

Liturgical Planning Guide for World Youth Day October 25, 2009 Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B

What Is World Youth Day?

In 1985, Pope John Paul II invited young people from around the world to join him in Rome on Palm Sunday to observe the United Nations' International Year of Youth. At this gathering, the Holy Father initiated World Youth Day. In addition to the annual celebration of World Youth Day, the pope invites young people from around the world to gather with him approximately every other year for the international gathering of World Youth Day.

World Youth Day is a day to celebrate youth (younger and older teens), in all of their diversity and goodness, and to encourage these young people to lead the church both now and into the future. The bishops of the United States, wanting to place full attention on the youth of our nation, voted to move the celebration in the United States from Palm Sunday to the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, this year celebrated on October 25. During this weekend, parishes are invited to bless their young people, involve them in all aspects of the Mass, affirm their leadership, and invite them to use their gifts in service to the church and the world.

A Message from the Pope . . .

Each year, the pope prepares a message to the young people of the world. The 2009 statement can be found online at www.vatican.va or www.nfcym.org.

Suggested Bulletin Announcements

The Weekend Prior to World Youth Day

Next weekend we will be honoring our young people at all Masses as we celebrate World Youth Day, an annual celebration of youth begun by Pope John Paul II in 1985. Please join us in prayer and affirmation as we recognize the gifts of our youth and encourage their full and active participation in the life of our faith community. (Add specific details of what will happen at and/or after all Masses for the youth.)

The Weekend of World Youth Day

This weekend we give thanks for our youth and the many gifts and blessings they bring to our parish community as we celebrate World Youth Day, an annual celebration begun by Pope John Paul II in 1985. We ask for your ongoing prayers of support for each of them, their families, and those who minister to and with them along their journey of faith. (Include any parish plans or announcements about the youth.)

Liturgical Recommendations for Parishes Celebrating World Youth Day

- One of the primary goals of youth ministry is to involve the whole parish in ministering to and with the young people. Therefore, it is recommended that young people be affirmed and celebrated at each of the Masses during World Youth Day rather than highlighting them at just one of the weekend liturgies.
- Invite young people and the adults who work with them to serve in the various lay ministries connected with each Mass.
- Invite an older youth or two to offer a witness as to their journey of faith before Mass begins or after Communion.
- If World Youth Day cannot be celebrated on the 30th Sunday due to conflicts with other scheduled events, select another weekend at which the young people and their faith journeys may be celebrated.

Suggested General Intercessions for World Youth Day

- That our young people may respond to the call to ministry and leadership within their parish and school communities, we pray to the Lord . . .
- In thanksgiving for all those who help to form, empower, and support our young people in their ongoing journeys of faith, we pray to the Lord . . .
- That we may use our eyes of faith to see Christ in every person, we pray to the Lord . . .

Recommended Music for Mass

These youth-friendly songs are selected for their connection to the readings for the 30th Sunday. Consider using one or more in the Mass, as a call to worship, or a Communion meditation.

Title	Performer	Publisher
<i>Anthem</i>	Tom Conry	GIA, <i>Gather Comprehensive</i>
<i>Celebrate Youth</i>	Steve Angrisano	
<i>City of God</i>	Dan Schutte	OCP, <i>Breaking Bread</i>
<i>Go Make a Difference</i>	Steve Angrisano, Tom Tomaszek	OCP, <i>Spirit & Song</i>
<i>I Say "Yes," Lord/ Digo "Si" Senor</i>	Donna Pena	GIA, <i>Gather Comprehensive</i>
<i>Voices That Challenge</i>	David Haas	GIA, <i>Gather Comprehensive</i>
<i>We Are Marching in the Light of God</i>	South African, traditional	OCP, <i>Spirit & Song</i>
<i>We Are the Light of the World</i>	Jean A. Greif, Arr. Tom Tomaszek	OCP, <i>Spirit & Song</i>

Blessing of Youth

This blessing may be prayed over all the young people in the assembly after the Communion Prayer.

God of Faith and Truth,
We ask your blessing upon our young people.
May they come to know and share the
wonder and awe that is within them
as they grow in wisdom, knowledge, and
understanding.
Bless their openness and enthusiasm,
strengthen and support the many good
works they do.
Challenge and provoke them along their
journey of faith as
You guide them to understand their true
calling in this world.
In all these things, we ask your blessing upon
them this day,
In the name of the Father, the Son, and the
Holy Spirit.
Amen.

A Blessing of Young Ministers and Leaders

The presider invites all young people involved in ministry and service forward as the following blessing of their senses is prayed. If the group is small, the presider may wish to actually make the sign of the cross over the senses of each person. If the group is larger, a general motion of the sign of the cross can be used.

May the Lord bless your eyes so that you see the goodness and uniqueness of God in every person.

May the Lord bless your ears to listen to the diversity of needs that exist within this community.

May the Lord bless your lips to speak the truth honestly, openly, and powerfully in all you do.

May the Lord bless your hands to reach out in compassionate service for the good of the kingdom.

Invite the entire assembly to extend their hands in solidarity as the presider prays:

God of All Life,
bless these young people
whom you have called forth to serve.

Guide and sustain them in ministry
so our community will be blessed by
the richness and diversity of their leadership.

Empower them to be prophetic voices of today
as they prepare to lead us into the possibilities
of tomorrow.

We ask this blessing upon each of them in the
name of the + the Father, the Son, and the
Holy Spirit.
AMEN!

For more information on prayers, blessings, and music to be used for World Youth Day, as well as throughout the year, go to the NFCYM website at: www.nfcym.org.