

Newsletter



Office of
Family Ministry
& Respect Life
and
Office of
Catechesis
& Youth

Thirst Eucharistic Conference to return to Bismarck

A free, one-day Eucharistic Conference, Thirst 2021, is set for **Saturday, Oct. 30** at the Bismarck Event Center. The general conference for adults will include various inspiring speakers including Dr. Ben Akers, Matt Fradd and Dr. Ray Guarendi (see Thirst 2021 Poster for speaker bios). The conference will also include a special Vacation Bible School (VBS) for youth ages 3 through grade 5 and the Diocesan Youth Conference (DYC) for youth grades 6-12. The VBS portion of Thirst will accept the first 250 registrants and the DYC will accept the first 275 registrants. For more information and to register any attendee for Thirst 2021, [click here](#).

Young adult formation event

Our mission is to challenge each young adult to live a life as an intentional disciple of Christ within the daily lives of her or his vocation. Thus, on **Friday, Aug. 27**, the diocese will be offering a formation event for young adult leaders of the Bismarck/Mandan area. The Executive Vice President of the University of Mary, Jerome Richter, will be giving a talk and leading a discussion on discipleship. Hospitality, food and childcare will be provided. For more information and to RSVP, [click here](#).

SEARCH

Run by the youth, for the youth, the SEARCH for Christian Maturity is a weekend retreat experience which provides youth a great opportunity to think, talk, question and dive deeper into their faith. Be sure to mark your calendar for the upcoming SEARCH weekends. The fall weekends are as follows: **Sept. 17-19** (for returning Searchers), **Oct. 8-10** and **Nov. 19-21**. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

Thank you! The BCYC and Steubenville Conferences, were a success. Please continue to pray for our young people as they return home. We would like to extend our gratitude for the chaperones and volunteers. Without them, the conference experience for our youth would not be possible.

Welcome parishioners back to Mass

Many parishes are asking themselves the same question: "What can we do to welcome people back to Mass as the COVID-19 restrictions are being lifted?" Some of their parishioners may have deeply felt separation from the Eucharist in this past year. Others ... not as much. You can serve your parish and deepen their appreciation for the Mass and the Eucharist through Ascension's newly-revised *A Biblical Walk through the Mass*.

This transformative, five-session program has been loved by thousands of parishes and small groups since it was first released in 2011. Now, with gorgeous brand-new videos, this revised edition has come at the perfect time to encourage and uplift Catholics around the country as we come back together in the holy sacrifice of the Mass.

For more information and to order a starter pack, go to AscensionPress.com/TheMass.

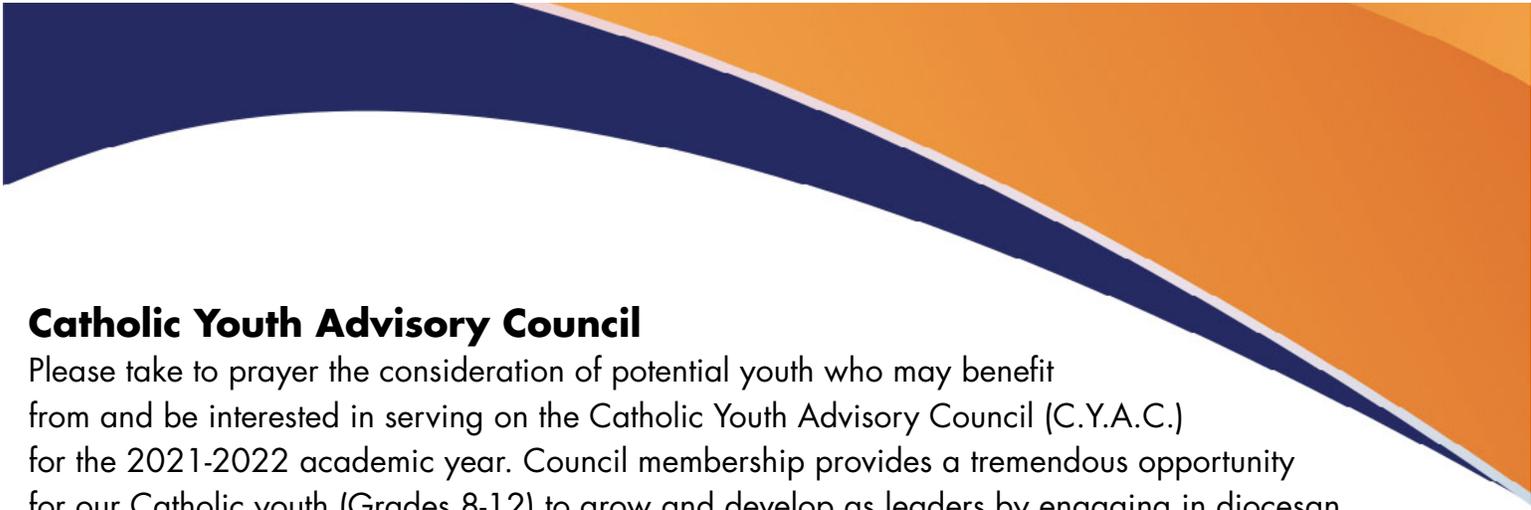
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Catholic Youth Advisory Council

Please take to prayer the consideration of potential youth who may benefit from and be interested in serving on the Catholic Youth Advisory Council (C.Y.A.C.) for the 2021-2022 academic year. Council membership provides a tremendous opportunity for our Catholic youth (Grades 8-12) to grow and develop as leaders by engaging in diocesan ministry and being formed with peers to live as missionary disciples. [Click here](#) for more information regarding C.Y.A.C. and the application to apply. If you have youth interested or who may be a great fit, feel free to give them a prayerful nudge to fill out the online application or give Chris a call or email.

Interested in Retreats for your Youth?

So as to assist the Office of Catechesis and Youth in best assisting you, please fill out [this survey](#) if you have any interest whatsoever in having a retreat hosted at your parish for the youth entrusted to your care. Thank you in advance for taking the time to fill out the brief youth retreat interest form!

Deanery Luncheons

Directors of Religious Education, Youth Ministers, and catechetical leaders: Be on the look out for more information regarding upcoming dates for Fall deanery luncheons to come together for prayer, fellowship and discussion pertaining to successful ministry. Thank you for all that you do!

