



Diocese of Davenport NCYC 2019 Evaluations Executive Summary



I. GENERAL OVERVIEW

Delegation Size

- 563 youth and 181 adults (744 total) from 32 groups representing 44 parishes (56% of the parishes in the diocese).

Evaluations Received

- 490 youth evaluations out of 563 youth (87% return rate) and 150 adult evaluations out of 181 adults (83% return rate).
- Total evaluations: 640 out of 744 participants (86% return rate).

II. YOUTH EVALUATIONS

General Profile

- A little over half of youth attendees are 15-16 years old, with the average age being 15.7 years.
- Almost 6 in 10 are 9th-10th graders.
- Almost 3 in 5 participants are female.
- Almost 7 in 10 attend public schools.
- Almost 9 in 10 attend weekend Mass 2-3+ times a month.

The NCYC Experience

- When asked to indicate why they went to NCYC, 51% of youth participants said “to grow in my faith.” The next highest response given by 22.2% of youth participants was “to learn more about my faith.”
- When asked to rate on a scale of 1 (extremely dissatisfied) to 10 (extremely satisfied) their NCYC experience, 56.3% of youth participants indicated 9 or 10. The average rating was 8.7 out of 10.
- Youth participants were given a list of 16 outcome statements and asked to choose one of four responses (“Absolutely,” “For the Most Part,” “A Little,” and “Not Really”) that best described how well NCYC did that for them.
 - The highest rated responses in the “Absolutely” column were:
 - Made me feel like a part of a larger, universal Roman Catholic community (80.6%)
 - Provided me with opportunities to experience Reconciliation and Mass (78.2%)
 - Helped me deepen my relationship with Christ (73.5%)
 - Provided prayer experiences that were engaging and empowering (70.8%)
 - The lowest rated responses in the “Absolutely” column were:
 - Motivated me to become a leader in my parish (29.2%)
 - Helped me become more aware of service and justice issues (34.7%)
 - Taught me about traditional rituals and prayers of the Church (36.5%)
 - Using those same 16 outcome statements, youth participants were asked to indicate how NCYC helped them the most. The four top-rated responses were:

- Made me feel like a part of a larger, universal Roman Catholic community (42.4%)
- Helped me deepen my relationship with Christ (33.7%)
- Helped me feel loved and valued (27.1%)
- Provided prayer experiences that were engaging and empowering (23.5%)

Most Memorable about NCYC

- In this section, participants were asked to respond to the following question: “What about NCYC has been the most memorable for you?” No pre-determined responses were given for them to choose; participants could write in anything they wanted. The following represent the most common general categories of youth responses followed by a few phrases actually used by youth in their responses:
 - Adoration – the connection to Christ, the silence, the power.
 - Mass – with 20,000, the power of so many worshipping together.
 - Reconciliation – able to cry out to God, feeling like a new person.
 - A new perspective – seeing other Catholic youth, having so much in common with so many.
 - The presence of God – feeling the Holy Spirit, feeling Jesus comfort me.
 - Learning – about my faith and strengthening my relationship with Christ.
 - Music – the singing together, concerts, the burning sensation in my heart for God.

Family and Parish Effectiveness

- Participants were asked how strongly they disagree (“1” on the scale) or agree (“5” on the scale) on how their family and parish affect four specific factors:
 - Family ranks higher at making youth “feel part of a welcoming, loving community” (4.56 vs. 4.37).
 - Parish ranks higher at helping youth “get closer to God” (4.45 vs. 4.25) and “to learn about by faith” (4.44 vs. 4.2).
 - Both family and parish ranked fairly evenly at empowering youth “to serve others and help others to grow in their faith” with parish only slightly better (4.34 vs. 4.38).

About the Realities of Being a Teenager Today

- In this section, participants were asked to respond to the following question: “What would you like Faith Formation Leaders in the Diocese to know about the realities of being a teenager today, in general and in the church?” No pre-determined responses were given for them to choose; participants could write in anything they wanted. The following represent the most common general categories of responses:
 - Being a teenager is hard, confusing, and stressful.
 - There’s a lot of pressure when it comes to faith.
 - We need help in knowing how to build our faith.
 - How not to help us – don’t talk at us, no long lectures or tests.
 - How to help us – engage us, use music, small groups, deeper conversations, Adoration and silence.
 - Music is important.

Re-Gathering

- Participants were asked if they were interested in a re-gathering of NCYC participants to reflect, be re-inspired, and receive support and encouragement to continue the journey of faith. Two hundred and twenty youth (45.3%) responded “yes.”

