

Introduction to WYD Seoul 2027

WYD Seoul 2027 Local Organizing Committee (LOC)

Introduction to WYD Seoul 2027

First published 00-00-2025

Published by Soon-taick Chung

Published at WYD Seoul 2027 LOC

Edited by WYD Seoul 2027 Parish Support Team

Address WYD Seoul 2027 LOC Spirituality Center, 4F,
74, Myeongdong-gil, Jung-gu, Seoul, South Korea 04537

Email wydseoul2027@wydseoul.org

Website <https://wydseoul.org>

Calligraphy Imbong Yu

Design Hwajin Kim

Printed by Catholic Publishing House

All rights reserved. This book may not be reproduced or copied without the prior permission of the WYD Seoul 2027 Local Organizing Committee.

Contents

Foreword • 4

Prayer for the Youth • 6

1. What is World Youth Day? • 7
2. History of WYD • 11
3. Preparation for WYD Seoul 2027 • 14
4. Logo • 22
5. Theme • 24
6. Spirituality • 26
7. Pastoral Meaning of WYD Seoul 2027 • 28
8. Creating WYD Seoul 2027 Together • 33
9. Closing Remarks • 39

Foreword

+ Praise be to the Lord!

When Pope Francis announced the choice of Seoul for WYD 2027, he said, “This is a marvelous sign of the Church’s universality and of the dream of unity to which you bear witness!”

That’s why we want WYD Seoul 2027 to be a festival of encounter, a mission field where we can proclaim God’s love for the Church and for humanity, and a pilgrimage of hope.

With this WYD, we will pave a path of unity, hope, courage, and passion that welcomes not only Catholics, but also various people from around the world to walk together. At WYD, young people joyfully meet the universal Church, our Holy Father, one another, and above all, the Lord. These encounters reveal the true sense of being “catholic,” that is, universal, together with the spirit of walking together in synodality.

At the same time, WYD is not just an event for young people. There is no age limit for participation, which means it is a space where generations respect each other’s experiences and wisdom and share a common passion for faith. Through intergenerational hospitality and mutual respect, WYD is a place where older generations can pass on the traditions of faith and younger people can share their hope for the future. This mutual exchange allows us to overcome generational divides and walk together in true solidarity and cooperation.

In addition, as a mission field, WYD will enable young people with open minds to meet in Korea, where various religions coexist peacefully, and thus promote freer dialogue and harmony between religions and cultures. The Catholic Church in Korea will listen to and embrace the voices of young people and the vulnerable to convey a message of hope to all.

Holding onto that hope, the pilgrimage of WYD Seoul 2027 will be an important reminder for young people that they are not alone—that other young people, older believers, the Church, and God are all by their side. WYD Seoul 2027 will help the Church in Korea fulfill its mission as a young Church and become a sign of hope for young people.

Finally, hosting WYD is also a valuable and meaningful experience at the parish level. Parishioners will have the opportunity to broaden their faith through encounters with people from around the world, share their experience and wisdom, and strengthen their bonds as a faith community. The various opportunities to volunteer in relation to WYD will also give the parish an opportunity to revitalize community participation and rekindle the passion for our faith.

I humbly ask for your service and prayers to ensure WYD Seoul 2027 will be an opportunity for the Korean Church to be renewed and move forward on our journey towards the Lord.

General Coordinator of the WYD Seoul 2027 LOC
Bishop Paul Kyung-Sang Lee

Prayer for the Youth

[Prayer for the preparation of World Youth Day Seoul 2027]

- Loving Father of all young people,
help those whom you created in your image
come to know the love that led you to give your only Son.
- Give them the grace of meeting Jesus Christ so that
they may love all they meet in their lives.
- Gather the young people you so love into your Church,
led by the Holy Spirit,
so they can experience your mercy.
- Help us be with them in their struggles and pain,
welcome them into the Church,
and accompany them in the work of spreading the gospel.
- ◎ Just as you saved the world
through the cross and resurrection of your Son,
use WYD Seoul 2027 to rekindle the flames of their faith,
renew your Church and the world,
and spread the gospel to the ends of the earth. Amen.
- + Holy Mary, patron of the Catholic Church in Korea,
◎ pray for our young people.
- + All the martyrs and saints of Korea,
◎ pray for us.

