

2008 WORLD YOUTH DAY

Sydney, Australia

World Youth Day is the largest youth event in the world and will be held in Sydney from 15-20 July 2008.

Organised by the Catholic Church, world Youth Day gathers young people from around the world to build bridges of friendship and hope between continents, peoples and cultures.

In August 2005, Sydney was chosen to host the XXIII World Youth Day. The announcement was made by Pope Benedict XVI in Cologne at the conclusion of the XX World Youth Day in August 2005.

All Australians were thrilled to hear these words in August 2005, when Pope Benedict XVI announced Sydney as the host of the XXIII World Youth Day.

World Youth Day 2008 will be the occasion of the first visit of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI to Australia we very much look forward to welcoming him to the "Southern Land of the Holy Spirit"

The Handover of the World Youth Day Cross and Icon of Our Lady took place in Rome. Both religious items are on a journey around the world to visit religious places.

Throughout the World Youth Day 2008 experience, young people from throughout the world will make a pilgrimage in faith, meet, and experience hospitality and the love of God. The young people will have an opportunity to rediscover their baptismal calling and the centrality of the sacraments of the Eucharist and reconciliation, and so discover a new apostolic to witness more fully the Gospel in the modern world.