III. ADULT EVALUATIONS

General Profile

- The largest age group of adults is 40-49 (40%).
- Almost 7 in 10 are female.
- Almost 6 in 10 are the parent/guardian of a youth participant.
- Almost 6 in 10 are first-time NCYC attendees.
- A little over 9 in 10 attend weekend Mass 2-3+ times a month.
- For almost 7 in 10 their primary role at NCYC was as a chaperone.
- Almost 7 in 10 attended in the chaperone role.

The NCYC Experience

- When asked to indicate why they went to NCYC, 36.7% of adult participants said “to assist my parish” and “to attend with my children.” The next highest response given by 23.3% of adult participants was “to grow in my faith.”
- When asked to rate on a scale of 1 (extremely dissatisfied) to 10 (extremely satisfied) their NCYC experience, 66% of adult participants indicated 9 or 10. The average rating was 8.3 out of 10.
- Adult participants were given the same list of 16 outcome statements as the youth and asked to choose one of four responses (“Absolutely,” “For the Most Part,” “A Little,” and “Not Really”) that best described how well NCYC did that for them.
 - The highest rated responses in the “Absolutely” column were:
 - Provided me with opportunities to experience Reconciliation and Mass (92%)
 - Made me feel like a part of a larger, universal Roman Catholic community (90%)
 - Made me feel comfortable being Catholic (87.3%)
 - Provided prayer experiences that were engaging and empowering (82%)
 - The lowest rated responses in the “Absolutely” column were:
 - Motivated me to become a leader in my parish (35.3%)
 - Helped me become more aware of service and justice issues (36.7%)
 - Taught me about traditional rituals and prayers of the Church (50%)
 - Using those same 16 outcome statements, adult participants were asked to indicate how NCYC helped teens the most. The four top-rated responses were:
 - Made me feel like a part of a larger, universal Roman Catholic community (51%) – *NOTE: Also the top-rated response by youth.*
 - Helped me deepen my relationship with Christ (31%) – *NOTE: The third highest-rated response by youth.*
 - Helped me feel loved and valued (25%) – *NOTE: Not one of the top four responses by youth.*
 - Made me feel comfortable being Catholic. (25%) – *NOTE: Not one of the top four responses by youth.*

Most Memorable about NCYC

- In this section, participants were asked to respond to the following question: “What about NCYC has been the most memorable for you?” No pre-determined responses were given for them to choose; participants could write in anything they wanted. The following represent the most common general categories of adult responses followed by a few phrases actually used by adults in their responses:

- Adoration – youth’s awe during Adoration. – *NOTE: Also on youth’s list.*
- The Speakers/Presenters – their radiant joy and peace. – *NOTE: Not on youth’s list.*
- Mass – beautiful, moving. – *NOTE: Also on youth’s list.*
- Reconciliation – powerful outpouring of grace. – *NOTE: Also on youth’s list.*
- What I saw... – 20,000 teens proud to be Catholic. – *NOTE: Not on youth’s list.*
- ...and how it affected me – I was inspired, touched, impressed. – *NOTE: Not on youth’s list.*
- Music – powerful; I felt it in my soul. – *NOTE: Also on youth’s list.*

Family and Parish Effectiveness

- Participants were asked how strongly they disagree (“1” on the scale) or agree (“5” on the scale) on how their family and parish affect four specific factors:
 - Family ranks higher at making adults “feel part of a welcoming, loving community” (4.51 vs. 4.16) and helping adults “get closer to God” (4.35 vs. 4.13).
 - Family ranks slightly higher at helping adults “to learn about their faith” (4.24 vs. 4.15) and empowering adults “to serve others and help others to grow in their faith” (4.33 vs. 4.23).

About the Realities of Being an Adult in the Church Today

- In this section, participants were asked to respond to the following question: “What would you like Faith Formation Leaders in the Diocese to know about the realities of being an adult in the church today? (How can we improve? What are we doing well)?” No pre-determined responses were given for them to choose; participants could write in anything they wanted. The following represent the most common general categories of responses:
 - It’s hard to be true to our faith and even harder to pass it on.
 - We need help; practical adult formation is needed.
 - Church needs to listen more to and engage the hearts of adults and youth.
 - Being a young adult in the church can be lonesome. Need more structure/support for young adult ministry.

Re-Gathering

- Participants were asked if they were interested in a re-gathering of NCYC participants to reflect, be re-inspired, and receive support and encouragement to continue the journey of faith. Eighty-four adults (56%) responded “yes.”