



## **A PRAYER for WORLD YOUTH DAY 2008**

### **About WYD08**

**World Youth Day (WYD) is the largest youth event in the world and will be held in Sydney from Tuesday 15 to Sunday 20 July 2008.**

**WYD is a weeklong series of events attended by the Pope and hundreds of thousands of young people from all over the globe. It has become the largest single mobilization of young people in the world.**

**The week culminates in a Final Mass celebrated by the Pope on the last day (the actual World Youth Day). Typically, it is the largest event of the week and has drawn millions of people.**

**Theme: "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be My witnesses." (Acts 1:8)**

### **PRESENCE of GOD**

**We know Lord that You have pitched Your tent among us. We are Your people and You love us with an everlasting love.**

**Glory to You, Source of All Being, Eternal Word, and Spirit most Holy. As it was is now, and forever shall be.**

**Hymn: SEND US YOUR SPIRIT – by David Haas**

**Come Lord Jesus, send us your Spirit,  
renew the face of the earth.**

**Come Lord Jesus, send us your Spirit,  
renew the face of the earth.**

**Come to us Spirit of God, breathe in us now, we sing together.**

**Spirit of hope and of light, fill or lives, come to us. Spirit of God.**

**Fill us with the fire of your love, burn in us now, bring us together.**

**Come to us, dwell in us, change our lives, O Lord come to us, Spirit of God.**

**Let all creation now be shaken with love, come to us, Spirit of God.**

## **PSALM 150**

**Hallelujah! Praise God in His holy sanctuary; give praise in the mighty dome of heaven.**

**Give praise for His mighty deeds, praise Him for his great majesty.**

**Give praise with blasts upon the horn, praise Him with harp and lyre.**

**Give praise with tambourines and dance, praise Him with flutes and strings.**

**Give praise with crashing cymbals, praise Him with sounding cymbals.**

**Let everything that has breath give praise to the LORD! Hallelujah!**

## **PRAYER BEFORE the SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Open your ears oh Christian people; open your ears and hear the Good News.**

**Open your hearts oh Christian people, open your hearts and receive the Good News.**

## **ACTS 2:1-11**

**When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled,  
they were all in one place together.**

**And suddenly there came from the sky  
a noise like a strong driving wind,  
and it filled the entire house in which they were.**

**Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire,  
which parted and came to rest on each one of them.**

**And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit  
and began to speak in different tongues,  
as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.**

## **1 CORINTHIANS 12:3b-7, 12-13**

**Brothers and sisters:**

**No one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.**

**There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit;**

**there are different forms of service but the same Lord;**

**there are different workings but the same God**

**who produces all of them in everyone.**

**To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit  
is given for some benefit.**

**As a body is one though it has many parts,  
and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body,  
so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body,  
whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons,  
and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.**

## **A MESSAGE**

**Observe how the Holy Spirit is the highest gift of God to humankind, and therefore the supreme testimony of His love for us, a love that is specifically expressed as the “yes to life” that God wills for each of His creatures. This “yes to life” finds its fullness in Jesus of Nazareth and in His victory over evil by means of the redemption. In this regard, let us never forget that the Gospel of Jesus, precisely because of the Spirit, cannot be reduced to a mere statement of fact, for it is intended to be “good news for the poor, release for captives, sight for the blind ...”. With what great vitality this was seen on the day of Pentecost, as it became the grace and the task of the Church towards the world, her primary mission!**

**May Mary, united in prayer with the Apostles in the Upper Room, accompany you throughout these weeks ahead and obtain for all young Christians a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit to set their hearts on fire. Remember: the Church has confidence in you! We pray that you may love and lead others to love Jesus more and more and that you may follow Him faithfully. With these sentiments I bless you all with deep affection.**

## **BENEDICTUS PP. XVI**

### **WORLD YOUTH DAY PRAYER**

**God Our Father,  
we consecrate to You the World Youth Day in Sydney in 2008.  
Guide and protect Pope Benedict and all the leaders of the Church.  
Inspire and direct all those leading and planning the World Youth Day.  
Unite and protect them by your fatherly care. Amen.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,  
before You ascended to the Father,  
You promised to send Your Holy Spirit  
so that we might be your witnesses to the end of the earth.  
Bless and multiply the efforts of all our staff and volunteers.  
Help us to take up our cross and follow You  
under the heavenly sign of the Southern Cross. Amen.**