Approved by Peter Archbishop Chung, January 23, 2024

1. What is World Youth Day?

“The very reason why the youth of the world must gather in one place is that they possess the power to change the future. You possess the power to build a new world by establishing your lives within God’s love and grace and loving your neighbors, thereby transforming the world.”

Seoul Archbishop Peter Soon-taik Chung
during the WYD Seoul 2027 Kick-Off Mass



▲ WYD Seoul 2027 Kick-Off Ceremony, held on July 28, 2024 at Myeongdong Cathedral

1) What is WYD?

World Youth Day (WYD) refers to the global gathering where young people from all around the world come together in a special encounter with the Holy Father. During WYD, young people reflect on the profound importance of the teachings of Jesus in their everyday lives, affirm and share their faith, and experience a time of deep spiritual renewal. It is not merely an event, but a pilgrimage and a pastoral journey toward a vibrant, youthful Church.

2) What are the pre-requisites for pilgrim registration?

While WYD is fundamentally oriented towards young people, it is an open gathering where all those who have a youthful spirit, regardless of age, can participate together.

Crossing the boundaries of religions, nationalities, and generations, people from all walks of life will gather together to create a joyful festival. Therefore, we must ensure everyone who participates can encounter the living Christ and receive a spark of hope that will transform the Church and the world.

3) What are the dates and venues of WYD?

To allow for the greatest possible participation of young people from the world, WYD will be held from August 3–8, 2027. Before WYD itself, there are also the Days in the Dioceses (DID). DID is a five-day program held in various dioceses across the country, excluding Seoul. The pilgrims then move to Seoul to participate in WYD. The entire event will span a total of twelve days.

The venues for the event are determined by the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life, the office responsible for WYD, in collaboration with the relevant government bodies and local municipalities.

Days in the Dioceses		World Youth Day						
July 29 – Aug. 2	WYD	Aug. 3	Aug. 4	Aug. 5	Aug. 6	Aug. 7	Aug. 8	
Programs by diocese (outside of Seoul)	Arrive in Seoul	Reception	Catechesis			Move to Vigil	Closing Mass	
		Youth Festival and Vocations Center			Meeting with Volunteers			
Move to Seoul		Opening Mass	Youth Festival	Papal Welcome	Way of the Cross	Vigil	Cannot change WYD programs	

▲ Example of Schedule

4) What is the expected scale of WYD Seoul 2027?

On average, hundreds of thousands of young people from around the world participate in WYD. For WYD Seoul 2027, it is estimated that one million people will participate in the Closing Mass.

Year	Host	City	Participants ¹⁾	Year	Host	City	Participants ¹⁾
1985	Italy	Rome	300,000	2002	Canada	Toronto	800,000
1987	Argentina	Buenos Aires	1 million	2005	Germany	Cologne	1.2 million
1989	Spain	Santiago de Compostela	400,000	2008	Australia	Sydney	400,000
1991	Poland	Częstochowa	1.6 million	2011	Spain	Madrid	2 million
1993	USA	Denver	500,000	2013	Brazil	Rio de Janeiro	370,000
1995	Philippines	Manila	4 million	2016	Poland	Krakow	350,000
1997	France	Paris	1.2 million	2019	Panama	Panama City	700,000
2000	Italy	Rome	2 million	2023	Portugal	Lisbon	1.5 million
				2027	Korea	Seoul	1 million ^{estimated}

1) Based on the total participants of the Closing Mass

▲ Historical Participation in WYD by Country

5) Where will the participants stay?

