



## **Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA**

Office of Youth Ministry

Office of Young Adult Ministries

*World Youth Day 2008 Planning Resource*



**WORLD YOUTH DAY 2008**  
MILITARY ORDINARIATE OF AUSTRALIA

*You will receive power when the Holy Spirit  
has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses. (ACTS 1:8)*

### **Military Days in the Diocese**

**July 10-14, 2008**

**Canberra, Australia**

### **World Youth Day 2008**

**Sydney, Australia**

**July 15-20, 2008**

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*September 2006/Updated November 2006*

**Please read this special invitation from Bishop Max Davis  
of the Catholic Diocese of the Australian Defence Force**

*Military Days in the Diocese*

My sisters and brothers in Christ,

A great many young Catholics from all corners of the world are expected to descend upon the city of Sydney to proclaim and celebrate their faith at World Youth Day 2008.

In response to His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI's announcement in Cologne on 21 August 2005 that Sydney will host the next World Youth Day, the Catholic Diocese of the Australian Defence Force (or the Military Ordinariate of Australia) is excited to be involved in welcoming and hosting our Catholic military sisters and brothers from around the world. Already, our diocese is represented on one of the World Youth Day 08 committees, and we are working alongside the Archdiocese of Sydney to give our fellow military pilgrims the best possible experience during their time in Australia – both spiritually and culturally.

July 2008 marks an exciting time for the Catholic Church in Australia as the world will gather in the peace and unity of the Holy Spirit. This will be symbolic due to the troubled world we live in. Many of us have colleagues and friends who are currently deployed in harm's way, serving their country, and the unity and friendship of World Youth Day will be an excellent opportunity to gather as an international community to pray for and promote peace. This is particularly reflected in the Pentecostal theme of World Youth Day 2008, ***"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses" (Acts 1:8)***. Through the Holy Spirit, the love and peace which our Lord Jesus Christ left us upon His ascension into Heaven gives us all hope in becoming God's agents for peace, freedom and security. This warm flame of the Holy Spirit burns inside each of us.

I look forward in that hope, to a gathering of many Catholic military members in Australia in July 2008. We will be honoured to celebrate and be witnesses to the power of the Holy Spirit with you all. As highlighted on this website, our Diocese's plans for the international military community include "days" of spiritual and cultural exchange in Canberra, our nation's capital, prior to World Youth Day. Then, we intend to pilgrimage to Sydney to celebrate the love of the risen Christ with the Holy Father and the rest of the world.

We give thanks to the Lord for this opportunity to welcome the world into our hearts, and we place our efforts always under the care of Mary, Help of Christians, our Patroness.

I look forward to seeing you all in Australia in 2008.


Yours in Christ,

**+ Max L Davis**  
Catholic Bishop of the Australian Defence Force

*Resource for U.S. military chapel groups interested in participating in the 23<sup>rd</sup> celebration of WYD 2008*

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## **1) A Special Invitation – Military Pilgrims Gather to Pray for Peace**

The Catholic Diocese of the Australian Defence Force invites military connected youth and young adults from military dioceses around the world to gather as pilgrims to pray for peace. Read more about the invitation to participate in this international gathering of military pilgrims to be a source of hope and a witness to the power of the Holy Spirit. [Australian Defence Force WYD 2008 Invitation Booklet](#)  (893 KB PDF).

The Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA highly encourages WYD pilgrims to participate in the wonderful opportunity of Days in the Diocese with the Catholic Diocese of the Australian Defence Force. This unique opportunity will encourage interaction with military pilgrims from Catholic Military Dioceses around the world. View the PDF brochure and the web site developed by the Australian Military Vicariate for detailed and updated information. <http://www.military.catholic.org.au/wyd2008/>

## **2) What is World Youth Day?**

In 1985, Pope John Paul II invited young people from around the world to join him in Rome on Palm Sunday to observe the United Nations International Year of Youth. At this gathering, the Holy Father initiated World Youth Day. In addition to the annual celebration of World Youth Day, the pope invites young people from around the world to gather with him every other year or so for the international gathering of World Youth Day.

## **3) When is World Youth Day?**

World Youth Day is a week long event that will be held in Sydney, Australia from August 15-20, 2008. A week of local celebrations called *Days in the Diocese* will be held the week prior to WYD. *Days in the Diocese* allow for the opportunity to connect with youth and families in a local Australian or New Zealand diocese to participate in activities, prayers and celebrations that the local diocese has organized. The *Catholic Diocese of the Australian Defence Force* offers a wonderful opportunity to gather in the capitol of Australia, Canberra, for cultural and spiritual exchanges among WYD pilgrims connected to military life around the world.

