

*Welcome to the Diocese of Dodge City, Kansas
World Youth Day 2011 "Frequently Asked Questions" page.
Since we still have several months to go before World Youth Day,
we may not be able to answer all your questions,
but we'll do our best.*

WHEN IS WORLD YOUTH DAY?

World Youth Day is August 15-21, 2011. But we'll be heading out more than a week early – August 7 – and then returning Aug. 23, so that we'll have time to explore the towns of Toledo, Segovia and Avila, paying particular attention to St. Teresa of Avila.

WHERE IS WORLD YOUTH DAY?

World Youth Day will take place in Madrid, Spain. As mentioned above, the group from Kansas will first spend the first week visiting the towns of Toledo, Segovia and Avila, taking part in "Days in the Diocese."

WHAT IS "DAYS IN THE DIOCESE?"

This four day program in the local dioceses preceding World Youth Day is an opportunity to experience the hospitality and universality of the Church. Your group will be hosted by a parish and cared for by its people. In exchange, you have the chance to share your faith and culture with them. In so many ways, this program embodies the pilgrim spirit: detachment, charity, generosity, simplicity, community.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO ATTEND WORLD YOUTH DAY?

While the actual event is free, travel, lodging, meals etc... will cost approximately \$3,400. But don't let that get you down! Organizers have come up with various ways for participants to raise money. Even if you aren't able to raise the money, there are other options. The important thing is that you get involved early!

IS THERE A REGISTRATION DEADLINE AND DEPOSIT REQUIRED?

To ensure that you will be a part of the SW Kansas group going to Spain, you should register by Oct. 1, 2010, and submit a deposit of \$600. You may register after the deadline, but there is a chance that the trip will be filled. If you have concerns about the deposit, please contact organizers at the information included below for ideas and suggestions.

WHAT ARE THE AGE RESTRICTIONS?

In the past, World Youth Day celebrations have included specific age restrictions. This year, the Diocese of Dodge City is asking only that children under age 18 bring a parent along, and that adults, regardless of age, be in good physical condition. They will be asked to carry a backpack at times and to walk

what may be several miles in hot weather throughout the two weeks. Participants will also camp out on some occasions.

WILL THERE BE LOCAL PRE-WYD ACTIVITIES PRIOR TO THE TRIP?

Yes. Participants will be taking part in spiritual and organizational preparation, including raising money for the trip. Father Ted Stoecklein, the spiritual guide, will be meeting with participants at least once per month prior to World Youth Day to prepare spiritually and to organize the trip.

HOW DO I SIGN UP?

To get started, print out the brochure linked at the bottom of the Diocese of Dodge City World Youth Day page. Fill out and send in the form. Or, you can contact Father Ted Stoecklein at frstoecklein@hotmail.com. He'll be happy to help.

WILL THERE BE ANY FREE TIME?

Remember, this is not a vacation, nor is it a two week party. It's a pilgrimage, a religious journey in which you seek to become closer to God and God's people. While there probably will be some free time, all activities will be conducted with that in mind. It literally can be a life-changing, exciting and awesome event!

WHERE WAS WORLD YOUTH DAY CELEBRATED PREVIOUSLY?

In Buenos Aires, with the attendance of one million young people; in Santiago de Compostela, with more than 500,000; in Czestochowa, with 1,600,000; in Denver, with 600,000; in Manila, with approximately 4 million; in Paris, with 1.2 million; in Rome, with 2 million; in Toronto, with 800,000; in Cologne, with 1.1 million; and in Sydney, with 400,000.