



"Go and make disciples of all nations" [Matthew 28:19]

ECY & WYD2013

Primer on the World Youth Day 2013 for the

ECY-PHILIPPINES

EPISCOPAL COMMISSION ON YOUTH
Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines

MESSAGES

*From the message of Pope Benedict XVI for the
27th World Youth Day*

Dear young friends,

I am happy to address you once more... The memory of our meeting in Madrid last August remains close to my heart. It was a time of extraordinary grace when God showered his blessings on the young people gathered from all over the world. I give thanks to God for all the fruits which that event bore, fruits which will surely multiply for young people and their communities in the future. Now we are looking forward to our next meeting in Rio de Janeiro in 2013, whose theme will be: "Go and make disciples of all nations!" (cf. Mt 28:19).

...Joy is at the heart of Christian experience. At each World Youth Day we experience immense joy, the joy of communion, the joy of being Christian, the joy of faith. This is one of the marks of these gatherings. We can see the great attraction that joy exercises. In a world of sorrow and anxiety, joy is an important witness to the beauty and reliability of the Christian faith.

The Church's vocation is to bring joy to the world, a joy that is authentic and enduring, the joy proclaimed by the angels to the shepherds on the night Jesus was born (cf. Lk 2:10). Not only did God speak, not only did he accomplish great signs throughout the history of humankind, but he drew so near to us that he became one of us and lived our life completely. In these difficult times, so many young people all around you need to hear that the Christian message is a message of joy and hope!

BENEDICT XVI

*From the Chairman of the
CBCP - Episcopal Commission on Youth*

Dear Filipino youth,

Our friendship with the Holy Father will once more reach a highlight in his international meeting with the world's youth in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, at the 28th World Youth Day. It will also be a concrete experience of the Catholicity (universality) of our faith, as well as the vibrancy which youthful living of the faith generates.

The World Youth Day (WYD) is one of the greatest expressions of the Church's love and confidence in young people. Instituted by Blessed John Paul II, the "pope of the young", after the 1985 International Youth Year of the United Nations, the WYD continues on in an annual journey of faith-reflection and largely characterized by faith deepening and celebration as well as spiritual and cultural exchange.

I invite you, with the animation of those responsible for your youth ministries, to be part of this great event through our official delegation, the "ECY-Philippines". With our experience from forming this delegation every WYD since 1997 and the rich tapestry of post-WYD movements of those who joined us, our commission is happy to offer you a path of preparation and participation that is efficient, meaningful and enabling.

This Primer was prepared so that you can get to know the delegation more and, help you decide to attend the WYD2013 with us.

May we all grow in our sense of Christian identity and mission in this coming Year of Faith!

+ JOEL Z. BAYLON, DD
Bishop of Legazpi

Introduction

Many Filipino youth dreamt of joining the WYD pilgrimage: to encounter Christ and to experience a bigger community of the faithful - especially after the 10th World Youth Day which the Philippine Church hosted last 1995. And so, for the succeeding WYDs, the Episcopal Commission on Youth (ECY) of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) sent large delegations of youth and youth ministers who not only shared the faith, but were also strengthened in it by their WYD experience.

WYD2013 Basic Information

Theme:

"Go and make disciples of all nations" [Matthew 28:19]

Missionary Week (17-20 July)

The Days in the Diocese will be in the form of missionary experiences. It is called "Semana Missionaria" or Missionary Week (MW). The week aims to give young people the chance to participate in spiritual activities, works of solidarity with local communities, as well as missionary and cultural events.

WYD2013 (23-28 July)

WYD2013 will be celebrated in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 23-28 July 2013. Major events are the Opening Mass, Papal Welcome Ceremony, Stations of the Cross, the Youth Vigil with the Pope, and the Closing Mass.

Registration

WYD2013 Registration will officially start in July 2012. There will be two stages: registration of groups and registration of pilgrims.