#### **4) What is the World Youth Day schedule?**

A copy of the official WYD2008 proposed schedule may be found online, it is also listed below:

##### ***Proposed WYD 2008 Program of Events***

<i>Registration</i>	July 14, 2008, Monday
<i>Opening Mass and Welcome by George Cardinal Pell</i>	July 15, 2008, Tuesday
<i>Catechesis sessions every morning and festival events in the afternoon/evening</i>	July 16 - July 18, 2008
<i>Arrival and Welcome of the Holy Father</i>	July 17, 2008, Thursday
<i>Stations of the Cross</i>	July 18, 2008, Friday
<i>Pilgrimage walk to site of Closing Mass, evening vigil with Holy Father and sleep put 'under the stars'</i>	July 19, 2008, Saturday
<i>Closing Mass and concluding events</i>	July 20, 2008, Sunday

The finalized program of events will be posted on the WYD 2008 website:

<http://www.wyd2008.org/index.php/en/wyd08/program>

#### **5) How do we register for World Youth Day?**

There are several ways to register for World Youth Day. A local diocese may organize a trip. A chapel group may organize a trip. An ecclesiastical movement group may organize a trip. A travel agency may organize a trip.

Since the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA is comprised of 220 military installations around the world we encourage military chapel groups to register as a chapel group to participate in Days in the Diocese and WYD 2008. The Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA will plan to host an event to gather all participants from U.S. Military installations. Contact the AMS Office of Youth Ministry for further information in February 2008.

The AMS office of youth and young adult ministry will assist in connecting your chapel group with a local diocese and offer information for chapel groups that would like to register as their own group.

Travel agencies also offer trips to World Youth Day. These trips, which are completely planned, can be an expensive way to participate in WYD.

#### **6) When does World Youth Day registration begin?**

The official World Youth Day online registration will begin online in July 2007. The following excerpt comes from the official WYD newsletter:

Take care to look for the registration deadline when all registrations must be completed. For more information log onto: [www.wyd2008.org](http://www.wyd2008.org). Please note that the Catholic Diocese of the Australian Defence Force is working on setting up a separate registration site for WYD Pilgrims from Military Dioceses. Further information will be made available on the AMS web site.

## **7) Important Considerations**

### ***Registration***

U.S. military chapel groups that register as their own group are encouraged to list their group under the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA. The AMS office of youth ministry will receive a list of participants that register this way from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. This will enable us to provide your group leader with updates and information about our planned gathering for WYD participants from U.S. military installations in Sydney, Australia. The group leader (primary contact) is the person coordinating your group trip. The group leader is responsible for registration and making the appropriate payments for all participants.

### ***Minimum Age***

The official ages for participation in World Youth Day are 16-30. The Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA expects military chapel groups to adhere to the minimum age requirement set by the World Youth Day Committee.

### ***Travel Documents***

All military chapel group participants (youth, young adult and adult leaders) must travel with a U.S. passport, travel visa (consult WYD 2008 website for further information) and the official WYD participation certificate. It is strongly recommended that US military chapel group participants also travel with their US military ID card. Group leaders are highly encouraged to register their group travel plans with the U.S. Consulate in Australia, <http://sydney.usconsulate.gov/sydney/index.html>.

### ***Adult Leaders***

The Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA strongly recommends that military chapel groups bring one adult chaperone (age 21 or older) for every five youth participants between the ages of 16-17 years old.

For example, if you register 23 youth between the ages of 16-17 you ought to also bring 5 adult chaperones. World Youth Day is a long week of prayer, catechesis and celebrations. It is easier to travel in smaller groups (with adult chaperones for those under 18 years of age) and gather together in the evening to reflect upon the experiences of the day. This also presents an opportunity for prayer and updates regarding important information about the upcoming day.

### ***Simple Accommodation***

Many dioceses from the United States participate in World Youth Day by making all of their arrangements through a travel agency or tour company. These package deals include housing in hotels. One of the purposes of World Youth Day is to engage and connect with other cultures. Simple accommodation is also offered which dramatically reduces the total cost of participation in WYD. Simple accommodation includes small groups of people staying in a family home or larger groups staying in a church, hostel, or school. While the conditions may be rustic the experience is rich. Consider simple accommodation as an option for your group. This would mean that you would only need to make flight arrangements and register your group for WYD (unless you plan to visit other places throughout Europe where accommodation would be necessary.) For those that would prefer to not use simple accommodation there is a list of hostels and hotels on the official WYD web site.

### ***Military Pilgrim Housing***

The Catholic Diocese of the Australian Defence Force is working on securing housing for military pilgrims that will be attending World Youth Day in Sydney 2008. Group leaders that register on the special section for military pilgrims will receive more information about this wonderful opportunity to interact with pilgrims of military dioceses around the world.

