

#CYJ24

ROM 12:12

TONGUES OF FIRE

MAY

HOPE IN MERCY

MAR

RUN, JUMP & SHOUT. BUT DO NOT SIN

JUN

REJOICE IN HOPE

JAN

CHEERFUL GIVER

JUL

SEP

LOVE IN ACTION

FEB

HOPE IN LOVE

DEC

REJOICE IN JOY

EATING THE SON

APR

DO WHATEVER HE TELLS YOU

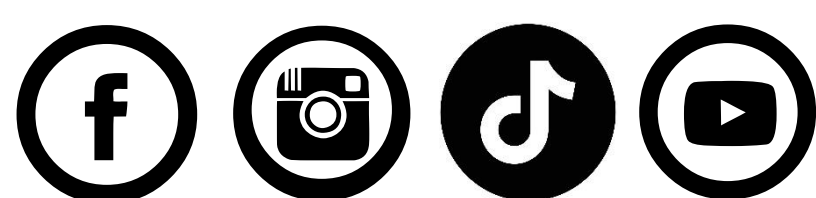
OCT

ROOTS OF JOY

NOV

MY SPIRIT REJOICES

AUG

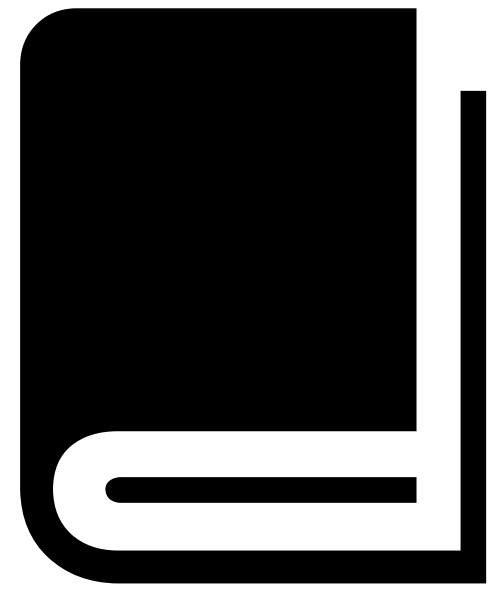


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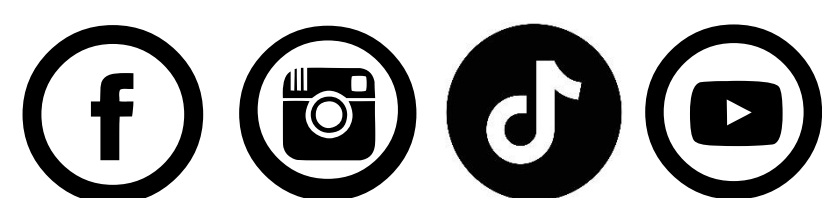
ROM 12:12

KEY SCRIPTURE PASSAGE



"REJOICING IN
HOPE"

Rom 12:12



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#CYJ24

ROM 12:12

INTRODUCTION

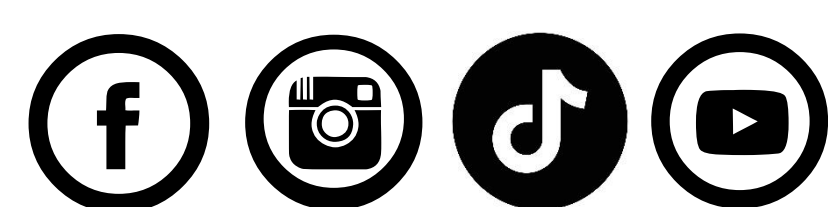


Each year, the Pope selects a pastoral theme of focus for the Youth of the Church. The purpose of each theme, quoted from Scripture, is to invite young disciples across the world to live their faith as authentic pilgrims journeying with Jesus, in the Spirit, to the Father's house. This tradition is rooted in the World Youth Day (WYD) initiative instituted by Pope St. John Paul II in 1985. Each year, WYD was to be celebrated on Palm Sunday until Pope Francis moved it to the annual Feast of Christ the King in 2020. Every 2 to 3 years, a large inter-continental version of WYD is celebrated in a host country selected by the Pope. The next one will be in Lisbon, Portugal, from 1 to 6 Aug 2023. Between these main gatherings, WYD is celebrated on local level.

