



41st World Youth Day (WYD) 2027

Seoul, Korea

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

Invitation from the Holy Father

IN ASIA: IN SOUTH KOREA: IN SEOUL

August 6, 2023

As youth from around the world joined the Pope in Lisbon, Portugal, the Holy Father announced the next World Youth Day.

"The next World Youth Day will take place in Asia... in Seoul, South Korea!"



"Thus, from the western border of Europe it will move to the Far East. This is a marvellous sign of the Church's universality and of the dream of unity to which you bear witness!"

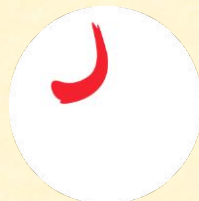
See you in Seoul in 2027!



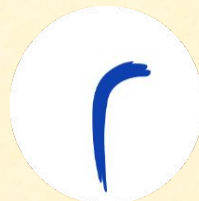
Logo



Cross
Korean dynamism



God's will



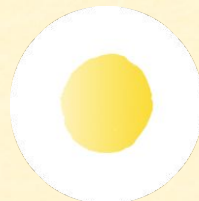
on Earth



Exuberant young person



"Seoul" in Hangeul



Holy Spirit
Glory of Christ's victory

Youth from Seoul and around the world united in the Holy Spirit

Theme

“Take courage! I have overcome the world.”

(John 16:33)

Rejoicing in hope (38th WYD theme) and never growing weary (39th WYD theme), become a witness to the Christ you have encountered (40th WYD theme) and gather your courage (41st WYD theme) to embark on the pilgrimage to Seoul!

Pope Francis chose John 16:33 as the theme for World Youth Day Seoul 2027.

This verse, spoken by Jesus to his disciples at the Last Supper, reminds us of the irrevocable truth that despite the challenges of the world, Christ has already conquered fear, sin, and death. **It is a call to hope and courage rooted in faith in the resurrection—not a passive optimism, but a bold confidence grounded in the living presence of Christ.**

Young people across the globe today are confronted with a wide range of challenges, including conflicts, economic hardship, and an uncertain future. Thankfully, at WYD Seoul 2027, they can receive the joy of becoming the **“salt of the earth and the light of the world.”** Through their encounters with one another they will experience unconditional love, thereby gaining the strength to be sent back out into the world as **“pilgrims of hope”** and **“courageous missionaries,”** boldly putting into practice the joy of the Gospel they have discovered.

WYD Seoul 2027 in August 3 - 8



Gathering and Registration (until Tuesday)

Pilgrims gather in the host city for World Youth Day.



Opening Mass (Tuesday)

World Youth Day officially begins with the Opening Mass, celebrated by the Ordinary of the host diocese, marking the start of the international gathering.



Catechesis Triduum (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)

Pilgrims participate in catechetical sessions led by bishops, deepening their understanding of the faith.



Youth Festival (Tuesday to Friday)

Various events for young people are held around the host diocese.



Reconciliation Center and Vocations Fair (Tuesday to Friday)

Pilgrims are invited to reconcile with the Lord through Confession and hear His call by learning about diverse vocations.



Papal Welcome Ceremony (Thursday)

Young people gather with excitement to welcome the Holy Father on Thursday afternoon.



Way of the Cross (Friday)

The Pope and the pilgrims come together to meditate on the Way of the Cross prepared for them by young people.



Vigil (Saturday)

On Saturday, all the pilgrims move to the venue for the Closing Mass. With the Holy Father, they pray and adore the Eucharist before settling in to spend the night there.



Closing Mass (Sunday)

As Sunday morning breaks, the pilgrims unite in the celebration of Mass with the Pope. At the conclusion of the liturgy, he announces the location of the next World Youth Day.



Meeting with the Volunteers (Sunday)

Finally, after the Closing Mass, the Holy Father meets with the World Youth Day volunteers to express his gratitude and offer them words of encouragement.

The Pilgrim Cross

Where is the WYD Cross?



40 Years of Traveling - Responding to Saint John Paul II's call for them to carry the Cross "**throughout the world as a symbol of Christ's love for humanity,**" young people have accompanied the WYD Cross on its pilgrimage around the world for over 40 years.

On November 24, 2024, the Solemnity of Christ the King, **the World Youth Day Cross and the icon of Mary Salus Populi Romani were handed over to the young Koreans** on their way to Seoul, the site of the next World Youth Day to be held in 2027.

**The WYD Cross is currently in
Diocese of Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand
in September 19 - 20, 2025**

Prayer for the preparation of WYD Seoul 2027

Prayer for the Youth

- 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