As WYD is a pilgrimage, those who attend are referred to as pilgrims rather than participants. We welcome the young pilgrims and invite them to stay in parish classrooms, auditoriums, and private homes (homestays) for the duration of their journey. The homestay experience, in particular, offers a valuable opportunity for young people from around the world to stay with Korean families and directly experience the local Korean culture.

However, based on past WYD experience, there are certain limitations to accommodating every pilgrim in a homestay. To prepare for this, various alternate venues (schools, gymnasiums, and auditoriums within each parish's jurisdiction) will be secured in advance for the pilgrims.

6) What is the significance of hosting WYD Seoul 2027?

During the Missioning Mass for WYD in Lisbon, Pope Francis announced, "The next World Youth Day will take place in Seoul, South Korea, in Asia in 2027! Thus, from the western border of Europe it will move to the Far East," extending an invitation to young people from across the globe to come to Seoul. WYD Seoul 2027 is a pastoral ministry through which the Church listens attentively to the needs and concerns of young people and conveys its love and care for them. Today's young people are facing various difficulties amidst the rapidly changing realities of society. In a special way, WYD will be an opportunity to listen to their voices, console them and heal their wounds, and instill courage in them.

2. History of WYD

1) The Beginning of WYD



▲ St. John Paul II greeting young pilgrims at WYD in Częstochowa, Poland, 1992

On Palm Sunday in 1984, St. John Paul II invited young people from around the world to Rome, creating a space for an experience of faith. Building on this event, he announced the establishment of World Youth Day in 1985 through his apostolic letter, *Dilecti Amici* (“To the Youth of the World”).

In 1986, the first official WYD was held in Rome on March 23, Palm Sunday, with the event being commemorated simultaneously in individual dioceses across various regions. This marked the beginning of World Youth Day, a journey that continues to this day.

Today, the diocesan World Youth Day is celebrated every year in individual dioceses. Then, once every three to four years, young people from around the world gather for the international celebration of WYD.

In 2020, Pope Francis announced that, starting in 2021, the observance of the diocesan World Youth Day would be moved from Palm Sunday to the Solemnity of Christ the King.

2) Historical Significance



▲ Map of Historically Significant Hosts

The hosts of WYD each have a specific significance and pastoral intention, shaped by the historical and social context of each location. To examine some representative examples:



The Church in the United States, amidst the historical backdrop of “the American Dream,” placed an emphasis on the fact that true happiness is found not in material possessions but in fidelity to Jesus. This focus led to the cultivation of a group of experts who would drive the development of youth and young adult ministry.



The Church in the Philippines, with a long-term vision to revitalize ministry through the entire process of preparing for, hosting, and following up on WYD, was able to develop a master plan to rejuvenate youth ministry throughout the nation.



The Church in France utilized methods of hospitality in the WYD journey, such as homestays, which allowed the older generation to show interest in young people and fostered mutual cooperation between the generations. Through this, the Church in Europe discovered a significant hope for renewal and was able to convey the message that a Church with a rich tradition and heritage does not exclude young people but is, in fact, open to them.

3. Preparation for WYD Seoul 2027

1) Preparation Schedule



▲ Preparation Schedule

2) Pilgrimage of the WYD Cross and Icon



◀ WYD Cross and Icon, Myeongdong Cathedral

The WYD Cross is a wooden cross entrusted to young people by St. John Paul II in 1983 to commemorate the Holy Year of the Redemption and is one of the symbols of WYD. This cross is a sign of solidarity as it goes on a pilgrimage of prayer for the suffering and the young, in the hope that the love and salvation of Christ will be spread throughout the world.

The WYD Icon is a symbol of hope that St. John Paul II gave to young people at WYD in Rome in 2000. This icon reminds young people that they are never alone, no matter what difficulties they face, and invites them to continue their profound journey with God under the love and protection of the Virgin Mary.



