

January 2026 CYO Newsletter



HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

I hope you all had a restful, rejuvenating, and blessed Christmas and New Year. As we begin 2026, I am especially grateful for the CYO community at St. Dominic. With the tremendous support of our clergy, Youth Board, and Peer Ministry Team, 2025 was a year filled with faith, fellowship, and growth.

This past year, we hosted both a Spring Retreat and a Winter Retreat, welcoming over 150 combined participants. In July, we filled a bus for our trip to Walt Disney World and Universal Studios, where we strengthened friendships and built community while having a lot of fun. Throughout the year, our teens participated in dozens of service projects, earning hundreds of service hours. In May, we were also excited to welcome nearly 100 new CYO members. Our athletic programs continued to thrive as well, with two basketball teams, two spring volleyball teams, two cabbageball teams, and two fall volleyball teams representing St. Dominic. Looking back on all that CYO accomplished in 2025, I am deeply thankful for every student and family who participated—whether in one activity or many.

As we look ahead to 2026, I encourage every CYO member to prayerfully consider how they can continue to stay involved. Spring Retreat is scheduled for March 27–28, and information about our Summer Trip to Cedar Point will be shared later this month. The Youth Board has also decided to bring back MORP, so be on the lookout for more details soon.

I look forward to seeing you at many CYO events in the coming year. As always, please feel free to reach out to me or any Youth Board member with ideas, feedback, or suggestions for future programming.

Peace,

Courtney Jansen
Director of Youth Ministry
St. Dominic Parish

JANUARY UPCOMING EVENTS

January Mass & Monthly Meeting – Sunday, January 18

Time: 5:30 PM CYO Mass in church followed by a meeting from 6:30–8:15 PM in the gym

Kick off the new year with us at our January CYO meeting! We'll take a quick look back at all the great moments from 2025, share exciting details about our summer trip, and enjoy some fun games—including BINGO. Don't miss a night of community, laughter, and looking ahead to what's next!

If you are interested in serving in one of the various ministries during Mass, please contact Anna Holloway or speak to her before Mass.

For planning purposes, please text "JANUARY" to (504) 445-8345 by noon on January 18 if you plan on attending.

MLK Day On, Not Off – Monday, January 19

Time: 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Place: Meet at CYO Office Building (2241 Mendez St. New Orleans, LA 70122)

Bring: Permission form will be emailed to those who register. The event is free and includes lunch.

The CYO Office, in collaboration with the Office of Black Catholic Ministries, and the Department of Catholic Education and Faith Formation, invites and encourages parish groups to participate in the annual Martin Luther King Jr. "Day On, Not Off" Service Day. The event is a service day which invites participants to make a positive contribution to society in remembrance of the gifts given by Dr. King. Participants will gather for a prayer service, and then are sent out into the community to serve those who are in need. Projects range from planting in community gardens to serving the homeless at one of our local shelters.

To RSVP, text MLK to (504) 445-8345 by Monday, January 12 to sign up.

March for Life Trip to Washington, DC

Seven St. Dominic CYO members along with Courtney and Fr. Jeff will travel as part of the archdiocesan youth trip from January 20–25, 2026 to Washington, D.C. to participate in the annual March for Life. The trip includes the Louisiana Right to Life "Geaux Forth" youth rally, time at the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, the March for Life, and area Washington sites such as the Smithsonian Museums. Please pray for all traveling on this pilgrimage!

St. Dominic Parish Mission - January 13-15

Time: 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Place: Siena Room in the Rectory



Sr. Joseph Andrew Bogdanowic, OP will offer a Parish Mission on Tuesday, January 13–Thursday, January 15. Come for one evening or all 3! It is a great way to begin the year with spiritual reflection on The Eucharist. Morning and evening talks are available and more details are available in the [parish bulletin](#).

Tuesday's Theme: "In Memoriam: The Wolf and the Lamb will lie down together" – highlights the historical and spiritual progression through time and into the deeper holiness that culminates in our reception of the Holy Eucharist at Mass.

Wednesday's Theme: "Agnus Dei: Like a gentle Lamb led to the slaughter" – a study on psychological afflictions of our world today. Highlights the reality of our fallen nature as we remain in essential need of the One Perfect Love who is Jesus Christ who we receive in Holy Communion.

Thursday's Theme: "Mary, Mother of the Eucharist – 'I watched as the Lamb opened the first of Seven Seals... Come'" – A reflection on venerating the Mother of God whose love brought Divinity to share in our humanity!

TEC Retreat

Current juniors and seniors are invited to apply for the next TEC (Teens Encounter Christ) retreat being held January 17-19, 2026, at Rosaryville Retreat Center in Ponchatoula. TEC is a great opportunity to deepen your relationship with Jesus, meet new people, and experience a faith community. For more information and to register go to www.tecneworleans.com. Let Courtney know if you plan to register.

PLAN AHEAD

Leadership Meetings

- Youth Board - Sunday, January 4 from 6:30-7:30 PM in the Siena Room
- Peer Ministry Team - Sunday, January 18 after the CYO Meeting

Winter & Spring Save the Date

February

- Sunday, February 1 - Joint CYO Meeting & Confirmation Formation Class
- Saturday, February 28 - Volunteer opportunity at Archdiocese of New Orleans Men's Conference

March

- Sunday, March 1 - March CYO Meeting
- Friday, March 6 - Volunteer opportunity at St. Dominic Dad/Daughter Dance
- Saturday, March 21 - MORP
- March 27-28 - Spring Retreat

April

- Friday, April 3 - Good Friday Walk of the 9 Churches
- Sunday, April 12 - April CYO Meeting
- Sunday, April 19 - St. Dominic Parish Fair
- Wednesday, April 29 - Sacrament of Confirmation