Participation Cost

Each WYD2013 pilgrim will have to pay for the price of the Pilgrim Pack in order to be officially registered for the event.

The ECY-Philippines opts for Package A1 that includes simple accommodations, transportation, food, and insurance during the week, and the WYD2013 kit.

Meals

Just like in Madrid, lunch and dinner will be served in

cafes and restaurants. Breakfast will be distributed in accommodations. For the Vigil and Closing Liturgy, packed meals will be provided.

Visas

Pilgrims with valid Philippine passports are not required visas to enter Brazil. Brazil has a reciprocal visa system, so if a country requires a Brazilian national to secure a visa, then its citizens need visas to enter Brazil.

WYD2013 Pilgrim Credentials

Each pilgrim is required to present a WYD2013 Pilgrim Credential at the immigration or border of entry.

ECY & WYD2013 Primer

This primer aims to guide Filipino youth and youth ministers who are interested to join the WYD2013 through the delegation of the ECY called **ECY-PHILIPPINES**.

It is created and designed within parameters applicable only to the ECY; hence, the title "ECY & WYD2013". Guidelines and principles contained herein are implemented for its delegation, the ECY-Philippines.

Some contents will not be applicable for groups that do not opt to join the WYD2013 through ECY-Philippines.

We invite everyone who is interested to join the ECY-Philippines to go through the rest of this primer carefully. It may entail a lot of reading and understanding, but it will surely help each one to be well disposed for the pilgrimage!

The ECY-Philippines

The ECY-Philippines is the official delegation of the Episcopal Commission on Youth (ECY) of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) to the WYD2013. It is composed of young people from the ecclesiastical territories and from FNYO member-organizations. The ECY-Philippines also welcomes young people from other established youth organizations, communities, schools and universities.

Arrangements for the ECY-Philippines

The ECY-Philippines will register as a single delegation under the leadership of the ECY Executive Secretary.

The ECY will arrange for simple WYD2013 accommodations, i.e. schools, foster families, parishes, etc., and for full provision of meals during the event.

The ECY-Philippines will coordinate with only one travel agency, who will act as its official Travel Coordinator.

Why join the ECY-Philippines

- ✓ WYD Organizers recognize the ECY-Philippines of the CBCP-Episcopal Commission on Youth as an official country delegation.
- ✓ As an authorized body that mobilizes Filipino youth to participate in international youth gatherings such as WYD, the ECY is privileged to directly coordinate with the Pontifical Council for the Laity-Youth Section of the Vatican, with the Rio de Janeiro Organizers in Brazil, with the Embassy of Brazil in Manila, and with other official entities.
- ✓ The ECY is an office that will legitimately issue WYD2013 Pilgrim Credentials, an important document that confirms one's participation in the WYD2013. The WYD2013 Pilgrim Credential is a document that will be required of each pilgrim upon entry in Brazil.
- ✓ The ECY-Philippines assists in some WYD official functions such as facilitating WYD Catechesis and participating in a WYD program, which prove to be wonderful opportunities for its pilgrims, youth and youth ministers alike, to share and nourish their gift of faith.
- ✓ The ECY implements a holistic WYD program for its pilgrims, that includes preparatory and re-entry sessions.
- ✓ Throughout their WYD experience, the pilgrims are accompanied by a Delegation Secretariat which also engages the Sub-Group Leaders and Assistant Leaders in mutual collaboration towards a

meaningful pilgrimage.

- ✓ Joining the ECY-Philippines is like joining a community of WYD pilgrims set out on a pilgrimage to live the theme and challenge of the WYD2013: to go and make disciples.