▲ Handover of the WYD Symbols, St. Peter's Basilica in Rome



▲ Pilgrimage in Suwon Diocese



▲ Pilgrimage in Dinajpur Diocese, Bangladesh

The two symbols were delivered to the Archdiocese of Seoul in November 2024 and had a short pilgrimage around Korea. Starting in 2025, they began their pilgrimage around Asia. This is the first time in 32 years since WYD Manila 1995 that WYD is being held in Asia. In this continent where various religions coexist, the pilgrimage of the WYD Symbols is a meaningful opportunity to reach out to young people.

The Korean pilgrimage will begin in 2026. The WYD Symbols

will make their way to each diocese for one month, delivering a message of hope and love so that all dioceses can prepare well for DID and ultimately WYD.

3) Days in the Dioceses (DID)

Days in the Dioceses	July 29	July 30	July 31	Aug. 1	Aug. 2
Morning	Arrive	Morning Mass and Group Meetings			Sunday Mass (Farewell)
Afternoon		Pilgrimages and Other Diocesan Programs			
Evening	Welcome Event	Local Programs			Move to Seoul

▲ Example of DID Schedule



Days in the Dioceses are held just before World Youth Day in every diocese in Korea except for the host of WYD, the Archdiocese of Seoul. During this period, each diocese organizes and operates its own programs, so pilgrims experience the unique culture of Korea. DID is a valuable time to prepare spiritually before World Youth Day.

◀ Catholic Dioceses in Korea

4) WYD (Main Programs)

WYD	Aug. 3	Aug. 4	Aug. 5	Aug. 6	Aug. 7	Aug. 8
Morning	Arrive	Catechesis			Move to Vigil	Closing Mass
Afternoon	Youth Festival and Vocations Center			Meeting with Volunteers		
Evening	Opening Mass	Youth Festival	Papal Welcome	Way of the Cross	Vigil	Cannot change WYD programs

▲ Schedule of World Youth Day

① Opening Mass

The official liturgy marking the start of the event is presided over by the Ordinary of the diocese hosting WYD. The WYD Cross and Icon, which have made the pilgrimage to WYD with the young people, are placed next to the altar to show that WYD has begun.



② Papal Welcome

This is the first encounter between the Pope and the young people, a time of prayer and celebration amidst a welcoming and celebratory atmosphere. The combination of listening to and meditating on the Gospel and the Holy Father's remarks, along with the welcoming ceremony prepared by young people, adds a special meaning to the experience.



③ Way of the Cross

Beginning with the Pope's Sign of the Cross, it is followed by introductions and prayerful reflections on each station. Through a variety of performances, including plays, the story of each part of Jesus's Passion is portrayed, allowing for a deeper experience of the heart of our faith.



WYD Lisbon Way of the Cross

④ Vigil

All pilgrims gather at the venue the day before the Closing Mass and participate in the Vigil. Praying with the Holy Father through silence, meditation, and communal prayer before the Blessed Sacrament is a moment of deep spiritual communion.



WYD Lisbon Vigil

⑤ Closing Mass

After the Vigil, the Closing Mass is celebrated on Sunday. It concludes the journey of World Youth Day. The young people, remembering the Pope in their hearts, are sent off to their respective places in life.



WYD Lisbon Closing Mass

5) WYD (Various Pastoral Programs)

① Catechesis

This program is held every morning for three days during World Youth Day. Bishops provide catechetical education for various language groups, while also listening to the concerns and questions of young people and engaging in dialogue with them on behalf of the Church.



② Youth Festival

Aside from catechesis and the main events, the afternoons and evenings feature a variety of artistic, religious, and spiritual activities with a more open and relaxed atmosphere. Young people can experience a variety of programs, including concerts, exhibitions, workshops, sports events, and performances.



③ Vocations Center

Also known as the Vocational Fair, this event is designed to help young pilgrims more deeply discern their calling. The booths are operated by various organizations, communities, and religious orders. Pilgrims can wander from booth to



booth to learn more about the diverse expressions of vocation and enrich their own faith journey.

