



News from the

Catholic Diocese of Palm Beach

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NEWS RELEASE

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Young Church of Palm Beach plans pilgrimage to Madrid, Spain for WYD '11 with the Holy Father

Want to be part of something big? The Diocese of Palm Beach invites young Catholics ages 16 – 35 to join in pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Madrid, Spain August 11 – 22, 2011. World Youth Day is a great meeting of young people from all over the world gathered around the Vicar of Christ, our Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI. It is one of the primary means by which the Church proclaims the message of Christ to young people. The theme for the 2011 WYD is “*Rooted and built up in Jesus Christ, Firm in the Faith.*” (Col 2:7)

Established in 1984 by the late and great Pope John Paul II, World Youth Day is an evangelical biannual endeavor in which the Church manifests its constant concern for youth. The primary objective of WYD is to make the message of Christ known to all young people worldwide, bringing together youth from dioceses from all corners of the globe. World Youth Day is an unbelievable weeklong spiritual journey where pilgrims from all over the world unite to share their faith for a week long period of faith building and encounter which includes prayer, song, concerts, drama, sharing, liturgy, catechesis, and an unforgettable vigil and closing mass with the Holy Father. Since its inception, WYD has been held in Argentina ('87), Spain ('89), Poland ('91), U.S. ('93), Philippines ('95), France ('97), Italy ('00), Canada ('02), Germany ('05), and Australia ('08).

Teens and young adults from the 53 parishes and missions in the five county Catholic Diocese of Palm Beach are invited to partake in this life changing experience. Plans are underway now and registration has already begun on a first come, first serve basis. The Diocese of Palm Beach “pilgrimage” will begin in Italy with visits to Assisi and Rome prior to joining thousands of young Catholics in Madrid, Spain. For more information on how to be a part of this once in a lifetime event please visit www.diocesepb.org and click on World Youth Day. You may also contact Anthony Marchica, Director of Catechetical Leadership and Youth Ministry Formation at (561) 775-9549.

Anthony Marchica encourages the youth of Palm Beach by saying, “*The experience of joining with faithful Catholics from all over the world in the celebration of our faith together with our Holy Father is an awesome and life changing experience. I would encourage anyone who can to be a part of this unique experience of the Universal Church, led by the Vicar of Christ on Earth, to encounter the Living Christ.*”

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