



28th World Youth Day 2013

Go and make disciples of all nations!

[Mt 28:19]

PROPOSALS FOR SIMULTANEOUS CELEBRATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES

The WYD people are a people on a journey.

This global pilgrimage of young Christians in the footsteps of the Successor of Peter continues to amaze the world.

There have been so many conversions and so many lives have changed direction.

So many important discoveries have been made by young people.

They have discovered Christ – the Way, the Truth and the Life.

They have discovered the Church to be a mother and teacher and to be

a “company of friends” (Benedict XVI) that gives support to the journey of existence.

They have discovered that the Successor of Peter is a sure guide and a friend to be trusted.

WYD has become a “laboratory of faith” for so many young people.

This is how Pope John Paul II liked to describe it.

It is a place where the kind of spirituality found is not inconsistent with being young.

WYD has also become a place where vocational decisions are considered and made – those to the priesthood, consecrated life or Christian marriage.

From <http://www.laici.va/content/laici/en/eventi/altri-eventi/xiii-assemblea-generale-ordinaria-del-sinodo-dei-vescovi/giornate-mondiali-della-gioventu.html>

**Sharing in this conviction of the Pontifical Council for the Laity,
the CBCP-Episcopal Commission on Youth,
aside from calling on Filipino youth for the pilgrimage in Rio de Janeiro,
is also inviting youth ministries in its network (dioceses, regions, parishes, schools,
organizations, etc.) to organize local celebrations of the World Youth Day.**



Let us not forget all those young people who will not be able to go to Rio, but can participate at least spiritually.

His Eminence

Cardinal Stanislaw Rylko, DD

President of the Pontifical Council for the Laity (PCL)

Objectives

In general, this invitation for youth ministries to organize their own celebration of the World Youth Day, preferably within the week of the WYD2013 in Rio de Janeiro (23-28 July), aims to:

- + Become a youth gathering relevant to the ongoing Year of Faith
- + Gather young people for a festive experience of solidarity with their fellow youth from around the world in Rio
- + Simulate for them significant elements of the WYD, such as catechesis, fellowship and prayer
- + Provide an inspiring experience of being challenged by their friendship with Christ and the message of the Holy Father

Respective youth ministries would do well to spell out more concretely these objectives into their concrete planning and preparations.

Guidelines

So that efforts serve a common purpose and are synergized, the CBCP-Episcopal Commission on Youth proposes the following guidelines for the use of youth ministries that will organize their own local celebration of the WYD2013:

Essential WYD components

Make present essential components of the WYD, such as the theme, catecheses, celebration of the Sacraments (Reconciliation and the Eucharist, and particularly Eucharistic adoration), and a pervading spirit of joy (festive) and communion (interactive)

Encounter with the Bishop

As the WYD is dubbed “young people and the Pope, together”, the local celebrations should allow for an open and affirming encounter between the bishop/s and the youth

Witnessing

Organizers and volunteers are invited to see their task as primarily giving testimony to the love of Christ that sheds light on their lives. Let older lay people and religious and clergy ministers could present a form of joyful witness to Christian life, e.g. ushers to give joyful assistance no matter how simple their role, selected persons to give creative and lively testimonial, priests to offer Confession, etc.

Link with the WYD in Rio

If possible: Live feed (or delayed broadcast, depending on the chosen date) from the WYD2013 in Rio, e.g. Vigil with the Holy Father and/or Closing Eucharist. It may be preferred that only selections be shown, and not a “marathon telecast” where participants merely watch, to ensure that the gathering is interactive.

Open to all young people

Organize the event in such a way that as many young people as possible are welcomed. For example, a gathering in a large venue may be preferred for greater variety in interaction. Collaboration among church ministries and organizations, but most especially among youth groups, possibly coordinated by the diocese / parish, may be stronger in impact than having these groups work on their own. Promotion among and linking with young people outside ecclesial structures will be good. Encouraging youth ministries in parishes and BEC's to have parallel celebrations may also be very effective.

Requests from the ECY

1. Kindly inform the ECY about your schedule and other important details, so that it can be shared through our website and other media platforms.
2. After the event, please accomplish the report form (*attached*) for documentation and send back by 02 August 2013.

Thank you for your kind attention! Our commission implores the power of the Holy Spirit upon you and your efforts for this event of grace for our young people.

Prepared by:


Rev. Fr. CONEGUNDO B. GARGANTA
Executive Secretary

Noted by:


+ JOEL Z. BAYLON, DD
Chairman

“Pope Benedict XVI said that World Youth Day is a ‘remedy against faith fatigue’, and ‘a new, more youthful form of Christianity’.

It is ‘new evangelization put into practice’,

a great sign of hope for the Church and the entire world.

We must not, of course, consider WYD to be an isolated event.

It has to be well prepared,

and it must be followed up in the normal youth ministry in the dioceses and parishes.

In other words, it must always be a ‘new beginning’

in the pastoral engagement of the Church towards the younger generations.

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