\$255,000.00
Membership Meeting	\$37,384.80	\$75,050.00
Encuentro	\$593.17	-
Development and Marketing	\$70,617.76	\$365,000.00
Total Revenue	\$1,607,519.03	\$2,173,535.00
EXPENSES	YTD ACTUAL	BUDGET
Membership Services	\$104,222.98	\$159,771.00
Management and Administration	\$1,022,712.92	\$996,600.00
Publications	\$24,497.33	\$67,500.00
NCYC	-	\$386,723.00
NCCYM	\$554,616.28	\$692,000.00
Middle School	\$486,934.30	\$452,994.00
Strategic Direction	\$124,882.31	\$255,000.00
Membership Meeting	\$59,282.32	\$114,165.00
Encuentro	\$3,049.23	-
Development and Marketing	\$161,998.35	\$203,430.00
Total Expense	\$2,542,196.02	\$3,328,183.00
Net Income	(\$934,676.99)	(\$1,154,648.00)

FINANCIAL REPORT

Visual Analysis

The following pie charts are a visual representation of the organzational revenue and expense.



NFCYM is excited to share this official report audited by a third party which shows positive financial health for NFCYM.

The Present and Future



Manuel (Manny) Ledesma, a high school senior, athlete, musician, volunteer and youth minister, is excited about being Catholic. Manny attended the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC), a life-changing experience for high school youth. We asked him about his experience beyond NCYC.

WHAT MAKES YOU STAY CONNECTED TO YOUR FAITH?

I am Catholic because for one, it's the faith I was raised in, and secondly it's the faith that is showing God himself through the sacrament of the Eucharist and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Both of those are huge parts of our faith and help me stay connected. In my daily life, my youth group and campus ministry also help me continue to connect with my faith. There are challenges that we face, like being judged, being told we are the "church kids," or not necessarily being "popular." Sometimes it's hard to truly find friends or people that share your love for your faith, but the excitement of retreats, youth nights, and I know it's weird, but sometimes Mass outweighs the challenges. Those moments where I encounter Jesus through a retreat, youth night, Mass, and even other people are what excite me and give a legitimate joy that I can't find anywhere else.

TELL US ABOUT NCYC

My NCYC experience was honestly life changing! Everyone that has gone might say that, but it's the truth. The ability to see 20,000 other teens who are just like me, who

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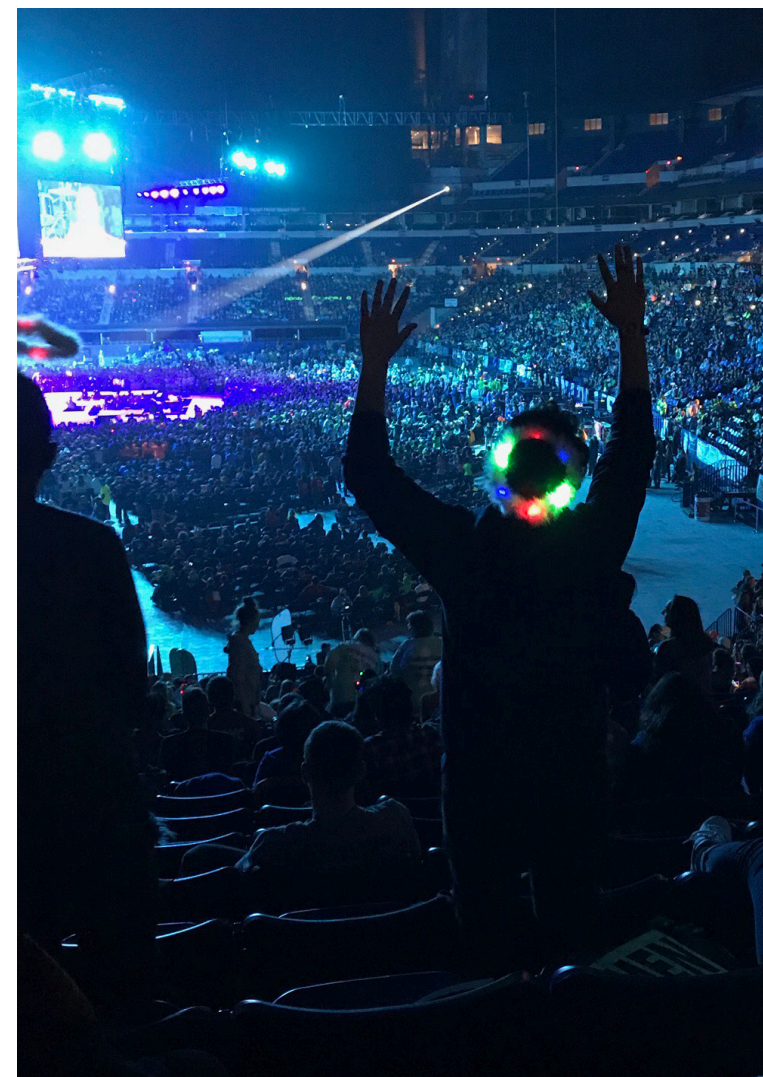
Those moments where I encounter Jesus through a retreat, youth night, Mass, and even other people are what excite me and give a legitimate joy that I can't find anywhere else.

