Journeying Together
A National Intercultural Encounter for Ministries with Youth & Young Adults
July 2020 | Cleveland, Ohio

Hosted by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Committee on Cultural Diversity in the Church with the Secretariats of Catholic Education and of Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth in collaboration with the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry and the National Dialogue on Catholic Pastoral Ministry with Youth and Young Adults

Event Participant Profiles

There are two key groups being invited to attend this gathering: young adults and ministry leaders.

The focus of the Journeying Together event is to celebrate the many cultures that make up the Catholic Church and to learn from each other about addressing cultural needs in the Church. It will be an opportunity for participants to explore key issues related to the Church’s engagement with young people in light of Pope Francis’ exhortation Christus Vivit, and to develop recommendations and concrete action steps for the future.

For each of the six cultural communities, there will be 50 representatives including young adults and ministry leaders. To ensure representativity of cultural families and diversity of ministries, the Journeying Together Planning Team reserves the right to determine which candidates are finally selected to participate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Young Adult Participants</th>
<th>Ministry Leader Participants</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Must be between age 18 and 39</td>
<td>Lay, religious, or ordained</td>
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<tr>
<td>Can be single, engaged, or married, with or without children</td>
<td>Can be paid staff or volunteer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Passionate about their Catholic faith</td>
<td>In an authorized leadership role working with youth, collegians, or young adults within a parish, campus, arch/diocese, movement, or Catholic organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Either already involved as a leader within their local Catholic community, or discerning leadership on some capacity, looking to be a catalyst for change in Church and/or society</td>
<td>Passionate about their Catholic faith, as well as about engaging young people</td>
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<td>Representative of or able to listen to the needs and experiences of other young people from their cultural community</td>
<td>Representative of or able to listen to the needs and experiences of other pastoral leaders from their cultural community</td>
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<tr>
<td>Open to working collaboratively with young adults of other cultural families and with Church ministry leaders</td>
<td>Open to working collaboratively with ministry leaders and with the young adults from all cultural families</td>
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<td>Nominated by a bishop or ministry leader from their parish, diocese, movement, or national organization</td>
<td>Nominated by a bishop or ministry leader from their parish, diocese, movement, or national organization; they can also nominate themselves</td>
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Ministry has to be synodal; it should involve a “journeying together” ... in this spirit, we can move towards a participatory and co-responsible Church, one capable of appreciating its own rich variety... In this way, by learning from one another, we can better reflect the wonderful multifaceted reality that Christ’s Church is meant to be. Christus Vivit, 206, 207

**Journeying Together** takes place July 23-26, 2020 at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio.

This national intercultural encounter is a unique event in the life of the Church in the United States and a truly synodal effort: a collaboration of several initiatives and offices within the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (including Cultural Diversity in the Church, the principal convener, Along with youth and young adult ministries within the Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, and higher education and campus ministry within the Secretariat of Catholic Education), together with the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM) and the National Dialogue on Catholic Pastoral Ministry with Youth and Young Adults.

**For more information** about the invitation process or the criteria for participation, feel free to reach out to one or more of the individuals from the Journeying Together Core Team listed below:

- **Mar Muñoz-Visoso**, USCCB Cultural Diversity in the Church, mmunoz-visoso@usccb.org
- **Paul Jarzembowski**, USCCB Youth and Young Adult Ministries, pjarzembowski@usccb.org
- **Barbara McCrabb**, USCCB Higher Education and Campus Ministry, bmccrabb@usccb.org
- **Darius Villalobos**, NFCYM Director of Diversity and Inclusion, dariusv@nfcym.org
- **Donna Grimes**, USCCB African American Affairs, dgrimes@usccb.org
- **Sr. Myrna Tordillo**, USCCB Asian and Pacific Island Affairs, mtordillo@usccb.org
- **Alejandro Aguilera-Titus**, USCCB Hispanic Affairs, aaguilera-titus@usccb.org
- **Fr. Mike Carson**, USCCB Native American Affairs, mcarson@usccb.org
- **Sr. Joanna Okereke**, USCCB Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees, and Travelers, jokereke@usccb.org
- **Yolanda Taylor-Burwell**, USCCB Cultural Diversity in the Church, ytaylor-burwell@usccb.org

If we **journey together**, young and old, we can be firmly rooted in the present, and from here, revisit the past and look to the future. To revisit the past in order to learn from history and heal old wounds that at times still trouble us. To look to the future in order to nourish our enthusiasm, cause dreams to emerge, awaken prophecies, and enable hope to blossom. Together, we can learn from one another, warm hearts, inspire minds with the light of the Gospel, and lend new strength to our hands. Christus Vivit, 199