**Holy Spirit,  
pour out Your grace on the Great South Land  
of the Holy Spirit and grant to us a New Pentecost.  
Make of this land a true place of welcome  
for the young people of the world.  
Grant to those young people who come conversion of life,  
a deeper faith, and love for all.  
Enable them to build a new civilization of life, love and truth.  
Make them true witnesses to your power and grace. Amen.**



## **A PRAYER FOR PILGRIMS AND JOURNEYERS**

**A journey once taken alone,  
we now choose to take together.**

**Moving forward as one body  
into a future filled with possibility,**

**we walk without maps, but we walk confidently,  
and we walk with hope, because we have chosen  
to be lights for each other, while on the way.**

**We travel forward along a way we have not gone before;  
we travel as one who is led, arms outstretched,  
as one who is called forth to life.**

**We travel in need, dependent on the Lord for strength,  
for assurance,  
dependent on each other,  
God's instruments for love.**

**Leaving known paths behind us,  
we choose to journey in faith and service.**

**As the journey brought us here, so now we begin it anew,  
in company.**

**Edwin Hays**

## **BLESSING**

**May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers,  
half-truths, superficial relationships,  
so that you will live deep within your heart.**

**May God bless you with anger at injustice,  
oppression, and exploitation of people,  
so that you will work for justice, equity, and peace.**

**May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain,  
rejection, starvation, and war,  
so that you will reach out your hand to comfort them and change their pain  
to joy.**

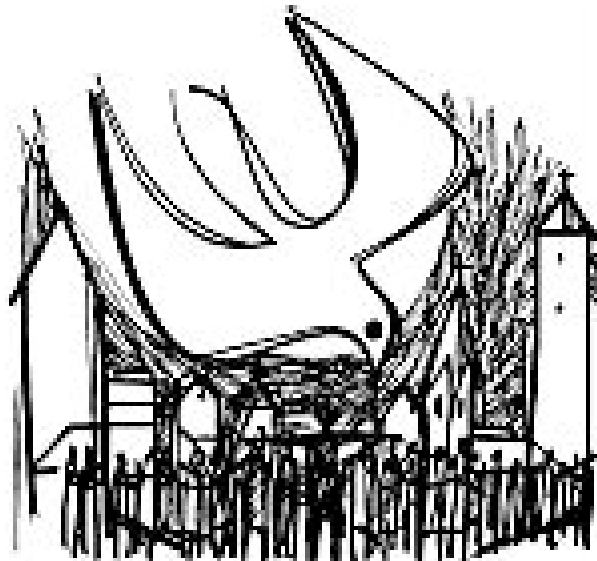
**And may God bless you with the foolishness to think that you can make a  
difference in the world,  
so that you will do things which others tell you cannot be done.**

**HYMN: SPIRIT – FRIEND – Tom Colvin**

**God sends us His Spirit to befriend and help us.  
Recreate and guide us, Spirit-Friend.  
Sprit Who enlivens, sanctifies, enlightens;  
Sets us free is now our Spirit-Friend.  
Spirit of our Maker, Spirit-Friend.**

**Darkened roads are clearer, heavy loads are lighter.  
When we are walking with our Spirit-Friend.  
Now we need not fear the powers of the darkness.  
None can overcome our Spirit-Friend.  
Spirit of our Jesu, Spirit-Friend.**

**Now we are God's people, bonded by God's presence.  
Agents of God's purpose, Spirit-Friend.  
Lead us forward, slipping backward never.  
To Your re-made world, our Spirit-Friend.  
Spirit of God's people, Spirit-Friend.**



**The Lord's blessing on all who are journeying to Sydney.  
May He give you a safe and faith-filled pilgrimage.**

**The Lord bless and unite all those who cannot make pilgrimage to Australia  
with those attending World Youth Day.  
Together, prompted by the Holy Spirit, let us set the world on fire for Jesus.**



**Saint John Baptist de La Salle  
and all you holy Brothers who have gone before us  
help us to lead our youth to the Lord Jesus.,**

**Live Jesus in our hearts. Forever!**