traveled to come to this event that has to do with Jesus, and our love for our faith, is just amazing to see. The concerts, workshops, keynotes, the moments of praise and worship, Mass, and adoration, just impacted my life in a way that made me want to pursue God in a new way.

Coming at a point where I didn't know what the heck I wanted to do with my life, NCYC allowed me to be able to see that it's all right. God loves me and was going to be with me through it all. Now as I look back at all my choices, like, what kind of career I want to pursue, the service I've done in these past years, and the commitment I made to my church all trace back to the life-changing experience I had at NCYC with the Catholic Church which I saw there.

WHAT'S NEXT?

NCYC started this process of looking for a career in the church and specifically in youth ministry. NCYC ultimately affirmed that my involvement in youth ministry means something. It affirmed the reason and purpose behind what I was doing. It also opened new doors through people I met, giving me opportunities to help out in different areas and events in the archdiocese.



CATHOLIC YOUTH

The Present and Future

Bryan Villegas is a nineteen-year-old NCYC alum and entrepreneur. Bryan runs his own digital marketing business. He loves helping people and is excited to confess that God is at the center of everything he does.

WHAT DO YOU DO PROFESSIONALLY?

I help companies generate more high-quality leads through digital advertising. Entrepreneurship has always been something that runs in my family. Ever since I can remember, my dad has always been teaching me about business and what it means to be an entrepreneur. I started doing digital marketing with my dad in my sophomore year in high school. Ever since then I have been more and more fascinated by it, especially with new technological advances. Digital marketing is something I enjoy teaching and could talk about for hours on end. Helping others is what I love to do, which is why I love what I do. This agency was started to help business owners take their business to the next level, whether they are a small business or a big company.

HOW DOES YOUR FAITH IMPACT YOUR DAILY LIFE?

My faith has always played and continues to play a big role in my everyday life. God is the center of everything that I do, both in my business and outside of it. Ever since I can remember, my family has always been teaching me about my faith. Having a grandma that was a catechist and my mom having been in the convent at a very young age, I have been very blessed to have been taught so much by them. God has been and continues to be the center of my life and my family's life. Going to Mass, confession, and praying together has helped us find and build our own relationship with God. But as you know, life doesn't always go our way and I find myself struggling sometimes. It is in these moments I turn to my rock and that's my faith. I turn to prayer, because I truly believe that prayer is the nourishment for our soul, just like food is the nourishment for our body. And, of course, my family, has always supported me through tough times and have always helped lead me back to Jesus, even in my moments of doubt. Therefore, to say that my faith plays a vital part in my life would be an understatement.



WHAT WAS YOUR NCYC EXPERIENCE LIKE?