By embracing the Pope's selected themes in the spirit of pilgrimage young people have an opportunity to enrich our spiritual lives by engaging with the Word deeply, exploring resources that can enlighten us, sharing our faith with fellow youth, embracing mission as young agents of evangelisation, deepening our personal relationships with Jesus in our private and communal spaces of prayer, and experiencing conversion into ever-better versions of ourselves for God's glory.

Below is the monthly theme card for January 2024, "Rejoice in Hope". The key theme of 2024 was launched on the feast of Christ the King, 26 Nov 2023, and is taken from the Rom 12:12, "Rejoicing in hope". This is the theme we will be exploring this year. The purpose of every sub-theme is to deepen our exploration of this key theme through scriptural reflections, resources and various activities. Throughout the coming year detailed theme cards and other materials will be broadcast to parishes and on our social media platforms. We will seek to interact with youth from a diversity of backgrounds and invite them to share their stories with us on these same platforms.

We eagerly invite the participation of all young disciples and challenge you to make more!



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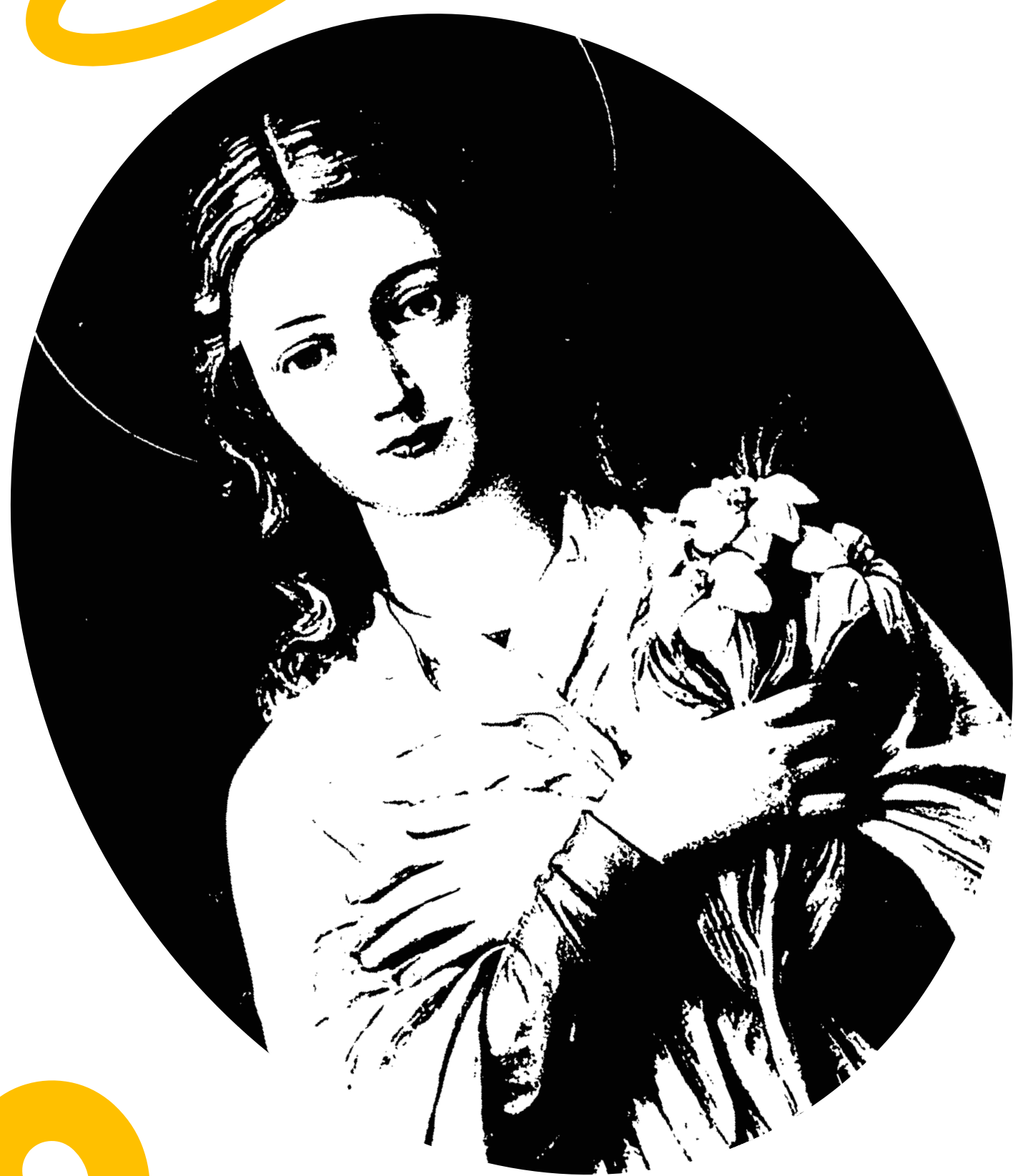
ROM 12:12

