



World Youth Day is rapidly approaching. It is now less than a month away. The Burleigh Parish is going to host 238 pilgrims from New Caledonia. Most of the young people (18 - 35 year olds) have never left their country and are being sponsored to come to Australia for a once in a lifetime gathering of young people from all over the world. With over 120,000 people gathering in Sydney it will be the largest gathering of its type in Australia's history. Bigger than the Olympic Games in 2000!

The Combined Parish Community Council has been working to billet the young people and organize a program for them during their stay. Thanks must go to all of the members of the parish community who have offered to host pilgrims or already volunteered to help during the visit.

The focus of their days on the Gold Coast will be to:

- Provide a warm community experience
- Present some of the cultural diversity of life in Australia
- Provide an experience of some of the iconic Australian activities
- Encourage participation in the life of the Community
- Encourage interaction between the young people and the community

The program that has been planned for their visit is:

Wednesday 9 July:

- 6.30pm Plane arrives Brisbane International Airport
- 9.30pm Pilgrims arrive at Marymount College and are provided with a light supper
- 10pm Pilgrims go home with their host family

Thursday 10 July:

- 8.30am Pilgrims dropped off at Marymount College
- 9am Welcome and morning tea (currency exchange service)
- 10am Day tour of Gold Coast by bus
- 3pm Return to Marymount College - afternoon session with their tour leaders
- 4.30pm Pilgrims go home with their host family

Friday 11 July:

- 7.45am Pilgrims dropped off at Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary
- 4.30pm Pilgrims go home with their host family

Saturday 12 July:

- 7am Pilgrims dropped off at Robina Train Station
- 7.15am Train to Roma Street
- 9am Mass in Brisbane
- 3pm Train from Roma Street Station
- 4.30pm Pilgrims go home with host family

Sunday 13 July:

- 9.30am Mass
- 10.30am Morning tea with Burleigh community
- 11.30am Day with host families
- 5.30pm Pilgrims dropped off at Marymount College
- 6.30pm Dinner for pilgrims before they depart
- 8.30pm Farewell
- 9pm Depart for Sydney by bus from Marymount College

Host Families

We are still looking for approximately 20 places for pilgrims (10 host families). If you can help in this regard or wish to check on your offer of hosting some pilgrims, please contact Phil Cooper on 5559 2184.

Volunteers Required

In preparing to host the pilgrims, we have created a program of events and have been given a lot of support from the local community. We will need volunteers to help with various activities. A list of the types of things we need help with is shown below. If you can help out, please do not hesitate to ring the parish office on 5576 6466 and leave your name, number and what you can do. The team leader responsible for your area will then be in contact with you to provide you with details of how you can help.

Sponsor A Pilgrim

To help pay for the meals and activities that the pilgrims will be involved in (all 238 of them!) we are holding a special appeal on the weekend of 21/22 June. We are asking those who are able to "sponsor a pilgrim". The suggested amount is \$10 per pilgrim. There will be envelopes available at all the community mass centres and if you are able we would appreciate any amount to help cover the considerable expenses involved in hosting 238 pilgrims for four days.

