

## SYDNEY CATHOLIC YOUTH PILGRIMAGE - FULL ITINERARY

**\*Please note this itinerary is subject to change**

**KEY:**

**(B) = Breakfast**

**(L) = Lunch**

**(D) = Dinner**

### **DAY 1 – TUESDAY 15 JANUARY - DEPART SYDNEY – WASHINGTON DC, USA**

Your journey begins today as we depart for Washington DC! Upon arrival at the airport, a Cosmos Representative will meet the pilgrimage group and transfer you to your accommodation where we will come together for dinner. (D)

### **DAY 2 – WEDNESDAY 16 JANUARY – WASHINGTON DC, USA**

This morning we will visit the Saint John Paul II National Shrine and undertake a spiritual journey with this great saint. Discover the man who became St. John Paul II and learn about the major themes and events of his papacy. See the 'A Gift of Love: The Life of Saint John Paul II' exhibition that includes photos, quotes and personal artifacts. Attend a private mass before enjoying some time at leisure to explore the shrine to see the Relics in the Redemptor Hominis Church, including the first-class relic of St. John Paul II's blood. Our pilgrimage will then continue with a tour of Washington city's landmarks including the Library of Congress, the Lincoln and National WWI Memorials, Washington Monument, and photo stops at Capitol Hill and the White House. Return to the hotel where you will meet for reflection time. (B)

### **DAY 3 – THURSDAY 17 JANUARY – WASHINGTON DC**

After breakfast, we will visit the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, which is the largest Roman Catholic church in the United States and North America, and is one of the ten largest churches in the world. Attend a Private MASS, before a one-hour guided tour of the Basilica's major works of art, history, and other highlights while traversing the massive expanse of the Great Upper Church and Crypt Level. Our pilgrimage will then continue to the Smithsonian Institution, where we will visit the Holocaust Museum. We will learn about the history of the Holocaust through artifacts, pictures, and personal testimonies of survivors. The three-story tower of display photographs from Jews who were from a small town in Lithuania and a railway carriage on display are harrowing and breathtaking reminders of the past. Return to the hotel where you will meet for reflection time this evening. (B)

### **DAY 4 – FRIDAY 18 JANUARY – WASHINGTON DC**

Today is all about the sanctity of life – as we participate in the March for Life rally. We will have an early start this morning as we depart for the Capital One Arena to attend the Youth Rally and Mass for Life event. The Rally strives to encourage the youth participating in the national March for Life in their witness as disciples of Christ and promoters of the Gospel of Life. Pilgrims will then attend 46th Annual March for Life rally, which provides pilgrims a place to testify to the beauty of life and the dignity of each human person. This evening, we will all come together for dinner at the hotel. (B, D)

### **DAY 5 – SATURDAY 19 JANUARY – WASHINGTON DC**

After breakfast at the hotel we will travel to the Campus of Catholic University for the Nationwide

WYD celebration or attend the Students for life conference. In the evening, we will join other countries for an international dinner. (B,D)

#### **DAY 6 – SUNDAY 20 JANUARY – WASHINGTON DC - PANAMA CITY, PANAMA**

This morning, attend a private mass at a local church before transferring to the airport for your ongoing flight to Panama City for World Youth Day 2019! Upon arrival, a Cosmos Representative will meet you where you will be transferred to your hotel, where we you will check in. (B,D)

#### **DAY 7 - MONDAY 21 JANUARY - PANAMA CITY**

Today is at leisure for you to explore this cosmopolitan city. This evening come together for MASS and then return to your hotel for dinner. (B,D)

#### **DAY 8 - TUESDAY 22 JANUARY - PANAMA CITY**

The World Youth Day celebration begins with the Opening Mass which is said by the local Bishop. This Mass often emphasises the culture of the host country, Panama! The Opening Mass for WYD Panama City 2019 will take place in the afternoon. (B,L,D)

#### **DAY 9 - WEDNESDAY 23 JANUARY - PANAMA CITY**

Over the next three days, you will take part in morning Catechesis with Bishops from around the world and have the opportunity to encounter the Vocations Expo and the Youth Festival program. (B,L,D)

**Catechesis** is preached in different languages by Bishops from around the world who will teach and reflect with pilgrims. Catechesis sessions will take place across the city in churches and other chosen venues to ensure that all young people can participate.

The **Youth Festival**; a religious, artistic and cultural program takes place in the afternoons and evenings during the three days of catechesis, except during the Main Events. The Youth Festival is composed of open and free initiatives of an artistic, religious and spiritual character. This aspect of WYD gives pilgrims an opportunity to participate in concerts, exhibitions, workshops, sporting events, theatre events and many others.

**The Vocations Fair/Centre** is a place where religious congregations, catholic schools and universities, religious publishing houses, missionary organizations, national and international movements and communities can present their charism and works. The Vocations Centre's goal is to show young pilgrims different paths of achieving their vocation in the Church, and to encourage them to look for answers to the question of what God wants from them in their lives.