MAR

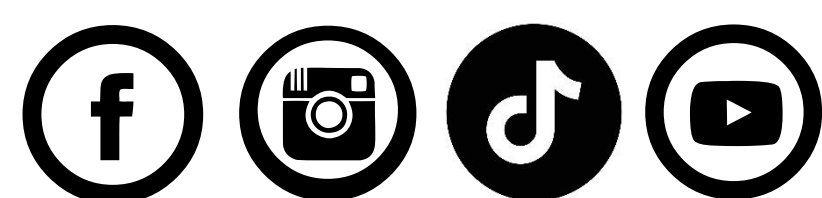
Hope in Mercy



REPENTANCE IS NOT JUST A FEELING. IT'S MOREOVER A DECISION TO CHANGE YOUR WAYS. GOING TO CONFESSION MEANS LITTLE WITHOUT A SINCERE DESIRE TO BE A BETTER VERSION OF YOURSELF, A BETTER DISCIPLE OF JESUS. DO YOU TRUST AND HOPE IN HIM? WHAT ARE YOUR ATTACHMENTS, DISTRACTIONS AND CONNECTIONS THAT NEED REDIRECTIONS?



9 Mar
AYF ENCOUNTER



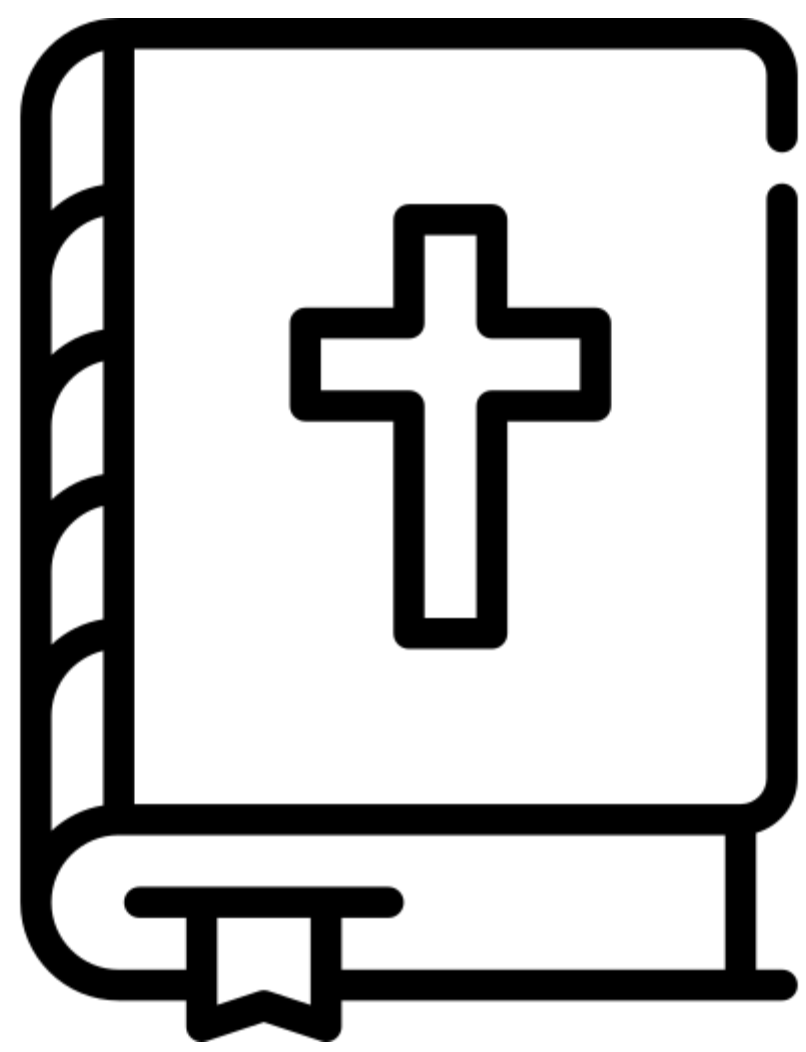
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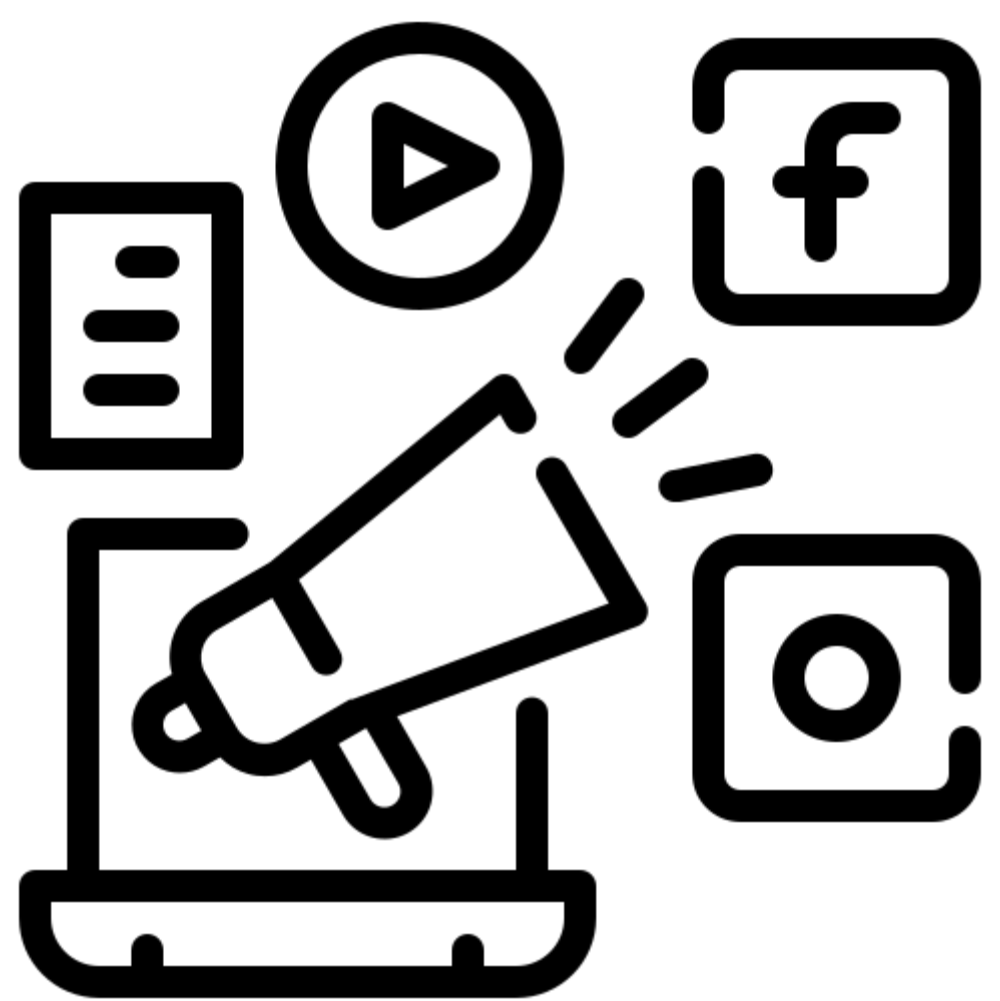
ROM 12:12

