We knew it was coming. January 2024 is here.

White sales commence. Christmas items are replaced by storage bins on the shelves at Target and Walmart. Rich, indulgent foods make way for salads and lighter fare. A request for a *little* snow is included in my daily prayers.

At the Diocese, too, a new year means certain happenings are on the horizon.

One such event is the Diocesan Youth Conference (DYC), which will be held the weekend of February 9-11 at the Greater Richmond Convention Center. This is an annual weekend event that gathers high school youth from Diocese of Richmond parishes in one central location. DYC is a highly energetic and engaging opportunity for our high school teenagers to gather as a larger Church community and celebrate the richness of our Catholic faith.

Each year hundreds of teenagers attend, so this is a well-established event in our Diocese. However, in case you would still like to register your teen, you can do it <u>here</u>. Act fast, though, because registration ends this weekend.

By the way, when I spoke with Andrew Waring, Director of the Office of Evangelization that puts on the conference, he asked me to thank you. Why? Because when you support the Annual Diocesan Appeal, you are supporting the DYC. Each year, the Office of Evangelization receives funding from the ADA to offset expenses of the DYC so that registration fees can remain very low. So Andrew thanks you, and I do, too.

I hope your year is off to a smooth start. I think some of you may even get that snow I've been hoping for.

God Bless,

Margaret

Margaret Keightley

Executive Director

Catholic Community Foundation of the Diocese of Richmond