#### **DAY 10 - THURSDAY 24 JANUARY - PANAMA CITY**

After a morning of catechesis, today will be the pilgrim's first encounter with the Holy Father during the Papal Welcome. It is a time of particular joy and pilgrims will have the opportunity to pray together with Pope Francis. During the service we listen to the Word of God and the first speech of the Holy Father. (B,L,D)

#### **DAY 11 - FRIDAY 25 JANUARY - PANAMA CITY**

This morning, pilgrims will engage in the final catechesis session with the international Bishops. In the afternoon and evening, pilgrims gather for the Way of the Cross - which invites pilgrims into the penitential character of WYD. The World Youth Day Cross is carried in a procession during this

service and young people follow a designated route through the city, giving testimony of their faith. (B,L,D)

**DAY 12 - SATURDAY 26 JANUARY - PANAMA CITY**

Today pilgrims will take part in the pilgrimage walk to the site of the vigil and final mass. The Vigil is often the most personal part of the central events with the Holy Father. It is a unique time of prayer and meeting with Christ and it has an atmosphere of total peace but also great joy. (B,L,D)

**DAY 13 - SUNDAY 27 JANUARY – PANAMA CITY**

Today is the conclusion of the WYD pilgrimage and the celebration of the Final Mass of the XXXIV World Youth Day; celebrated by the Holy Father. During this Eucharist celebration, the Pope challenges and sends the young people out to the whole world to be witnesses in their own homes. At the very end, after the Angelus, the Holy Father traditionally announces the location of the next World Youth Day.\* (B,L,D)

*\*WYD Panama 2019 schedule has not been released, this is a guide only and subject to change. Meal options are not yet advised.*

**DAY 14 – MONDAY 28 JANUARY - PANAMA CITY**

After breakfast, meet with your fellow pilgrims to reflect on your pilgrimage so far. After free time for lunch (not included), come together for MASS and quiet time for recollection and reflection. The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure, before your final dinner in Panama this evening. (B, D)

**DAY 15 – TUESDAY 29 JANUARY - PANAMA CITY - RETURN TO AUSTRALIA**

After breakfast and checking out of the accommodation, time is at leisure before your group transfer to the airport for your journey home. (B)

**DAY 16 – WEDNESDAY 30 JANUARY – IN FLIGHT**

**DAY 17 – THURSDAY 31 JANUARY – ARRIVE IN AUSTRALIA**

*OR OPTIONAL EXTENSION TO MEXICO*

**DAY 15 – TUESDAY 29 JANUARY - PANAMA CITY – MEXICO CITY**

After breakfast we will transfer to Panama airport for our flight to Mexico City. Upon arrival at Mexico Airport, a Cosmos Representative will meet the pilgrimage group and transfer you to your accommodation where you will have time at leisure before MASS at a local church followed by dinner at the hotel. (B,D)

**DAY 16 – WEDNESDAY 30 JANUARY – MEXICO CITY**

This morning we will learn about the ancient Aztec people with a visit to Teotihuacan to see the ancient PYRAMIDS OF THE SUN AND MOON and an inside view from the extraordinary TEMPLE OF QUETZALCOA. Next, explore the PLAZA OF 3 CULTURES which is on the site of modern high-rise buildings, Aztec ruins, and the Spanish colonial CHURCH OF SANTIAGO TLATELOLCO, home to the baptismal font of Juan Diego and where the Virgin Mary later appeared to Juan Diego. Afterward, visit one of the holiest churches in Mexico City, commonly known as the CHURCH OF THE FIFTH

APPARITION or Santa Maria Tlpetlac. The church is built on the site where Juan Diego's uncle lived and was healed by the Virgin Mary. Attend MASS before returning to Mexico City (B)

**DAY 17 – THURSDAY 31 JANUARY – MEXICO CITY**

After breakfast, we will depart for the CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY, where you will see the shrine of the Blessed Miguel Pro. Attend MASS at the church and have some free time for reflection. We will then visit THE BASILICA OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE which is the most-visited Catholic shrine in the world. Enjoy quiet reflection and Vigil adoration, followed by dinner (not included). Return to your hotel later this evening. (B)

**DAY 18 – FRIDAY 1 FEBRUARY – MEXICO CITY**

Today is dedicated to one of the world's most revered shrines—THE BASILICA OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE. After attending MASS in one of the High Chapels, there's time to visit the museum, and view the famous TILMA, the large apron that was imprinted with the image of the Virgin Mary and worn by Juan Diego. There's also time to visit the original basilica, the Chapel of Indios, the Chapel of the Well, and the tranquil grotto. This evening, come together for dinner, where you will celebrate your pilgrimage and reflect upon your WYD journey. (B,D)

**DAY 19 – SATURDAY 2 FEBRUARY – MEXICO CITY – RETURN TO AUSTRALIA**

After breakfast and checking out of the accommodation, time is at leisure before your group transfer to the airport for your journey home. (B)

**DAY 20 – SUNDAY 3 FEBRUARY – IN FLIGHT**

**DAY 21 – MONDAY 4 FEBRUARY - ARRIVE IN AUSTRALIA**