ECY-Philippines Timeline

24 August	Sub-Group Registration (start)
05 October	Sub-Group Registration (deadline)
05 October	Sub-Group Orientation (NCYM2012, Legazpi City)
	Individual Application (start)
	Submission of Participation Cost (start)
17 October	Sub-Group Orientation (Intramuros, Manila)
31 January 2013	Individual Application (deadline)
01 February	Sub-Group Leaders' Meeting
29 March	Submission of Participation Cost (deadline)
16 March—05 July	Local Preparatory Sessions
06-07 July	Delegation Preparatory Session
12, 13, 14 July	Departures for Brazil
17-20 July	Missionary Week
23-28 July	WYD2013
29 July	Delegation Re-Entry Session

How to Apply as a Member of the ECY-Philippines

Those who wish to join this delegation will have to apply for membership and must meet certain qualifications that are set by the WYD2013 Organizers and by the ECY as well.

Applicants may apply in either of these two ways:

1. In a sub-group

If this is observed, the applicant shall be required to coordinate his/her application with his/her respective youth ministry office, i.e. diocese, youth organization, religious community, or school. He/She must also

abide by the selection process implemented therein.

2. As an individual applicant

An individual applicant is one who does not belong to a sub-group, or one who comes from a setting where no sub-group is formed. He/She is required to submit all requirements directly to the ECY and to coordinate his/her application for membership directly with the Delegation Secretariat.

Sub-Group Registration

Start: 24 August 2012

Deadline: 05 October 2012

The Sub-Group Registration generates an estimate of the size of the delegation and other pertinent information that will help the ECY plan accordingly.

Registering in sub-groups is not only for logistical purposes, but also for better accompaniment of the delegation. It promotes a way of living in community, where the pastoral and spiritual aspects of the pilgrimage are addressed in a more effective way.

Criteria for a Sub-Group

1. Under the leadership of a Sub-Group Leader
2. Comes from an instituted setting in the Philippines, i.e. ecclesiastical territory, youth organization, religious community or school
3. Composed of members who legitimately belong to the same setting or origin as that of the sub-group
4. Has a minimum of 5 and maximum of 50 members, 50% (at least) of which must be youth pilgrims
5. All of whose members shall follow only one WYD2013 itinerary, and will have no Pre-WYD2013 itinerary other than the Missionary Week as arranged by the ECY
6. All of whose members follow the same travel arrangements and schedule of departure from the Philippines and arrival in Brazil

Sub-Group Registration Process

A Sub-Group, through its Sub-Group Leader, may register using the following steps:

- 1st Accomplish completely the Sub-Group Registration Form
- 2nd Get the endorsement of the bishop (ecclesiastical territory), national chaplain or leader (youth organization), provincial superior (religious community), or president/head (school)
- 3rd Submit the Sub-Group Registration Form to the Episcopal Commission on Youth
- 4th Attend the Sub-Group Orientation on 05 or 17 October 2012 (venue and time to be communicated)

Sub-Group Orientation

05 October 2012 (NCYM2012 , Legazpi City)

17 October 2012 (Intramuros, Manila)

The Sub-Group Orientation aims to share basic information about the ECY and WYD2013, to establish linkage between the Delegation Secretariat and the Sub-Group Leader and the Sub-Group Assistant Leader, and to clarify their roles in relation to the entire delegation.

Sub-Group Leaders and Sub-Group Assistant Leaders are required to attend the Orientation.

Individual Application Process

Start: 05 October 2012

Deadline: 31 January 2013

Each applicant-pilgrim, whether registering through a Sub-Group or as an individual, must accomplish the following process:

- 1st Read and understand this ECY&WYD2013 Primer
- 2nd Submit relevant and important documents (cf. List of Required Documents for each Applicant-Pilgrim, *next page*) as required by the ECY

All documents that are submitted to the ECY for the purpose of WYD2013 participation shall be deemed official documents of the ECY and cannot be retrieved by the applicant-pilgrim.

3rd Pay the application fee of P500.00 to the ECY

The Application Fee covers ECY administrative expenses, i.e. communication, office supplies, volunteers' allowance, etc. (non-refundable, non-transferable).

