



ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK
YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

July 17, 2019

Dear Pastor,

My team and I are so excited about **New York Catholic Youth Day** on **October 19, 2019**. It's a wonderful opportunity to extend the work you and your staff do each week to open the hearts and minds of our teens to God's love as well as a chance for them to meet their peers from parishes across the archdiocese.

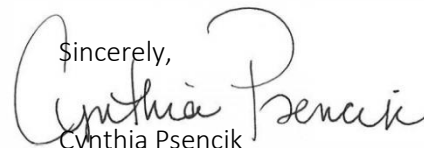
Hundreds will gather for this inspiring day that includes service, music, speakers, Mass and time for teens to get to know each other. This year, our theme is **Speak Up!** We're calling teens to speak up both in conversation with God and in the face of injustice. Whether its anxiety, depression, bullying, drugs, or any other challenge – we want them to know of God's love that helps give them the courage, confidence and commitment they need.

Your relationships with families in your community are so valuable. For this reason, I would like to ask: Can you help us connect to teens in your parish? To help ease your work, we have developed some sample messages that you can send to parents using **Flocknote** as well as a **sample bulletin announcement**.

Here is a sample email to share through Flocknote:

- Dear Parishioner,
New York Catholic Youth Day is October 19 at the Westchester County Center. This year, we're calling teens to speak up both in conversation with God and in the face of injustice. Whether it's anxiety, depression, bullying or any other challenge – God will help give them the courage, confidence and commitment they need. As your parish pastor, I think this is a great opportunity for them to connect to other teens across the archdiocese. At New York Catholic Youth Day, they will take part in packaging meals for the hungry and Mass with Cardinal Dolan. There will be live music, theatre and speakers that we hope will inspire them to think about what speaking up means to them. We'd love to have your teen join us! For more information, visit www.oymny.org/nycyd.
<your signature>
- For your parish bulletin:
Registration is open for New York Catholic Youth Day!
Service, Music, Speakers, Mass and Adoration
October 19, 2019 Westchester County Center
Visit www.oymny.org/NYCYD for more information or contact (insert parish Youth Minister or Adult Coordinator)
- Mention New York Catholic Youth Day at the end of Sunday Mass or invite a teen who participated in 2018 to speak.

We couldn't pull off a day like this for our teens without the help of our parish communities. Thank you for your help speaking up about New York Catholic Youth Day!

Sincerely,

Cynthia Psencik
Director, Office of Youth Ministry