

**Preparing for the pilgrimage**

\*\*There will be four gatherings over the course of the next ten months to prepare the diocesan pilgrims for this experience. Dates and times are being finalized and will be sent after registration is completed. Pilgrims are expected to make every effort to attend these preparatory meetings.

\*\*The WYD Organizing Committee in Australia has developed several tools to aid pilgrims in their preparation for the World Youth Day pilgrimage. Please visit the World Youth Day website at [www.wyd2008.org](http://www.wyd2008.org) to register for the monthly ePILGRIMAGE, a cyber epistle featuring a changing theme, testimonies from young people, selected readings and interesting snippets about the lives of saints and places of pilgrimage around the world as well as practical information about WYD08 in Sydney. The organizing committee even has information on fundraising and items available through the online WYD08 Shop.

\*\*Catholic Relief Services has developed a World Youth Day Global Pilgrimage. Find out more by visiting <http://education.crs.org/wyd/>.

**Accommodations:** “Simple accommodations” is housing provided by WYD in suburban homes, schools and church halls within a single parish boundary. Pilgrims housed in host homes can expect: at least two of the same gender per home placement, breakfast, transportation to/from group pick up points (a parish or school), and the opportunity to meet local families and receive their hospitality. Housing for our excursion days is being determined, but will probably be a hotel or hostel.

**Food:** Meals during the Days in the Dioceses are provided by our hosts. A meal plan is included in the WYD08 registration fee for our days in Sydney. The meals are simple and balanced. Meals during our excursion days will be at the expense of each pilgrim.

**What is the weather like in Sydney?** July is during the winter season in Sydney. Sydney's winters are normally mild and dry. Over the past few years, the average daily temperatures have ranged from 46 - 64 degrees Fahrenheit.

**Where can I get more information?**

- Stay in touch with the diocesan pilgrimage through the Office of Evangelization, Catechesis and Initiation at (269) 349-8714 ext. 228 or [lirwin@dioceseofkalamazoo.org](mailto:lirwin@dioceseofkalamazoo.org).
- Visit the official World Youth Day website [www.wyd2008.org](http://www.wyd2008.org)