4th Pass the ECY Screening

The ECY, through the Delegation Secretariat, shall screen each application to determine if the applicant qualifies to be a member of the ECY-Philippines. The applicant is informed of the result of his/her application within 10-15 working days after he/she has lodged application with the ECY. The ECY keeps the right to cancel an approved application at any time a situation necessitates, and reserves the right not to disclose reasons/basis for acceptance or non-acceptance of an application, or for cancellation of registration.

Criteria for a Pilgrim

General Criteria

- Possesses a clear intention to join WYD2013
- Agrees to and follow all arrangements made by the ECY for its delegation
- Has read and understood this primer fully before lodging his/her application to the ECY-Philippines
- Endorsed by his/her bishop (diocese), national chaplain or leader (youth organization), provincial superior (religious community) or president/head (school), whichever is applicable;
- Agrees to attend two mandatory events for the delegation: the WYD2013 Preparatory and the Re-Entry Sessions.

Youth Pilgrim

In addition to the general criteria, each youth applicant must be:

- 35 years of age by December 2013;
- Active in the youth ministry setting where he/she belongs, i.e. parish, diocese, organization (FNYO-member or otherwise), religious community, or school/campus;

- A **minor** must be accompanied by a Chaperon who carries a written authorization from parents or legal guardian through a DSWD permit to travel.

*A **minor** is someone who is between 16 to under 18 years of age by July 2013.*

*A **chaperon of a minor** is a person of legal age who may be a youth minister to or parent/relative of the minor, and who also meets the general criteria and qualifies as a WYD2013 pilgrim.*

Youth Minister - Pilgrim

In addition to the general criteria, each youth minister-applicant must be:

- 20-60 years of age by December 2013;
- Clergy, religious, or lay person;
- Actively involved in the youth ministry in his/her setting.

Adult Pilgrim

In addition to the general criteria, each adult applicant must be:

- 36-60 years of age by December 2013;
- Actively involved in a ministry in his/her setting.

List of Required Documents for each Applicant-Pilgrim

APP Application Form, fully and legibly accomplished, keeping in mind that it is a **legal document**
1 original and 1 photocopy

LEO Letter of Endorsement from origin, normally from the parish priest addressed to his Local Ordinary (diocese), unit or chapter head addressed to his/her national chaplain or head (youth organization), local superior addressed to his/her provincial superior (religious community), or school principal addressed to the school head/president (school).
2 photocopies

END Final Endorsement from the Local Ordinary (diocese), national chaplain or head (youth

organization), provincial superior (religious community), or school head/president (school) addressed to:

MOST REV. JOEL Z. BAYLON, DD

Chairman

Episcopal Commission on Youth
Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines
3/F CBCP Building, 470 Gen. Luna St.,
Intramuros, Manila

1 original and 1 photocopy

A letter of endorsement, i.e. LEO and END, confirms a person's integrity and supports his/her application as a WYD2013 pilgrim. Therefore, it should describe the person's qualities, his/her ministry involvement, and other relevant information. It is not a pro-forma, fill-in-the-blanks type of document. It must be issued individually, not collectively where names of endorsed persons are listed.

PDC Documents that describe the status of the applicant

1 original and 1 photocopy

- If **employed**, certificate of employment confirming employment status, income, and period of employment
- If **self-employed**, official business registration and business permit
- If a **student**, certificate of enrolment
- If a **diocesan clergy**, celebret signed by the Local Ordinary
- If a **religious**, certification of membership to the religious community signed by the Provincial Superior
- If a **lay youth minister**, certification as a youth minister, stating youth ministry involvement and signed by the Local Ordinary or his counterpart

PSP Copies of valid passport's biopage, last page, and all stamped pages; copy of valid visa/s in expired passports, if available

2 photocopies

- Passport validity: 01 January 2014 or beyond
- Passport used in applying as a WYD2013 pilgrim must be the same passport that should be used for the trip to Brazil

PIX Passport-size picture:

3 copies of the same picture

- White plain background
- Recently taken by a professional photographer (not scanned)
- Including the head and shoulders only
- Printed on photo paper
- Back portion of which contains the applicant's full name

Submission of Documents and Application Fee

Start: 05 October 2012

Deadlines: 31 January 2013

Documents may be submitted personally to the ECY-Philippines Delegation Secretariat office, or sent through courier.

