



Pilgrimage to World Youth Day 2016

World Youth Day is an international meeting of young people with the pope, which takes place every 2-3 years. This year's WYD, its 31st edition, will take place in Krakow, Poland, home country of the founder of the event, Pope St. John Paul II.

Primarily, the event serves as an opportunity for the youth to personally encounter Jesus Christ, an encounter which calls to conversion and love, to community and growth, to building a better world around them. [Join our pilgrims as they meet Pope Francis: click here for details of live broadcasts.](#)

25/07/16: Our pilgrims set off for Krakow

In the early hours of Monday, 25th July, fifty young adults from across the Diocese of Dromore, accompanied by Bishop McAreavey, Fr. Krzysztof Kosciolk, Fr. Brian Fitzpatrick, Youth Director Mrs Frances McNally and others, left for World Youth Day 2016 in Krakow, Poland, where they will join Pope Francis.

Fr. Krzysztof will be posting photos every day, so that we can all journey with them. Please keep all of our pilgrims in your prayers and check back daily to follow their progress.

You can also watch live TV coverage from Krakow (beginning Tuesday 26th July) on EWTN (available on Sky and Freesat or [watch live online by clicking here](#)). [Click here to view this week's schedule](#). Join Pope Francis for the opening Mass on Tuesday, 26th July at 4pm.



WAITING TO BOARD THE FLIGHT TO KRAKOW



MIXED REACTIONS TO THE 3AM DEPARTURE FROM NEWRY :)



UPDATE 25/07/16: OUR PILGRIMS VISITED NITRA CASTLE, SLOVAKIA TODAY

World Youth Day Live Broadcast Schedule



Watch Pope Francis and young adults from our diocese and around the world as they meet in Krakow, Poland for World Youth Day. EWTN will broadcast live from Poland throughout this week. You can watch EWTN's live coverage on Sky TV, Freesat [and online by clicking here](#). You can [view the full schedule by clicking here](#). We've made this quick guide to the highlights:

Opening Ceremony

[Watch live on EWTN](#) at 16:00 on Tuesday, July 26th

WYD Kraków will officially begin with the Opening Ceremony, the highlight of which will be Holy Mass celebrated by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, longtime personal secretary and friend of Pope Saint John Paul II.

Papal Welcoming Ceremony

[Watch live on EWTN](#) at 16:00 on Thursday, July 28th

Pope Francis will deliver his first speech in Poland. Around 600,000 young people are expected to be in attendance.



Way of The Cross

[Watch live on EWTN](#) at 16:30 Friday, July 29th

Young representatives will carry the WYD cross in a procession, as the Holy Father contemplates Jesus's Passion and death through the lens of the works of mercy. The meditations will address challenges young people face throughout the world today, including the persecuted Church.

Vigil with the Holy Father

[Watch live on EWTN](#) at 18:00 Saturday, July 30th

Typically, the most personal moment for WYD participants is the Vigil with the Holy Father. It is an intense time of prayer and fervent joyful encounter with Christ. The main idea behind the Vigil is the theme "The Road to Jesus" – that is, the road to Mercy. The Vigil is an opportunity for youth to encounter Christ, Mercy Itself, and thereby become apostles of mercy in the footsteps of the saints who heralded that same message before them – St. Faustina and Pope Saint John Paul II.

Closing Mass

[Watch live on EWTN](#) at 08:15 on Sunday, July 31st

The last main event is the closing Mass celebrated by the Holy Father. It is the culmination of all WYD events. During the Sacrament of the Eucharist, the pope sends the youth out to the whole world. This sending out will strengthen them, so that they may consistently apply the spirit and message of WYD to their daily lives, and share it with their families and communities worldwide. At the end of the Mass, during the Angelus, Pope Francis will announce the place and date of the next WYD.