

Join **St. Mary Catholic Faith Community** on a Pilgrimage to

WORLD YOUTH DAY



Lisbon & Fatima



July 30 - August 7, 2023

Includes Roundtrip Airfare, All Airport Taxes, Four Star Hotel Accommodations, etc...

\$4,249 per person from **Chicago (ORD)**

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Spiritual Director: **Fr. Aaron Laskiewicz**
Group Leader: **Julianne Elouadih**



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Sample Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day 1: Sunday – July 30 - Chicago - Lisbon

Depart from Chicago for your overnight flight(s) to Lisbon. Dinner and breakfast will be served on board.

Day 2: Monday – July 31 - Arrival to Lisbon & Transfer to lodging to prepare for World Youth Day Week

Upon arrival in Lisbon you will find your luggage and exit the baggage claim into the arrivals hall where you will be greeted by our representative. After a warm welcome to Portugal, you will be escorted to your lodging. This afternoon, enjoy an orientational panoramic tour of Lisbon. We will stop at the St. Jerome's Monastery, built to give thanks to the Virgin Mary for guiding Vasco da Gama on his voyage that linked Europe and Asia. Continue on, and drive by the Belem Quarter that contains the iconic entryway to the Lisbon harbor, the Belem Tower. This important landmark has many beautiful sculptures, such as depictions of, St. Vincent and Our Lady of Safe Homecoming. We will continue and pass by the "25th of April Bridge", inspired by the Golden Gate Bridge of San Francisco, California. The Ponte 25 de Abril is the oldest bridge that connects the Tagus River of Lisbon. Following, we will drive by the Discoveries Monument. This memorial commemorates the Great Explorers who, as a result of their explorations, brought Portugal to a standing of wealth and power during the Age of Discovery. This ship prow-shaped structure stands where the Great Explorers began their expeditions. Enjoy a view of the Basilica of the Star, the Rossio Square, Commerce Square, and the Marquee of Pombal Square. Our last stop will be St. Anthony's Church to celebrate Mass. Although this patron Saint of lost things is known as St. Anthony of Padua (Italy), he was originally born in Lisbon, Portugal. This Church is built upon the site of St. Anthony's birth and is also where Saint John Paul II visited in 1982. The former Pope stopped at this Church, on his way to Fatima, to pray to Our Lady in thanksgiving. Saint John Paul II recognizes Our Lady as saving him from being killed when he was shot one year prior, in 1981. After Mass, we will check-in at the hotel and enjoy a welcoming dinner followed by a restful overnight. *World Youth Day begins this evening with Mass*

Day 3: Tuesday – August 1 - World Youth Day Lisbon – Santarem - Fatima - Lisbon

Today, we will head to Fatima, on the way will stop in town of Santarem for Mass at St. Stephens Church, and to venerate the 13th Century Eucharistic Miracle. Continue to Fatima, a Hamlet of Aljustrel, the birthplace and home of the three (3) shepherd children. Here we will pray and meditate upon one of Our Blessed Mother's apparition sites. Our Lady appeared to three shepherd children; Lucia (age 10), Jacinta (age 7), and Francisco (age 9). These apparitions occurred monthly from May until October of 1917. Historically, as the entire world was in true turmoil, Our Lady's most prominent message during this time was to pray for world peace. The destruction of the world at that point in history was also mentioned by Our Lady in her messages of Fatima, and more specifically, in her second secret to the children. Our profoundly reflective day begins with a visit to the Little Chapel of the Apparitions. This simple, yet modern, chapel is the site where the Virgin Mary first appeared on May 13, 1917. Continue with a visit to the stunning neoclassical church, the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary. This Sacred space contains the tombs of St. Francisco, St. Jacinta, and Sister Lucia. View the monument that commemorates the Sacred Heart of Jesus, in the square. Due to Our Lady's consistency in Her messages to pray the Rosary, this Basilica also features fifteen altars, dedicated to the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary. While in the Basilica, you will be able to feel, through the Love of Our Lord and Lady,

the many graces that were received here. Visit the Museum and exhibition "Fatima: Light and Peace". Continue with a visit to the Holy Trinity Basilica. After lunch, we will experience Christ's unconditional love by participating in the Stations of the Cross along the Via Sacra. The "Sacred Way" marks the path taken by the shepherd children of Fatima to their first apparition with Our Lady. It is composed of fifteen (15) small Chapels in commemoration of the Passion of Our Lord. The fifteenth station, the Resurrection, can be found close to the Chapel of Calvary, dedicated to St. Stephen, King of Hungary. The day ends with a visit to Valinhos, the site of Our Lady's August 1917 apparition, and the first and third apparition of the Angel. Your night will conclude by returning to Lisbon for overnight. *This evening we will participate in organized World Youth Day events as scheduled.*

Day 4: Wednesday – August 2 - World Youth Day Lisbon

Catechesis sessions; WYD participants, organized by linguistic groups, will have catechesis session with Bishops from all over the world. The sessions will take place in churches, schools, auditoriums and sports centers of Lisbon. World Youth Day begins this evening with Mass, following Mass return to hotel/lodging for overnight.

Day 5: Thursday – August 3 - Lisbon – Arrival of the Holy Father!

Following breakfast, you will have a free day to enjoy the many World Youth Day organized Events for that day. In the evening, you will attend the Welcoming Ceremony with our Holy Father. Return to your accommodations for restful nights sleep.

Day 6: Friday – August 4 - World Youth Day Lisbon – Sintra - Lisbon

Following breakfast we will make our way to the picturesque town of Sintra, a charming example of a Portuguese town where there are cobbled streets and traditional painted buildings fill with family operated cafes and unique shops. While there, we will explore its extravagant Palaces, ancient Castles, and incredible scenery. We will also stop by the pretty Church of Ingreja de Santa Maria, before some free time, and then continue back to Lisbon. *This afternoon enjoy organized World Youth Day events and the Stations of the Cross*

Day 7: Saturday – August 5 - World Youth Day Lisbon

Following breakfast, enjoy organized World Youth Day Events. Today participate in the Pilgrimage Walk. This evening there will be a Prayer vigil with our Holy Father. *Evening Adoration with the Holy Father, followed by Confession and WYD Events.*

Day 8: Sunday – August 6 - World Youth Day Lisbon – Closing Mass – Mata Beach

Today we'll attend World Youth Day Mass of Sending. This morning the Pope will concelebrate Mass with thousands of Bishops and Priests, and he will address young people and those who are not so young, to send them out to the world to witness their faith, as the Lord did with his Apostles. After, we will make our way back to the Hotel to freshen up, and then board our Bus and make our way to Mata Beach – one of Portugal's famous beaches. For the remainder of the day, you will have free time to spend at your own leisure in Lisbon, followed by your farewell Dinner and overnight. *World Youth Day - Closing Ceremony*

Day 9: Monday – August 7 - Lisbon - Chicago

This morning we will transfer to Lisbon airport for our return flight(s) home.

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Alexandra & Danielle