Application Fees (in PH peso) may be collectively sent through bank-to-bank transfers to the ECY using the following details:

Account Name: EPISCOPAL COMMISSION ON YOUTH

Name of Bank: Philippine National Bank
(Intramuros Branch)

Account No: 101-7863000-17

A copy of the bank transaction slip must be sent to fax number (02) 5279566 or emailed to <ecyphilippines@gmail.com>, with subject "WYD2013 APP FEE" and name of sub-group/individual applicant.

Application Fees may also be made through checks, payable to the: EPISCOPAL COMMISSION ON YOUTH.

Preparations for an Accepted Pilgrim

An accepted pilgrim must proceed with the following steps:

1st: Arrange itinerary with his/her Sub-Group Leader. The Sub-Group Leader will then arrange the Sub-Group's itinerary with the ECY-Philippines' appointed travel agency.

2nd: Prepare and submit the following documents, as applicable, to the Sub-Group Leader (if in a sub-group), or directly to the ECY (if an individual

pilgrim), within 30 days after the date the application results are communicated.

1. TIC Travel Insurance application form
2. MIN DSWD Permit (for Minors)

3rd: Submit WYD2013 Financial Requirements. The Delegation Secretariat will register a pilgrim only after full payment of these.

4th: Through the Sub-Group Leader, finalize travel arrangements with the ECY-Philippines Travel Coordinator.

5th: Attend Local Preparations (in sub-groups).

6th: On or before 15 June 2013, get a yellow-fever vaccination and secure a vaccination record from the doctor who administered the vaccine.

7th: Attend the WYD2013 Preparatory Session in Manila. Bring vaccination record.

The Airline Ticket, Travel Insurance Certificate, DSWD Permit (if submitted to the ECY) and WYD2013 Participation Certificate will be issued during this Delegation Preparatory Session.

Submission of WYD2013 Financial Requirements

Start: Date of Acceptance as ECY-Philippines Pilgrim
Deadline: 29 March 2013

The WYD2013 Financial Requirements, in US dollars may be submitted directly to the ECY-NSYA office or through bank-to-bank transfers to the ECY using the following details:

Account Name: EPISCOPAL COMMISSION ON YOUTH
Name of Bank: Philippine National Bank
(Intramuros Branch)
Account No (dollar): 101-7863000-25

A copy of the bank transaction slip must be sent to fax number (02) 5279566 or emailed to <ecyphilippines@gmail.com>, with subject "WYD2013 FIN" and name of sub-group/individual applicant.

All payments are in US dollars to facilitate single-currency bank transaction. This is to the advantage of sub-groups and individuals, with the US dollar being a widely circulated currency than other foreign currencies; and to protect

payments from fluctuation in currency exchange if the Philippine peso is used.

List of WYD2013 Financial Requirements

1. WYD2013 Solidarity Share: To be submitted to the Pontifical Council for the Laity – Vatican, the main organizer of WYD (equivalent to €10.00)	UDS\$15.00
2. WYD2013 Package A1: To be submitted to the Rio de Janeiro Organizers to cover simple accommodations, transportation, food, and insurance during the week, and the WYD2013 kit (equivalent to R\$480.00)	245.00
3. Missionary Week Participation Cost*, if participating in the Missionary Week (Days in the Diocese): transportation, participation cost (estimate)	(100.00)
4. Travel Insurance for two weeks: WYD2013 pilgrims are required to have comprehensive travel insurance that covers their stay in Brazil	15.00
5. Preparatory and Re-Entry Session fees: To be submitted to the ECY to cover expenses for these two sessions, for an ECY-Philippines vest or shirt, etc.	50.00
6. Local Registration fee¹: To be submitted to the ECY to cover administrative costs (non-refundable, non-transferable)	40.00
Choice A*: Total WYD2013 Financial Requirement if joining both Missionary Week and WYD2013 (estimate)	(US\$465.00)
Choice B: Total WYD2013 Financial Requirement if joining only WYD2013	US\$365.00