④ Confession

Confession is also an important part of WYD, taking place continuously in specially designated locations so that pilgrims can have a profound experience of God's love and mercy. Priests warmly welcome young people, listen to their stories, and guide them to God's love and mercy through the sacrament of Confession.



⑤ Meeting with Volunteers

After the Closing Mass, there is a special meeting between the Pope and the volunteers. During this meeting, the Holy Father expresses his gratitude to the volunteers for their hard work and blesses them for their sacrifice and dedication.



4.
WYD Seoul 2027 Logo



Seoul and the youth of the world, united in the Holy Spirit

Each element of the logo carries meaning.

The cross in the center is composed of two strokes, symbolizing the desire for “God’s will to be done on earth as it is in heaven” and representing the exuberance of youth. Red alludes to the blood of the martyrs, while the blue color represents the energy of youth. The yellow circle in the center of the cross symbolizes the Holy Spirit and expresses the glory of Christ’s victory. Finally, the color black shows us the mysterious future awaiting the light of the youth.

서울 (Seoul) is written in traditional Korean calligraphy, but also contains the letters W, Y, and D. “Seoul” and “WYD” come together to represent a festive encounter where young people from East and West unite in harmony at WYD Seoul 2027.

5. WYD Seoul 2027 Theme

TAKE COURAGE!
I HAVE OVERCOME
THE WORLD

Jn 16:33

“Hope” and “witness” are at the heart of the theme of WYD Seoul 2027. We invite youth around the globe to be courageous witnesses to the Gospel and join Jesus Christ, who overcame death on the cross with authentic love, in embodying hope for the world.



38th WYD (Diocesan)

“Rejoicing in Hope” (Rom 12:12)



39th WYD (Diocesan)

“Those who hope in the Lord will run and not be weary.”
(Is 40:31)



40th WYD (Diocesan)

“You also are my witnesses, because you have been with me.”
(John 15:27)



41st WYD (Seoul, International)

“Take courage! I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33)



6. WYD Seoul 2027 Spirituality

Using the theme of WYD Seoul 2027 as the foundation, the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) has selected truth, love, and peace as three core values that reflect the unique characteristics of WYD Seoul. These important values are necessary not only in Korean society today but also in the global community. Grounded in Korea's unique spiritual heritage, we hope to share these values with people around the world through WYD.

Each of the three core values is accompanied by a motto and supporting themes.

The spirituality of WYD Seoul 2027 forms the basis for all stages of preparation and the activities to be carried out throughout the event.

Through WYD, we can reaffirm the important spiritual values we should pursue as we move forward.



Learn more about
the supporting
themes





Truth	Love	Peace
Unique History of Faith	Non-Christian Culture	Divided Nation

Faith,
Martyrdom,
Mission

Life,
Family,
Ecology

Reconciliation,
Justice,
Common Good

Truth overcomes all forms of lies	Love respects all creation	Peace confronts all forms of violence
“The courage to seek the truth”	“The courage to practice love”	“The courage to build peace”



7. Pastoral Meaning of WYD Seoul 2027

<p>WYD as a pilgrimage, not a one-time event</p>  <p>Deepen faith and foster union with the Church beyond WYD</p>	<p>A Church built by the entire People of God</p>  <p>Reveal the maturity of the Church through the participation of the entire People of God, becoming salt and light in Korean society</p>	<p>Rediscovering the precious value of people and service</p>  <p>Reflect on the meaning of service and the need for attentive care for volunteers</p>	<p>Organic solidarity throughout the Church</p>  <p>Need for strong coordination, sufficient communication, and sharing</p>	<p>Caring for our common home WYD</p>  <p>Need for shift from consumerism to a lifestyle of sustainability</p>
---	--	--	---	--

1) WYD as a pilgrimage, not a one-time event



WYD must not be treated as a one-time event, but as a milestone along the longer journey of youth ministry in Korea. The entire

preparation process for WYD Seoul 2027 should be viewed as a pilgrimage—an opportunity to deepen and mature in faith.