To say that my NCYC experience was amazing is a major understatement. Words cannot describe how amazing and moving NCYC was. Seeing so many young people coming together from across the United States for the same reason, which is Jesus, is just breathtaking and beyond amazing. I really felt the presence of God in that arena and in each and every one of those teens. One of the most memorable moments from NCYC was adoration. Seeing everyone on their knees before their king was just amazing, you could literally hear a pin drop in that arena. I would say my experience was perfect because I felt like God was speaking directly to me through each of those speakers.

WHAT IS THE IMPACT NCYC AND YOUTH MINISTRY HAVE HAD AS YOU CONTINUE TO GROW IN YOUR FAITH?

In my personal life, youth ministry has been my strength in tough times. It has been with me in times when I needed God the most during the passing of a family member and in times when I am celebrating a great accomplishment in my life. Youth ministry has shown me God's friendship and love in the simplest of ways. In the same way NCYC has helped strengthen that bond with my youth ministry and brought us closer than before. Traveling together, sharing with each other everything that we learned, has made our bond stronger than ever before. NCYC has also shown me that I have that same support group that I have in my youth ministry across the United States. I have made friends at NCYC from other states that I still talk to today. They have shown me God's love, despite being thousands of miles away, across the country.

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My faith has always played and continues to play a big role in my everyday life. God is the center of everything that I do, both in my business and outside of it.



Christ leads. **We accompany.**

BRENDA NORIEGA

Diocesan Member

- Young Adult Programs Coordinator, Diocese of San Bernardino
- Serving young people in ministry for 12 years
- NFCYM member since 2014

THE MINISTRY OF **Our Members**

The National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry understands the challenges that youth ministers face today. That's why our mission is to equip all pastoral ministers with the tools and resources needed to accompany young people as they journey to become missionary disciples of Christ.

We are the largest network of Catholic ministry leaders and our greatest resources are our members.

WHY MINISTRY?

Once you know God's love and mercy, there's no way you keep it for yourself. I don't see my job as a profession, but as a vocation. I started "professional ministry" in 2014 when I was invited to apply for the position. I honestly did not want to work for a diocese or a parish. I was happy with my job as a faith-based community organizer empowering Catholic parishioners to exercise their baptismal call to be prophetic voices by advocating for just policies that respect the human dignity of the children of God. I applied to the position because my spiritual director at the time helped me to discern that it was an invitation from God. Every day I wake up trying to be obedient to that calling.

WHY ARE YOU A MEMBER OF NFCYM?

NFCYM has always been the strongest and largest Catholic youth ministry organization. However, it wasn't until the last couple of years, since Christina Lamas took the role as executive director, that I saw changes that benefit all young people and ministers from different backgrounds. I am proud to see an organization that collaborates with other national organizations for the sake of strong and faithful young Catholics.



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***Once you know
God's love and
mercy, there is no
way to keep it to
yourself.***

THE MINISTRY OF Our Members

JAMIE KOHLER

Associate Member

- Faith Formation Leader, Youth Ministry and Women’s Ministry , Vancouver, Washington
- Serving young people in ministry for 17 years
- NFCYM member since 2017 and NFCYM board member

WHY MINISTRY?

I have known I was called to serve in the church since World Youth Day Denver in 1993. I was in high school at the time. I wanted to be part of the building of God’s kingdom and use the gifts God gave me for his glory. I had a wonderful youth minister who pulled me away from a dark path and really presented Christ in an authentic way.

WHY ARE YOU A MEMBER OF NFCYM?

I am a member of NFCYM because I want to know what’s happening on the national level, to collaborate and learn from experts in the field, and to help my parish be a center of excellence in ministry. I think NFCYM helps me achieve this goal.

WHAT IS ONE OF YOUR FAVORITE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP?

I really appreciate the work that goes into NCCYM (National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry). The conference has helped me to reflect on my ministry in meaningful ways and really helps me to meet the goal of gaining wisdom through the collective efforts of the field.