** Missionary Week Participation Cost and the Total Financial Requirement for Choice A are estimated costs, to be finalized once the ECY concludes its arrangements with a Missionary Week host-diocese in Brazil.*

¹ *The ECY and its NSYA operate within a limited budget that supports their various youth ministry projects. While the ECY commits to giving full assistance to Filipino youth who desire to join international events such as the WYD, its budget cannot cover the administrative expenses that these endeavors entail. The ECY then seeks the understanding of all interested individuals on why local registration fees and general administrative costs are required.*

Airfares

Airfares and applicable taxes for a Manila-Rio de Janeiro-Manila trip are estimated to be in the range of \$2,300—\$2,500.00. These are not included in the list of WYD2013 Financial Requirements. Pilgrims arrange their trip and settle their airfares with the ECY-Philippines Travel Coordinator.

Travel Coordinator

The ECY has designated an official Travel Coordinator for the ECY-Philippines. All members/sub-groups of the ECY-Philippines must coordinate their flight arrangements only with this designated Travel Coordinator.

Policy for Cancellation of Registration

There are two ways by which a WYD2013 registration is cancelled:

1. **Cancellation by the pilgrim**, for valid and acceptable reason/s:

He/She must properly inform the ECY through a written notification, stating the reason/s for such cancellation. This letter must be signed by the pilgrim him/herself. Date of cancellation is the same as the date of receipt of notification by the ECY office.
2. **Cancellation by the ECY**, if it has strongly established that a person is not qualified to be a pilgrim:

The pilgrim will be properly notified in writing. The ECY reserves the right not to disclose reason/s for such cancellation. Date of cancellation is the same as the date of receipt of notification by the Sub-Group Leader.

Policy for Refunds

The ECY shall issue refunds when a WYD2013 registration is cancelled. Certain percentages will be deducted, depending on the time of cancellation and following the scheme on the next table:

Date of Cancellation	Refundable Components
01-30 April 2013	WYD2013 Registration Fee, 100% Preparatory & Re-Entry Sessions Fee, 100% Solidarity Share, 0%
01-31 May 2013	WYD2013 Registration Fee, 100% Preparatory & Re-Entry Sessions Fee, 50% Solidarity Share, 0%
01-30 June 2013	WYD2013 Registration Fee, 80% Preparatory & Re-Entry Sessions Fee, 0% Solidarity Share, 0%
01-06 July 2013	WYD2013 Registration Fee, 60% Preparatory & Re-Entry Sessions Fee, 0% Solidarity Share, 0%
07 July 2013 and beyond	WYD2013 Registration Fee, 0% Preparatory & Re-Entry Sessions Fee, 0% Solidarity Share, 0%

Organization and Accompaniment of the ECY-Philippines

The Delegation Secretariat

The Delegation Secretariat will accompany and assist the ECY-Philippines from the preparatory period until post-WYD2013. It is headed by the ECY Executive Secretary, and composed of full-time and volunteer staff of the NSYA and of the regional youth ministers who will be sent by the ECY for the event.

Clusters

As in previous WYD's, the ECY-Philippines will be subdivided into clusters, to localize the presence and accompaniment of the Delegation Secretariat, and in effect, create and sustain a spirit of community at all levels. Each cluster is under the care of a Cluster Head and his/her Cluster Assistant Head.

Sub-Group Leader and Assistant Leader

Each sub-group is headed by a Sub-Group Leader and an Assistant Sub-Group Leader who will serve as collaborators and contact persons of the Delegation Secretariat.



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