



Diocese of
CROOKSTON

www.crookston.org

Office of Formation in Discipleship

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August 29, 2024

Dear Youth Ministers,

The 2024 Diocese of Crookston Youth Conference will be held Sunday, September 29th at the Sanford Center in Bemidji. The theme of this year's conference is *Fish*, inspired by Jesus' invitation in Matthew 4:19: "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." As we continue year three of the Eucharistic Revival, we are reminded of our baptismal call to "boldly (spread) the Good News of Christ's Eucharistic love and mercy in word and deed" as missionary disciples.

Bishop Andrew Cozzens will accompany the participants throughout the day, sharing his witness and celebrating Mass with us. Nationally known evangelist, **Brian Greenfield**, will share a motivational message with our youth that will both encourage and challenge us. Back by popular demand, **Sister Elfie Del Rosario, FMA**, will share a spirited message of the role of joy in evangelization. **Father Bryan Kujawa** of St. Francis Xavier's in Oklee, St. Ann's in Goodridge, and St. Clement's in Grygla, and **Hope Bach**, Youth Minister of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Crookston will share a message of how you and I, as disciples of Jesus Christ, can join his mission of transforming the world. **Naomi Ringhand** and the **Bethany House Missionaries** from Virginia, MN will share with us practical, but courageous ways to share our faith and spread Jesus' love to others. Throughout the day, we will be accompanied in music, worship and praise by **Jon Martin** and his **band**.

The day will begin with worship and praise and end with Mass. There will be many fun and interactive activities, local vendors, inspirational talks, and time for authentic community and prayer.

As you read the details below, please note that there are a few changes to this year's format, including the registration, the final Mass and supper.

FISH

Date	Sunday, September 29
Time	10 AM – 5:30 PM
Location	Sanford Center Convention Center 111 Event Center Dr NE – Bemidji
Participation	Youth grades 6 – 12 With special breakout session for parents, chaperones, and youth ministers.
Cost	\$60 per participant (youth and adult)
Dress	Active but Modest Clothing
Spending \$	There will be opportunities to purchase items from vendors, and we are working out the possibility of having concessions.

Schedule*

9:30 – 10:00 A.M.	Registration
10:15 – 11:30 A.M.	Opening Session: Keynote – Brian Greenfield
11:30 – 1:00 P.M.	Lunch and Activities
1:00 P.M.	Keynote – Sister Elfie Del Rosario
2:00 P.M.	Breakout Sessions
3:00 P.M.	Adoration with Bishop Cozzens
4:30 P.M.	Closing Mass
5:30 P.M.	Supper**

*Schedule is subject to modifications; however, the beginning time and the ending time will not be changed.

Registration Process

The registration process is a little different than last year's registration process. It will be important to have youth registered by 12:00 P.M. - Friday, September 20, with late additions posted no later than Monday, September 23. This is important as the Sanford Center will need an accurate food count.

There will be two categories for registration:

→Youth attending with a youth group / youth minister.

Most parishes will likely be attending the conference in parish groups. Here are the registration instructions for parish groups / youth groups attending.

1. Please have at least one chaperone for every seven youth in attendance (Feel free to also invite parents who you think would enjoy the content of the day).
2. Please download the following forms and distribute those forms to your youth and adults. asking them to turn them in to you with enough time for you to register names and numbers by Friday, September 20 at noon.
 - a) Youth Liability Form and Medical Matters Form
 - b) Adult Liability Form
3. Confirm that your accompanying adults are **Safe-Environment Certified** by Friday, September 20. <https://www.crookston.org/secertification/81-certification>

Super-Important for Youth Minister or Parish Lead Point Person:

4. Please **register all your names** of youth and adults attending by **Friday, September 20 at 12:00 P.M.**, You can register those names at www.crookston.org/dcyc or go directly to the form by clicking this [LINK](#).
5. If by Friday, September 20, you have an incomplete list but anticipate others to turn in their forms to you, please contact Anna Kliner akliner@crookston.org right away by email and communicate your situation with her, for example... "I anticipate that we will have seven more coming, etc." This is very important as we need to get as accurate a lunch and supper count as possible by Friday, September 20 at noon.
6. Attached/Enclosed is a tracking form for your use.
7. Parish will be billed following the conference for actual number in attendance.
8. Please note that we have a maximum attendance capacity of 500 participants this year. For reference, last year there were 450 participants in attendance.

→Youth attending with a parent

We realize that not all parishes will be attending with youth groups and there may be guests from outside the diocese. In these cases, youth may attend, but must be accompanied by a parent.

For youth attending with a parent, please complete the youth liability form and adult liability form found at www.crookston.org/dcyc. Also, please complete the registration form at www.crookston.org/dcyc.

Youth attending with parents will pay at the door - \$60.00 per person. Checks written out to: Diocese of Crookston.

Meal Information

Lunch will include pulled pork sandwiches on brioche buns, baked beans, potato salad, lettuce salad, macaroni and cheese, tea, water and a cookie. There are **gluten-free options** for the lunch meal.

****Supper is available for \$5.00 per person.** Youth ministers who request the supper option, please include that information on your registration form. The supper option is Domino's Pizza, dessert (cookie or bar) and a bottle of water. It will be available for pickup at the community room in the Country Inn & Suites next door to the Convention Center. Supper will be a "grab and go" this year. Participants with specific food allergies or other food accommodation needs are welcome to bring a sack lunch as well.

Parking

Parking is available in the Sanford Center Parking Lot. There is no charge for parking.

If you have any questions about registration, or other needs, please contact Anna Kliner at akliner@crookston.org.

We look forward to a great conference in Bemidji. We hope this works for you and your youth!

In Christ,

Bob Noel, Misty Mehrkens, Cassandra Johnson, Deacon Mark Krejci, and Anna Kliner