

Annual Report on Children, Youth & Families (CYF) October 2024 – September 2025

Resourcing Parishes

I am working alongside my Diocesan Youth and Family Worker colleagues to compile resources and make them available to parishes. We continue to offer a partnership with Storymakers, a nonprofit that offers versatile resources and Sunday School subscriptions for churches. We also have access to various curriculum and can make these available to parishes as needed. I am available to visit churches and facilitate workshops or informal group discussions about their specific needs for CYF ministry. I also send out a regular CYF newsletter with news and updates from around the Diocese and the wider Episcopal Church.

Trainings

- I joined “Sewing Seeds in the Sand” for a training in the Diocese of Chicago- dismantling racism through storytelling. I am trained in this method of storytelling and can share with congregations, and this can be used for all ages—children to adults!
- We also hosted Bird Treacy, a certified Godly Play trainer, in July. We had 12 attendees from 4 different entities.
- I joined Forma at Claggett Center in January 2025. We can offer scholarships for formation leaders around the Diocese to attend Forma. The next Forma conference is in Colorado in January 2026.

Parishes can be in touch with me about future training needs.

Children, Youth, and Family Workers & Volunteer Support

- In fall 24, I hosted CYF Coffee Chats that rotated around the Diocese to support CYF workers and volunteers. I also hosted a monthly youth Bible study that included a Bible study format and “Ask a Priest”: an open time for questions with a different priest (or our very own Bishop Scanlan) featured each month.
- In February 2025, I attended and supported the Absalom Jones’ Day contest for youth with Dr. Catherine Meeks. This is an event that happens each year and welcomes child and youth participation from around the Diocese to submit entries on a theme, and to attend.
- In June 2025, I hosted a CYF end of the school year luncheon to share ideas, challenges, and support. I also supported a regional VBS in the Harrisburg Convocation that brought together children and volunteers from 4 local parishes.
- Also in June 2025, I attended Tioga County Pride along with the Bishop and other clergy in support of the LGBTQ+ community in the region.
- I am available for phone calls, in person visits to parishes, or to meet with CYF leaders around the Diocese.

Province 3 Engagement

- I serve on the planning team for Province 3 formation, and we are currently planning a workshop on countering Christian Nationalism, particularly in working with youth.
- We had 2 youth serve on the Province 3 youth retreat (PYE) planning team last spring, and 2 other youth participants. We held the retreat at the Claggett Center where about 40 youth joined from around Province 3.
- Fr. Celal Kamran was our guest speaker for the event and we had wonderful adult chaperones including Fr. Ken Wagner-Pizza (who also assisted with planning) and Autumn Warner from Trinity Williamsport.
- This year, the P3 retreat is planned for March 20-22, 2026 and will be held at Claggett Center again. We will be looking for youth leaders for the planning team. This event offers youth an

opportunity to join with other youth from around the Province and brings together a diverse group of youth and adults for fellowship, worship, learning, and lots of fun and joy in a beautiful space!

Diocesan Convention

We will feature a youth panel and video from children, youth and young adults around both Dioceses. We continue to offer childcare for children 0-13, and 14 and up can join for the panel and convention events.

Upcoming Events

- P3 Youth Event: March 20-22, 2026, Claggett Center (youth in 11th and 12th grade are invited to join the youth planning team)
- Oct. 4, 4-5:30pm virtual & Nov. 14-15th: Indigenous Justice Pilgrimage (youth in 11th and 12th grade can apply to attend)

Respectfully submitted,

Micalagh Moritz
Canon for Children, Youth, and Families