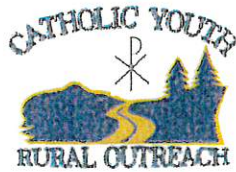


Fred Woelkers
PO Box 277
Bigfork, MT 59911



Dear parishioners,

I am writing to inform you that at the end of this fiscal year, **June 30th, 2020** I will be leaving the position as CYRO Coordinator. After much prayer and consideration with my family, I have decided that the time is right to take a step in a new direction and pursue other opportunities.

Serving your parish community through CYRO's mission the past six years has been an incredible blessing for me both personally and professionally. I will cherish the many memories and experiences from the retreats, youth events and conferences I have been a part of as the CYRO Coordinator. However what I value most from my time at CYRO are the relationships with the youth and their families that have been fostered through time on the mountain during ski retreat, hours in the car on the way to Diocesan CYC gatherings and around the table at weekly youth groups and Bible studies. I am so grateful to each youth and family that have been a part of my time at CYRO.

In the meantime, it is important you know that the coordinator position will not be filled for the coming year. For nearly 20 years, CYRO has provided excellent youth ministry in the Flathead valley and through the support and participation of many of your families, has born immeasurable fruit in the lives of our young people and our faith communities. Whether by your prayers, financial contributions, or the generosity of your time and talents, *you* and *your* families are what have made this ministry a fruitful means of encounter with Jesus Christ and the Church. Although this impactful ministry will not exist as it has for so long, the mission and vision of CYRO remains. The work of leading our young people to a relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church never stops. My hope and prayer is that our parishes will continue to work together and find new ways to walk with our youth toward deeper communion with Christ and one another.

Since it's initiation in 2002, CYRO has always belonged, not to us, but to the Lord. It is His grace that has guided us, and it is His grace that will continue to provide. Know of my deepest gratitude to all who have been a part of God's work through CYRO, and who have given generously to CYRO's mission from the very beginning. As we begin a new part of the journey, may we open our hearts to receive the grace that is being given and open our hands to faithfully do all God asks of us.

Yours in Christ,

Fred Woelkers
[CYRO Coordinator]