## **8) Fundraising**

International travel is expensive. Planning for fundraising in your local community can help to significantly reduce the total per person participant cost. As of September 2006, the expected cost of WYD 2008 participant registration with simple accommodation was expected to be below \$300.00 U.S. dollars. Participant costs for WYD 2008 include the registration fee, roundtrip flight, spending money as well as any additional travel outside of Sydney that your group plans.

The most inexpensive way to attend World Youth Day is to sign up for the Simple Accommodation Option (see above – Important Considerations). Often the most expensive part of WYD includes the transportation costs. This cost will be significant for those traveling from the United States, Europe and Asia. Once you are in Sydney and have picked up your registration materials you will have a public transportation pass that will enable you to ride the trains and other modes of public transport.

### ***Fundraising Suggestions***

- a) Consult your Catholic Chaplain about local fundraising regulations and possibilities.
- b) Request the possibility of a designated offering from the Catholic faith community. The national celebration of World Youth Day is held annually on the 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the year. Consult the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry Resource Manual for ideas on contributing to the liturgical celebration in your community. This could be a good weekend to raise awareness and request a designated offering.
- c) Seek input from the other parish organizations about raising funds. Ask for their assistance to help support participants from your community.
- d) Ask potential participants for ideas they have about fundraising.
- e) Seek information about grants from your local community. Spouses clubs, community organizations and church groups such as the Knights of Columbus may offer some sort of assistance.
- f) The Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA is a Home Missions diocese. In the past the Home Missions committee has granted a small amount of funds to encourage participation in World Youth Day. Should we receive those funds again an application form will be made available online at [www.milarch.org](http://www.milarch.org).

## **9) Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA Gathering at WYD 2008**

The AMS office of youth ministry in partnership with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Vocations hosted a gathering of 400 U.S. military participants at World Youth Day 2005 in Cologne, Germany. It was held on Friday evening so that all of the members of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA could pray the Stations of the Cross together and pray for vocations in the U.S. Armed Forces.

The AMS office of youth ministry is currently in conversation with the official World Youth Day committee in Sydney to request an appropriate time and location to gather WYD participants from U.S. military bases around the world. Watch the AMS web site for further information, [www.milarch.org](http://www.milarch.org).

## 10) Links and Resources

*The following represent online links for further information.*

The official World Youth Day 2008 web site:

<http://www.wyd2008.org>

The E-Pilgrimage from the WYD 2008 web site, monthly online resource:

<http://www.wyd2008.org>

The Catholic Diocese of the Australian Defence Force

<http://www.military.catholic.org.au/wyd2008/>

PDF Invitation Brochure from the Catholic Diocese of the Australian Defence Force

[http://www.nfcym.org/catholicym/documents/ADF\\_WYD\\_booklet\\_12Oct06.pdf](http://www.nfcym.org/catholicym/documents/ADF_WYD_booklet_12Oct06.pdf)

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Department of Family, Laity, Women and Youth, offers e-mail updates for group leaders along with important registration information:

<http://www.usccb.org/laity/youth/wyd.shtml>

World Youth Day messages from Pope John Paul II:

[http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/john\\_paul\\_ii/messages/youth/index.htm](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/messages/youth/index.htm)

The NFCYM 2006, 2007, 2008 Youth Ministry Resource Manual:

<http://www.nfcym.org>

The Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA web site:

<http://www.milarch.org>

The Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA

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## **11) A Prayer for World Youth Day 2008**

God Our Father,  
we consecrate to you the World Youth Day in Sydney in 2008.  
Guide and protect Pope Benedict and all the leaders of the Church.  
Inspire and direct all those leading and planning the World Youth Day. Unite and protect them by  
your fatherly care.  
Amen

Lord Jesus Christ,  
before you ascended to the Father,  
you promised to send your Holy Spirit so that we might be your witnesses to the end of the earth.  
Bless and multiply the efforts of all our staff and volunteers.  
Help us to take up our cross and follow you  
under the heavenly sign of the Southern Cross.  
Amen

Holy Spirit,  
pour out your grace on this Great South Land  
of the Holy Spirit and grant to us a New Pentecost.  
Make of this land a true place of welcome  
for the young people of the world.  
Grant to those young people who come conversion of life,  
a deeper faith, and love for all.  
Enable them to build a new civilization of life, love and truth.  
Make them true witnesses to your power and grace.  
Amen

Our Lady of the Southern Cross, Help of Christians - pray for us.

Blessed Mary MacKillop - pray for us.

*(This prayer is located on the official WYD 2008 website: <http://www.wyd2008.org/index.php/en/wyd08/prayer>)*