



Our Lady of the Assumption Church

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Basic Information for Pilgrims

World Youth Day 2023 – Lisbon, Portugal

Theme: “Mary arose and went with haste.” (Luke 1:39)

Days in the Diocese: Wednesday, July 26th – Monday, July 31st, 2023

The ‘Days in the Diocese’ is a weeklong gathering leading up to ‘World Youth Day’ in Lisbon. Young people from around the world are sent to host parishes and will get to know the local Church through its people, culture, and region. Parishes from seventeen dioceses across mainland Portugal and its islands will be hosting. Pilgrims will stay in the homes of families belonging to these host parishes and in public facilities. Through Days in the Diocese, pilgrims will experience the universal Church, evangelization, and mission!

World Youth Day: Tuesday, August 1st – Sunday, August 6th, 2023

“World Youth Day (WYD) is the gathering of young people from all over the world with the Pope. It is also a pilgrimage, a celebration of youth, an expression of the universal Church and an intense moment of evangelization for the youth world ... It aims to provide all participants with a universal Church experience, fostering a personal encounter with Jesus Christ” (lisboa2023.org).

Tuesday, August 1 st	WYD Opening Mass and Ceremonies
Wednesday, August 2 nd	Morning Catechesis, WYD Youth Festival Events
Thursday, August 3 rd	Morning Catechesis, Welcoming Ceremonies for the Holy Father
Friday, August 4 th	Morning Catechesis, WYD Youth Festival Events, Via Crucis
Saturday, August 5 th	Pilgrimage Walk, Evening Prayer Vigil with the Holy Father
Sunday, August 6 th	Morning Mass with the Pope, Closing Ceremonies, Pilgrimage Walk Back

Eligibility

- The pilgrim is a registered parishioner of Our Lady of the Assumption and a practicing Catholic who is seeking to deepen his/her faith.
- Pilgrims must be between the ages of 19 to 40 years old.
- The pilgrim has or will have a Passport that is valid for at least six months after the group’s return.
- The pilgrim is physically, mentally, and emotionally able to make a pilgrimage to Lisbon which includes prayer, worship, celebrations, walking to the site of the closing Mass, an overnight outdoor Vigil with WYD pilgrims, etc.

Expenses

- **Airfare:** projected cost **\$1500 – \$2000 CAD**
- **World Youth Day:** approximately **\$1000 CAD** (official WYD pilgrim pack, WYD registration and activities, travel insurance)

<https://www.lisboa2023.org/en/>



Fundraising

For those who would find this financially challenging, the parish is willing to provide some fundraising opportunities to support your overall costs and encourages pilgrims to do their own fundraising through families and friends (e.g., to have family and friends support your pilgrimage travel costs as their Christmas gift to you this year).

Spiritual Formation

There will be an expectation to attend spiritual events and gatherings at an average of one per month beginning this January until June, 2023.

Official Prayer

Our Lady of the Visitation,

you who arose and went with haste towards the mountain to meet Elizabeth,

lead us also to meet all those who await us

to deliver them the living Gospel:

Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord!

We will go in a hurry, with no distraction or delay,

but with readiness and joy.

We will go peacefully, because those who take Christ take peace,

and well-doing is the best wellbeing.

Our Lady of the Visitation,

with your inspiration, this World Youth Day

will be the mutual celebration of the Christ we take, as You once did.

Make it a time of testimony and sharing,

fraternization, and giving thanks,

each of us looking for the others who always wait.

With you, we will continue on this path of gathering,

so that our world will gather as well,

in fraternity, justice and peace.

Help us,

Our Lady of the Visitation,

to bring Christ to everyone, obeying the Father, in the love of the Spirit! Amen.

