



WORLD YOUTH DAY, SOUTH KOREA

WITH FATHER MATTHEW

OVERVIEW

Father Matthew will lead a St. Isidore youth and young adult pilgrimage to World Youth Day in South Korea, from August 1 to August 10, 2027.

WORLD YOUTH DAY

Initiated by Pope John Paul II, World Youth Day is a powerful global gathering that provides young Catholics a unique opportunity to encounter Christ, experience the universal Church, and renew their faith alongside millions of other young people.

WHY GO TO WORLD YOUTH DAY

- Experience spiritual growth and fellowship with other young Catholics
- Pray with the Holy Father at evening Vigil and outdoor Mass
- Explore God's mission for your life
- Walk in the footsteps of Korea's courageous saints and visit holy sites
- Encounter the universal Church with Catholics from around the world
- Represent our parish and country

ITINERARY

Sun, Aug 1	Depart for South Korea
Mon, Aug 2	Arrive in Seoul
Tue, Aug 3	Opening Mass
Wed, Aug 4	Bishop-led catechesis & Youth Festival
Thu, Aug 5	Bishop-led catechesis & Youth Festival; welcome ceremony with the Pope
Fri, Aug 6	Way of the Cross meditation with the Pope
Sat, Aug 7	Pilgrimage walk to evening vigil with the Pope; overnight under the stars
Sun, Aug 8	Closing Mass with the Pope; afternoon to explore
Mon Aug 9	Day trip to Haemi International Shrine and Mirinae Martyr Shrine
Tue, Aug 10	Fly home

TRAVEL, ACCOMMODATIONS, AND MEALS

We will fly together as a group to/from Seoul, take a private bus transfer to our hotel, and use Metro and walking to participate in World Youth Day activities throughout the week. We will stay in a hotel in Seoul, with two youth of the same gender/age range sharing a room. For our evening vigil with the Pope, we will sleep overnight under the stars. Breakfast will be provided at the hotel; lunch/dinner will be at local restaurants.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Round trip flight to Seoul
- Private bus transportation to/from Seoul airport
- Hotel accommodations in Seoul (eight nights)
- All meals – breakfast, lunch, and dinner (excluding travel days and dinner on own 8/8)
- JMJ tour guide, World Youth Day events, and public transportation
- Pilgrimage shirts, backpacks, and journals
- Walking tour and shrine visits
- Daily Mass, Sacraments, and spiritual direction
- Daily youth fellowship, reflection, and activities
- Chaplain, pilgrimage leader, young adult leader, and adult chaperones

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE

World Youth Day is geared specifically towards young Catholics from ages 16-30. We will form the St. Isidore delegate team with a mix of ages, schools, and experiences to best represent the parish. As space is limited, priority will be given to those who are committed to pilgrimage preparation.

KEY DATES

Preparation for our pilgrimage begins in February, so we can be ready spiritually and physically for the experience. This includes Mass and meetings as a team, fundraising, a training hike, and sharing with parishioners upon our return. *Before applying, please consider if you are able to commit to pilgrimage preparations.*

- February 7: 11am Mass, second collection fundraising, and team meeting #1
- March 13: Crab feed (fundraising opportunity)
- April 25: 11am Mass and team meeting #2
- May 31: Training hike and Mass
- June 27: 11am Mass and team meeting #3
- July 24: 11am Mass and team meeting #4
- August 1-10: World Youth Day, South Korea
- August: Post-pilgrimage dinner and debrief
- September: Share with the parish

TOUR OPERATOR

We will travel with JMJ Youth Pilgrimages, <https://www.jmjyouth.com/>, which has been organizing youth pilgrimages for over 30 years.

PILGRIMAGE LEADERS

Fr. Matthew Murray, mmurray@sichurch.com

Lesli Gee Rivera, lgeerivera@sichurch.com, 408-621-4683

CHAPERONES

We will maintain a 1:4 ratio for youth under the age of 18.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT REQUIREMENTS

All pilgrims who are 18+ years old must provide verification of Safe Environment training with a background check provided by the Oakland Diocese, and agree to comply with the Oakland Diocese code of conduct.

APPLICATION AND PRICE

Application process for youth and young adult delegates

1. Complete a delegate application form.
2. Meet with Fr. Matthew and Lesli for a personal interview.
3. We will email you to confirm your participation on the delegate team.
4. Submit non-refundable deposit of \$1,200 within 48 hours.

Application process for chaperones

1. Complete a chaperone application form.
2. Meet with Fr. Matthew and Lesli for a personal interview.
3. We will call you to confirm your participation as a chaperone.
4. Submit non-refundable deposit of \$1,200 within 48 hours.

Price is \$5,299/person. \$130 payment due to St. Isidore (shirts, backpacks, journals). \$5,169 payment due to JMJ Youth Pilgrimages. Fundraising opportunities will be available. Trip insurance not included. JMJ payment installments due November 15, January 15, and April 15.