LISTEN TO WHAT THE SPIRIT IS SAYING

Information for Catholic Secondary Schools about the Melbourne Pilgrimage to the 2019 Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Perth

www.cam.org.au/acyf19
The fourth Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) will take place at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre from 8–10 December 2019.

ACYF provides young people with opportunities to deepen their relationship with Jesus, be empowered to be disciples in the world today and encounter and celebrate the vitality of the Church in Australia. The Melbourne Pilgrimage to ACYF will enable up to 2500 young people from the Archdiocese of Melbourne to participate in Australia’s largest national gathering for young Catholics. The Festival is open to participants aged from year 9–30 years, plus leaders of any age. Harvest Journeys is the official tour provider for the Melbourne pilgrimage to ACYF.

Melbourne Catholic Secondary Schools are invited to participate in the Melbourne Pilgrimage!

Melbourne Catholic Secondary Schools are invited to participate in the Melbourne Pilgrimage by selecting a group package for their students and teachers. Schools will coordinate their own leadership, supervision, chaplaincy and formation for their group, allowing them to experience ACYF as part of the Melbourne Pilgrimage while retaining the duty of care over their students. Groups will receive formation and retreat resources to prepare for their pilgrimage.

School groups will be required to have a minimum of two adult leaders supervising students, one of which would be the nominated Group Coordinator. Group Coordinators will be required to attend briefings to build solidarity within the Melbourne Pilgrimage. The Melbourne Pilgrimage will provide the additional following support for groups:

- Night Supervisors at each accommodation site where minors are present.
- A Catholic Education Melbourne liaison to support the response to incidents involving minors and oversee the team of Night Supervisors.

School groups with the Melbourne Pilgrimage will benefit from organised logistics, on-the-ground support and opportunities to meet other Melbourne pilgrims in the largest Catholic pilgrimage from the Archdiocese of Melbourne since World Youth Day 2008.

School groups may apply for 50% sponsorship from Catholic Education Melbourne to help cover the pilgrimage costs for up to 20 students and two teachers per school. Schools may send students from any of their 2019 year 9-12 classes, accompanied by a minimum of two adult leaders.
Group packages

Melbourne Catholic Secondary Schools can select one of three inclusive packages (see overleaf for information on each package). Each option includes a retreat of 1-2 days after ACYF to allow time for a debrief of the event. Package inclusions:

- Return economy class direct airfare Melbourne > Perth
- Return airport coach transfers
- Centrally located hotel/hostel accommodation in Perth
- ACYFPerth19 registration fee
- ACYFPerth19 meal ticket plus some additional meals
- Harvest Journeys on-the-ground support team
- Official ‘Melbourne ACYF Perth19 Pilgrimage’ t-shirt
- Participation in Melbourne formation program and official Melbourne gatherings in Perth
- Coach transfer to retreat venue and return (Package C only)
- Retreat accommodation in multi-share rooms (Package C only)

From Archbishop Peter

Dear friends,

The Australian Catholic Youth Festival is a place where young people can gather to share faith and celebrate the vitality of the Catholic Church in Australia. You will meet with Church leaders, encounter the Sacraments, and discover God’s love for you and how you are called to be a disciple.

Join us on the Melbourne pilgrimage to ACYF in Perth 2019 for a graced time of deepening our relationship with Jesus alongside friends from schools, parishes and communities all across the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Together, let us “listen to what the spirit is saying”.

+Peter A Comensoli
Archbishop of Melbourne

So why join the Melbourne Pilgrimage?

The Melbourne Pilgrimage unites schools, parishes and communities from around the Archdiocese of Melbourne to experience the Festival together. It also means the Festival is not experienced as a ‘one-off’ event but as an opportunity to continue building connections once pilgrims return home. A Commissioning Mass will be held on Sunday 24 November at St Patrick’s Cathedral with Archbishop Peter Comensoli. Here are some additional benefits for groups joining the Melbourne Pilgrimage:

- Shared leadership formation and briefings for supervising teachers (hosted centrally)
- Shared formation program for all pilgrims with resources to be provided to schools to run locally
- Assistance with risk assessment
- Central registration through Harvest Journeys
- Shared accommodation sites with other Melbourne pilgrims
- Melbourne gatherings in Perth each day of the Festival
- A Melbourne t-shirt for all participants

Key dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 March</td>
<td>Registration opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Formation begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 August</td>
<td>Registrations close</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 September</td>
<td>Final payments due</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 November</td>
<td>Commissioning Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>ACYF Pilgrimages depart</td>
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LISTEN TO WHAT THE SPIRIT IS SAYING

The Festival will use the scriptural focus of the 2020 Plenary Council by adopting the theme: ‘Listen to what the Spirit is saying’ (Rev 2:7)
Travel packages and registration

School groups can choose from three different travel packages. For general enquiries about the Melbourne Pilgrimage please contact the ACYF Project Coordinator on 9287 5565 or visit [www.cam.org.au/acyf19](http://www.cam.org.au/acyf19). Schools interested in registering for the Melbourne Pilgrimage are encouraged to contact Harvest Journeys to discuss their preferred package.

For full list of inclusions, terms and conditions, please visit [www.cam.org.au/acyf19](http://www.cam.org.au/acyf19)

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### PACKAGE A

(6 days / 5 nights)

- $1690 pp
- $845 pp (with CEM subsidy)

Groups arrive the night before the Festival begins and will have a day after the Festival to debrief and reflect on the experience before heading home.

**Saturday 7 December**
Fly to Perth

**8-10 December**
Australian Catholic Youth Festival

**11 December**
Retreat day based in Perth*

**12 December**
Return to Melbourne

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### PACKAGE B:

(7 days / 6 nights)

- $1820 pp
- $910 pp (with CEM subsidy)

Upon arrival in Perth, groups can enjoy a day of sightseeing before heading to the Festival. Following the Festival, pilgrims have a day to reflect on and debrief the experience.

**Friday 6 December**
Fly to Perth

**7 December**
Day in Perth

**8-10 December**
Australian Catholic Youth Festival

**11 December**
Retreat day based in Perth*

**12 December**
Return to Melbourne

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### PACKAGE C:

(8 days / 7 nights)

- $1920 pp
- $960 pp (with CEM subsidy)

Group can settle into Perth before the Festival kicks off. Following the Festival, take the time to fully debrief this amazing experience in an off-site two-night retreat.

**Friday 6 December**
Fly to Perth

**7 December**
Day in Perth

**8-10 December**
Australian Catholic Youth Festival

**11-12 December**
Two-night retreat (off-site)*

**13 December**
Return to Melbourne

*Retreat resources will be provided for schools to run their own program.

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All group accommodation venues are within walking distance of the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre (max. 30mins walk).

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**Key contacts**

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