

World Youth Day 2011 Pilgrimage to Madrid

For more information

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August 10-22, 2011

Sponsored by
Saint Joseph Parish

What is World Youth Day (WYD)?
WYD brings together thousands of youth from over 150 countries for an exciting pilgrimage of prayer, fellowship and learning, as well as a unique opportunity to deepen their faith in Jesus Christ. This joyful gathering, which has taken place every three years, also provides a rare change for young adults to see and hear Pope Benedict XVI. Participants learn how fellow believers from around the world live out challenges of their faith.

When and where is it?

WYD will take place in Madrid, Spain from August 10-22, 2011. We will depart from Harrisburg on August 10 and return on August 22.

How many people will attend?

Organizers expect at least 1,000,000 young adults from around the world.

What's the payment schedule?

A \$350.00 non-refundable deposit is due by **April 30, 2010**. Checks can be made payable to Saint Joseph Church. Please indicate in the memo line that it is "WYD Deposit". The payment schedule is as follows, and is subject to change based on the success of our fundraising! If these payments are not a possibility for your family, please make Erin aware and we will work it out!

May 30, 2010 – \$300

July 30, 2010 – \$225

September 30, 2010 – \$225

November 30, 2010 – \$225

January 30, 2011 - \$225

March 30, 2011 - \$225

The expectation is that you will participate in the fundraising efforts that go on to benefit you, the first of which is on May 22, 2010 - it's an International Foods Night. More details to follow!

What will we do while we're there?

We will take part in a dynamic weeklong program with a Mass of Welcome, a series of catechetical (faith learning) sessions, and frequent opportunities for prayer and reflection on this year's theme: "Rooted and built up in Jesus Christ, firm in the faith" (Col. 2:7). We will also attend the Youth Festival, a full afternoon of music, dance, drama, and discussion. The week concludes with a walking pilgrimage to an evening vigil with the Pope and a special papal Mass the following morning. Throughout it all, you can expect to meet young people from around the world, make new friends, and learn a lot from others who want to follow Christ more closely.

Who can attend?

Anyone who is 16 or older by August 10, 2011.

Who will the chaperones be?

Erin Hughes and Father Brommer

How can I afford this trip?

A pilgrimage is not an ordinary trip - it's a journey of faith to encounter God. As the body of Christ we travel together to help each other along the way, to experience the joys and sufferings of life on the road. There is an ancient tradition of pilgrimage in our faith, going back to the very origins when God called Abram to leave his homeland. On the journey, we must let go of the comforts of home to trust in the care of God. In this place of trust our hearts are more open to encountering the living God. If there is a desire in your heart to go, trust in God. We'll fundraise like crazy to offset some of the cost. The total cost is estimated at \$3000.00.

Will there be any preparation before we leave?

Yes, we will gather to prepare spiritually for the trip. The dates will be announced as soon as they become available.