This journey should not end in 2027 but should continue through ongoing interaction and communion so that young people remain engaged as members of the Church.

2) A Church built by the entire People of God



▲ The logo of the 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops

WYD Seoul 2027 is a joyful gathering and celebration for young people, but it is not theirs alone. It is an open journey of preparation and participation for all.

The journey of preparing for and participating in this pilgrimage becomes a meaningful opportunity for those who have grown distant from the Church to return, for people of all ages to walk together toward a shared goal, and for renewing the Church as a joyful and vibrant community.

This journey, led and shaped by all the People of God—laity, religious, and clergy alike—will become a sign of hope, like salt and light, within Korean society today, which is often marked by conflict and division.

3) Rediscovering the precious value of people and service



▲ Mass to Celebrate Completion of Formation of First Round of Volunteers

WYD Seoul 2027 is a true expression of love,
made possible by the dedicated service of
countless volunteers.

It is not only the young volunteers, but also parishes, families, local communities, and the entire nation that are invited to offer themselves generously in love, sharing joy with one another and journeying together toward a deeper expression of love.

This time becomes an opportunity to recognize how precious and meaningful shared service is and how deeply it deserves to be honored and respected. This goes beyond merely contributing to society and the Church. Rather, serving is a formative journey through which volunteers come to discover their role and grow in faith.

4) Organic solidarity throughout the Church



▲ Vicariate Youth Mass & Conversation with the Auxiliary Bishop

The solidarity of parishes, vicariates, dioceses, and the universal Church is of utmost importance for WYD Seoul 2027.

From DID to World Youth Day itself, WYD is a profound expression of communion, made possible through the solidarity of the Korean Church—where all dioceses trust one another and collaborate in love. In addition, close connection and cooperation between the diocese and the vicariates, as well as among the vicariates themselves, are equally vital. In preparing for WYD, it is important to pay careful attention to the unique realities of each parish, to communicate with open hearts, and to listen to one another—so that dioceses, vicariates, and parishes may truly come together in unity to welcome the youth of the world.

Only then will each parish, and the Korean Church as a whole, come to a deeper awareness that we are one body in Christ—called to live in communion, to work together, and to experience the transforming power of love.

5) Caring for our common home



▲ Our common home, the Earth

We all share the responsibility
to care for our common home.

In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis expresses deep concern for the suffering of our common home, the Earth, which was created by God and is now gravely wounded.

Thus, every stage of WYD preparation must reflect our commitment to sustainability through mindful use, reuse, and recycling. In doing so, young people will recognize their responsibility for our common home and become empowered, as people of faith, to participate in making the world a better place. In this way, WYD can become a powerful witness to the Church's teaching in mainstream society.

8. Creating WYD Seoul 2027 Together

1) Pray

Prayer is the most important preparation for WYD Seoul 2027. Praying together and preparing for this journey is a time of accompaniment, through which we build WYD Seoul 2027 together with God.

① 200 Million Rosary Movement



We pray the rosary together to gather our hearts and prepare ourselves spiritually for WYD Seoul 2027. Praying with Mary will be a great help in our journey towards 2027, and the rosary beads we consecrate with our prayers will be made into actual rosaries in 2027.

② Day of Prayer for WYD Seoul 2027

a. Monthly Holy Hour

: Preparation of Gospel and homily based on the monthly prayer intentions prepared by the Ordinary with young people

b. Fourth Sunday Mass Intention

: Offer Masses for the successful hosting of WYD Seoul 2027 at Youth and Sunday Masses

c. Fourth Sunday Final Prayer of the Faithful

: Prayer prepared by young people according to the Ordinary's prayer intention

d. Prayer for the Youth at Mass

: Offer the Prayer for the Youth, the preparatory prayer for WYD approved by Archbishop Peter Soon-taick Chung, before or after each Mass

③ 20:27 Prayer for WYD Seoul 2027



Everyone in the world is invited to join in offering the Prayer for the Youth, an Our Father, a Hail Mary, and a Glory Be every day at 20:27, in preparation for 2027.