MAR

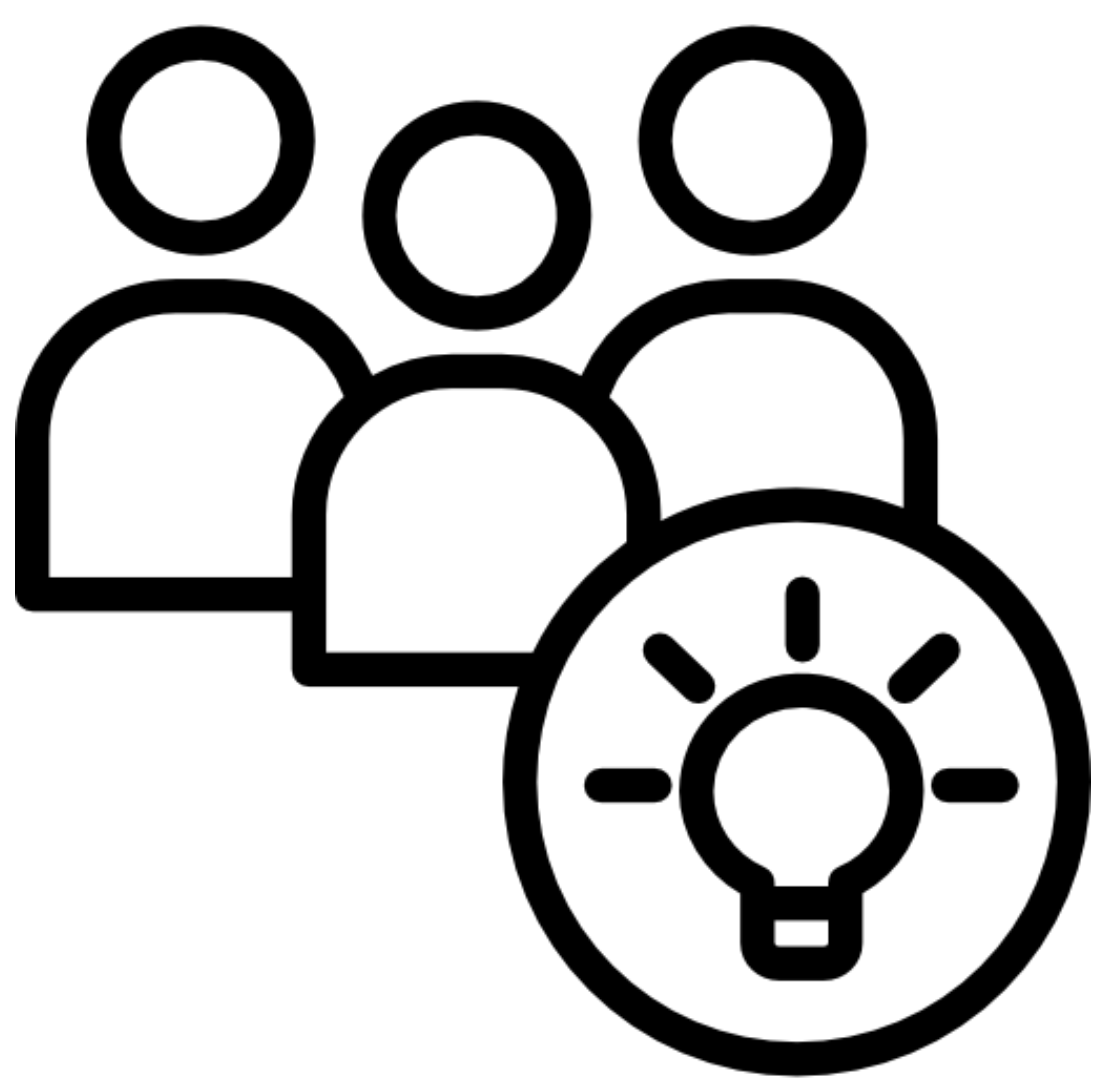
Hope in Mercy



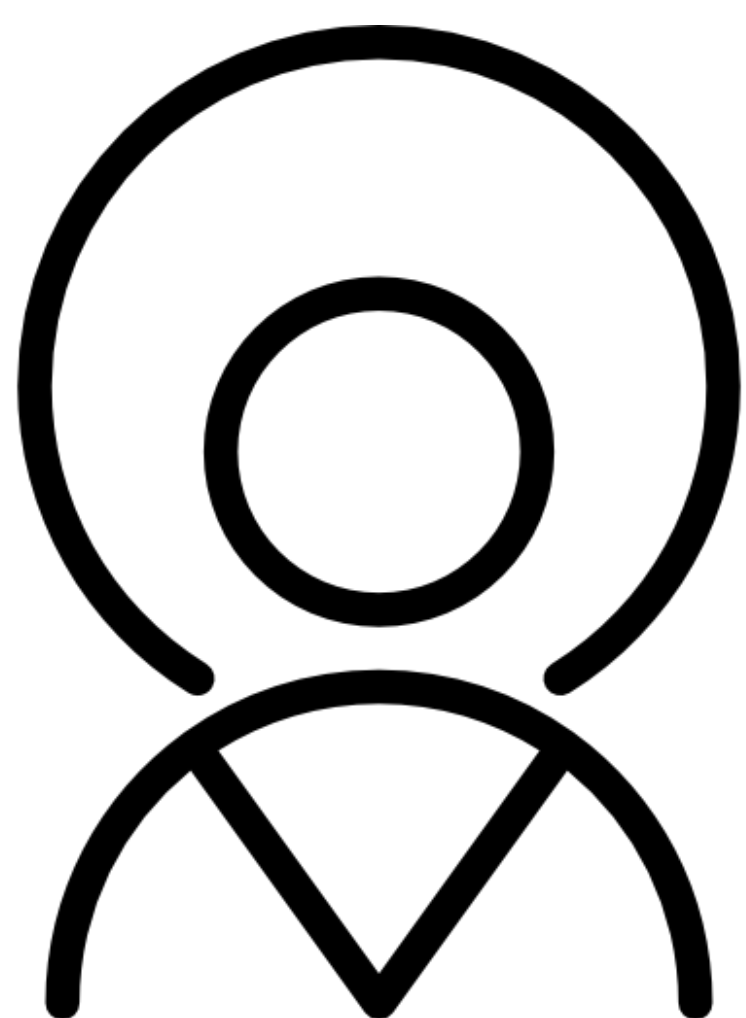
THEMATIC BIBLE PASSAGES



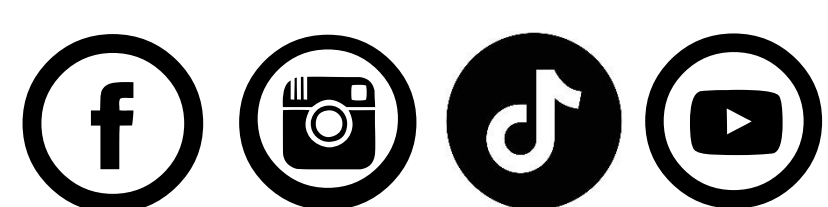