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I am a member of NFCYM because ... I want to collaborate and learn from experts in the field.



WHY MINISTRY?

I entered into ministry for two main reasons. I grew up in a parish that cared for and loved me. I thought this was everyone’s experience of church, and unfortunately, it’s not. That reality grounded me, but it also challenged me. It kept me rooted in the church even when I was spiritually seeking, but it made me hurt for people who felt rejected by their communities. This created a desire for me to help others experience that type of community. Secondly, when I was sixteen, I had an experience of the Holy Spirit that changed everything. God revealed a plan to me that He has continued to unfold over the years. He wanted to be in a new type of relationship with me and for me to invite others into a relationship with Him. One of the major steps on this path was becoming a youth minister. In short, because I was loved by a community, called by Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, I became a youth minister.

WHY ARE YOU A MEMBER OF NFCYM?

NFCYM has played a huge role in establishing the reality of lay ministry and in particular, created the professional field of youth ministry. Like any family, its members don’t always agree about issues. However, if you want to support or challenge the field (hopefully it’s both), then NFCYM is simply the place to do it. NFCYM is going through a period of rebirth and revitalization that is only possible because different passionate voices have gathered together for dialogue and action around how we can best serve those who accompany youth and their families.

”
If we desire transformation for the church on a national level, we need to be part of NFCYM.

TONY VASINDA

Organizational Member

- Cofounder of ProjectYM
- Serving young people in ministry for 18 years
- NFCYM member since 2013



”
*Often, when I would pray
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Mass, I would reflect on the
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I began noticing the empty
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be to help fill those empty
spaces.*

ROBERT NOEL

Diocesan Member

- Formator for Discipleship
- Diocese of Crookston, Minnesota
- Serving young people in ministry for 1 year
- NFCYM member since 2019 and newly appointed NFCYM board member

THE MINISTRY OF Our Members

WHY MINISTRY?

As a teacher, I feel like I have been indirectly working in ministry for over two decades. For over fifteen years, along with Spanish and Social Studies, I was teaching various classes in Christian Studies at a small Christian school called Oak Grove, in Fargo, North Dakota.

Starting about three years ago, I was getting a sense that I was being called to something different. Often, when I would pray during adoration, or at Mass, I would reflect on the word “evangelization” that seemed to come to the surface a lot during prayer. I began noticing the empty places in the pews and asking what my role will be to help fill those empty spaces.

When the Diocese of Crookston advertised for this role, I took great interest and felt as though I had been praying about it for years. I never imagined it would fit my charisms and passions so well, and I absolutely love what I am doing.

It has been my vocation to help mentor youth through experiences with marginalized and underserved communities. I have seen great benefits in short-term mission experiences. I have seen many eyes opened over the years — young people who have gained a great capacity for empathy and ministry, who themselves have been more deeply evangelized through the cry of an orphan, the hospitality of a gracious host, or the story of an immigrant.

WHY ARE YOU A MEMBER OF NFCYM?

One of the first things I did in my new position was to travel to the National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry in Tampa, Florida. One thing I have noticed is that you will often find certain programs, resources, methods, etc., being embraced by some and rejected by others. What I loved about NCCYM is the reminder of just how vast and diverse our Catholic Church is in the United States.

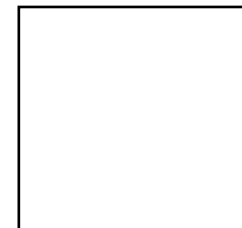
What I appreciate about NFCYM is that they are pulling together and connecting so many wonderful Catholic apostolates who are simply seeking to serve Jesus and serve his church. It is apparent to me that NFCYM seeks to understand the diversity of the church and especially the diverse needs of the current and upcoming generations of young people.



NATIONAL FEDERATION FOR
CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY

415 Michigan Ave. NE, Suite 40

Washington, DC 20017



OUR MISSION

The National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM) supports and strengthens those who accompany young people as they encounter and follow Jesus Christ.