The Prayer for the Youth can be found in the Daily Mass readings and the Catholic Good News app.

2) Opening Hearts and Homes



▲ Accommodation in a classroom of a parish in Lisbon

WYD is a time when young people from all over the world willingly leave their homes to go on a difficult pilgrimage of faith to meet the Pope, meet other young people who confess the same faith, and meet the faithful of the local Church.



▲ Homestay at WYD Lisbon

Opening our parishes and homes to make the stay of young pilgrims from abroad just a little bit more comfortable is the most generous hospitality our community can offer.

As long as there is space to sleep in a sleeping bag (2 m x 1.5 m) and facilities for showering or washing, any accommodation can be used for the 5 nights and 6 days of WYD.

Pilgrims spend most of their time away from their accommodations to take part in the WYD programs and return to their lodging only for rest, particularly during the mandatory curfew from 00:00 to 06:00.



- Christian encounter across linguistic and cultural differences
- An open heart to pilgrims
- A servant heart that invites others into one's life
- A sincere love of pilgrims

May courage be found to open the doors of our parishes and homes, the places of our life and faith, inviting more people to deeply experience God's mercy and grace.

The WYD Local Organizing Committee will provide full support in this endeavor. Moving forward, a Hospitality Operations Manual for parishes and homestays, as well as manuals on meal service, finances, volunteers, and WYD ministry for vicariates and parishes, will be provided to ensure good communication.

3) Open Hearts for WYD (Hospitality)

WYD Seoul 2027 calls for careful preparation and wholehearted dedication. While there may be many challenges and concerns along the way, what matters most is embracing the heartfelt desire of the Holy Father to gather young people from across the globe here in Korea. As we journey on this great pilgrimage, we are invited to prepare with a spirit of deep openness and generous hospitality to welcome all who will come.



Live the Spirit of WYD Through Hospitality

- Experience God's love
- Recognize the value of love and service
- Recognize the importance of prayer
- Actively engage young people

Break Down Barriers

- Between nations and ethnicities
- Between generations
- For those with disabilities
- By honoring diverse values

Experience Community Together

- Solidarity throughout the Church
- Experience the value of the domestic Church, the family
- Unify as the People of God

9. Closing Remarks

“As I think about the Jubilee for Youth next year and WYD in Seoul three years from now, my ‘dream’ is that these events will help many of the young, including those who are not ordinarily churchgoers, to encounter Jesus, and to hear the Gospel’s message of hope.

I think of those young people who are downcast, who no longer lift their eyes to the horizon, who have put aside their great dreams and are now trapped in disillusionment and overwhelmed by the problems of life. Asia is a young continent, full of life, yet many young people, especially in the large cities, are suffering from a loss of hope and withdrawing into themselves, with few relationships, few interests.

The events in Rome and Seoul are God-given opportunities for us to say to young people throughout the world that Jesus is hope, for you, for us, and for everyone!”

From Address of His Holiness Pope Francis to Participants in the International Congress on Youth Ministry of the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life

WYD Seoul 2027 is where the Pope’s dream will become a reality — a pastoral space where the joyful pilgrimage of encounter, mission, and hope continues. This pilgrimage is not only for young people around the world, but is open to all those willing to journey with them.

Though many challenges lie ahead and much may be lacking, if we recall the theme of WYD Seoul 2027, “Take courage! I have overcome the world” (John 16:33), and if we unite with one heart,

we can offer the youth of the world great hope and the Gospel vision of a renewed world.

Throughout the preparation for and journey to WYD Seoul 2027, may our Church and each and every one of us experience the love of God more deeply. Let us also pray that our parish communities and the Church may recognize that young people are the future of the Church, and that we may become communities of faith and hope, sharing this journey with more people.

With your continued support, interest, and encouragement, may we all walk together in this grace-filled journey.