RESOURCE MATERIAL



ACTIVITY IDEAS



SAINT OF THE MONTH



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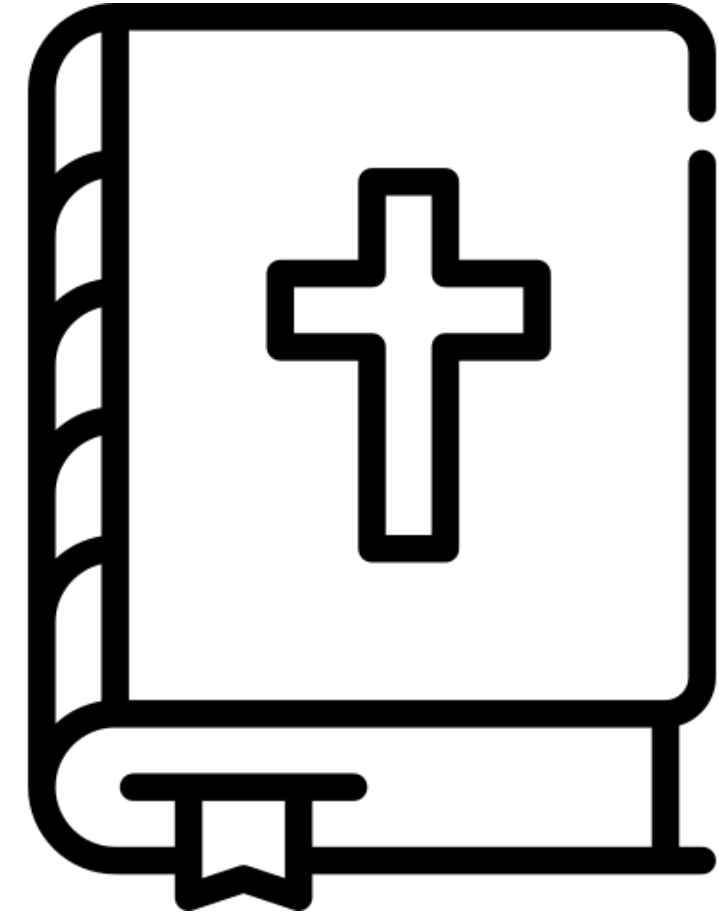


