**January Combined Mailing Text for the Email**

***Initiatives:***

**Boldly Forming Disciples: Boosting Parish Religious Education and Youth Ministry Participation**

The parishes of the Archdiocese of New York minister to 2.81 million Catholics. That means that there are approximately 700,000 young people under the age of 18 in our parish communities. However, less than 100,000 are ministered to by our parish religious education, youth ministries, and Catholic schools.

To assist in the mission to boldly form disciples, the Department of Youth Faith Formation will be offering over the next few months practical resources and approaches to help parishes build the engagement of young people and their families in parish religious education and youth ministry.

**Suicide Prevention**

Suicide is a leading cause of death in young people, and it is preventable. We are asking parishes to assist in the prevention of suicide. Consider doing the following in your parishes:

1. Include the 988 graphic in your bulletin monthly
2. Hang the 988 poster(s) in visible places on your parish’s campus
3. Do a session with your high school youth using the curriculum from the Sisters of Life
4. Identify local mental health professionals that you can refer young people or families too if needed
5. Reacquaint yourself with the Parish Counseling Network

Attached is a Zip file with posters in English and Spanish, wallet cards in English and Spanish, graphics for bulletins, texts for bulletins in English and Spanish, a youth ministry session, and a list of resources for your parish leadership.

***Events:***

**Catechist Formation Program**

Our Catechist Formation Program is starting the new year with a full roster of courses. Take advantage of these formation opportunities and earn your certificate free of charge! For courses and registration information, please visit our [Ministry Formation calendar.](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https%3A/email-mg.flocknote.com/c/eJxVUcmuozAQ_JrklsjGgOHAARJIJgtvAi8LuSAwZnWAmCXA1z9mTjNSqdRV1ao-NNWgjAWMFQWiZaRhiAQsLjNNAAICECABiDJS1qISE4iVKIYhhSEGCxHErCJFWbV0TarXMtXQ3KOGIIrUIAYBxqqI4CwkqFAiigpYMi1t27pZIH0hWDM6ziIa07L52zAbPZrJ9__Zoq8gY6tXsv7v2ByQP-FhsHJudcNGvzgnfxedAqXDnrSp3sWox8V20htD5LZTJ_zElJjndW3bp_NRCL3P2zOCk_y8Xe48uen9kXXEvFip8X3evhImGV6K7S9XsaX37unJ-9VByXKX9DV43ze_vRZXzrk3ik8SPiM0PDNMCuveOulV6HwI9FhHEuxo_U2vkosngXTU5ZBMD9msvAMJmxXlydFb3YcuH0f5TvnrWvMJ76JBVr9wYt6m9gIf0hgSZqPh8O5zX-RYVXMfbC8r9dzrvr9AxkKAMzbH9piQIJxHVpB6FbEb_xUCp3l0Rzbgpoh2UWwmVjqWFBqlbAbl5FCyL_dR45tZIFhTUtD9ybg9qo1rPPISBOJuL9diVuQuXwjikmuUBetXxuinKYL5-wEnaTmuK578ALGzuxo__;!!CKtKgcab!k2qH6TqQ9xbBeDzREd7XXR0fgp8U6Iqa5UPyHDwn7HwKatx3lRdY5PNkvwGeN1pWciC0ksPsDsZiljrzUw$)  PLEASE share this with your catechists, catechetical assistants, or even those parents you think are potential catechists!

**(Show Flyer) January 12, 2023 – Igniting Faith in Middle School**

Join us for a free online seminar that will explore the world of the middle school young person and practical ways in which we can help them burn with the fire of Christ. Register at archny.org/ARCHNYLAB.

**(Show Flyer) Thursday, February 2, 2023 Fostering Eucharistic People – Webinar with Dr. Timothy O’Malley**

Join us as Dr. Timothy O’Malley shares how parish faith formation leaders can nurture a Eucharistic culture among young people and their families. Discover how liturgies of joyful reverence, formation that engages the mind and the imagination, a vibrant domestic Church, and a commitment to our neighbor lead people to a deeper embrace of Christ’s Real Presence by becoming Christ’s presence in the world.

**(Show Flyer) February 11, 2023– Edge Training**

Come experience and learn how dynamic catechetical resources, small group mentoring, and a fun, safe place can help youth people get answers to their unanswered questions. Edge is a middle school catechetical youth ministry program that will help young people experience Jesus Christ in a profound, personal way and to find a solid Catholic community in the life of the parish.

**New York Catholic Youth Day – April 22, 2023 and Middle School Rally – April 23, 2023**

Posters for NY Catholic Youth Day and the Middle School Rally are being delivered by our regional team to your parishes over the next few weeks. As you community prepares for NYCYD and the Middle School Rally, learn more about our amazing speakers:

* Cecilia Flores has been a featured speaker at Steubenville Conferences. She has served the Lord since encountering him in the Eucharist at the age of 16. She followed his call to Honduras where she lived for 6 years as a missionary. Cecilia is a wife, mother, and proud Filipina and finds joy in loving those in need, leading worship, and eating McDonald’s French fries.
* Brian Greenfield was born and raised in Washington, DC. After graduating from Gonzaga College High School, Brian attended Seton Hall University. While there, God moved powerfully in his heart and life. Brian believes that God has given him gifts to bring the message of Jesus Christ to others and knows that there is a prevailing hopelessness in this world that can only be remedied through an encounter with Christ. Brian taught theology for six years and is currently the Director of Campus Ministry at Jesuit High School in Tampa, Florida.
* Danny Ray is a magician with a Master’s in Divinity! He has spoken at national youth workers’ conferences and appeared on the CW’s *Penn and Teller’s Fool Us* and won! He knows that when people are in a state of awe and wonder, they are more open to hearing deep spiritual truth. Danny and his wife started their ministry 17 years ago.