#CYJ24

ROM 12:12

MAR

Hope in Mercy



MATTHEW 4:17

ACTS 3:19

LUKE 24:46-48

ISAIAH 30:15

LUKE 5:31-32

ROM 2:4

2 COR 7:9-10

JER 31:19

LUKE 17:3-4

REV 2:5

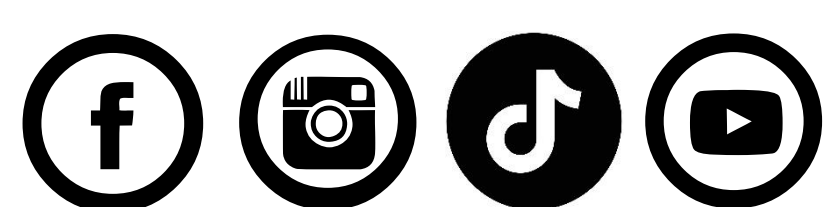
ROM 2:5

MATTHEW 3:8

MATTHEW 21:32

ACTS 20:21

REV 3:3



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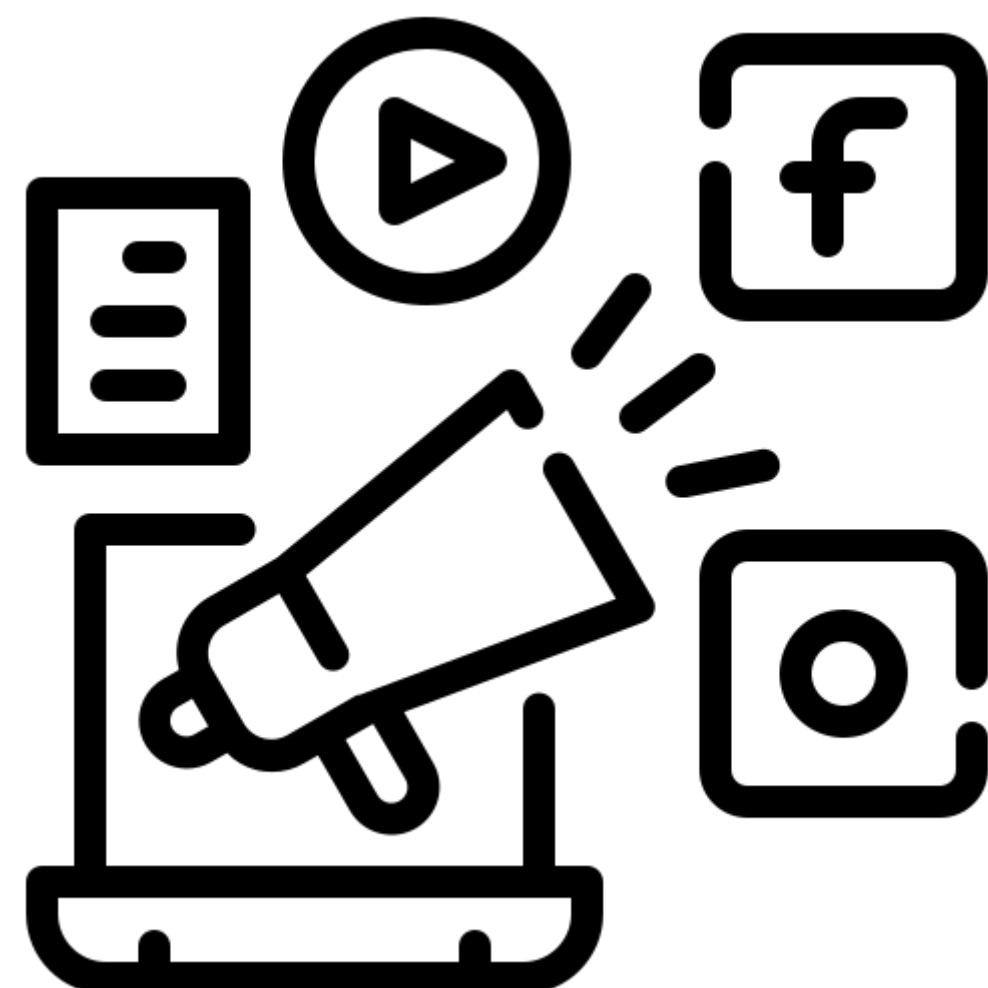


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Hope in Mercy



ARTICLES / BLOGS

- [The What, How and Why of Repentance](#) by Catholic Answers
- [Hatred & Forgiveness](#) by LifeTeen
- [The Mystery of Repentance](#) by Saints Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church
- [Repent & Believe! Discussion & Reflection Questions](#) by Young Catholics
- [The Reception of Mercy begins with Repentance](#) by Catholic Culture
- [On Repentance, Mercy & Justice](#) by Catholic Mobilizing Network
- [Pope Urges Youth to embrace Jesus' dream of building God's Kingdom](#) by Vatican News
- [Catholic Youth Jozi Blogs](#)

VIDEOS & PODCASTS

- [What Repentance looks like](#) by Ascension
- [Regret vs. Repentance](#) by Ascension
- [Repentance in the Bible](#) by Catholic Productions
- [Confessing the Same Sins Over and Over Again](#) by Ascension
- [A sneaky way to call others to Repentance](#) by Ascension
- [The conversion of Shia LaBeouf](#) by Bishop Barron
- [What if you don't feel sorrow for Sin](#) by Catholic Minute
- [The Power of Repentance](#) - The Jeff Cavins Show | Podcast
- [Repentance](#) by Discerning Hearts | Podcast
- [Reconciliation](#) by Discerning Hearts | Podcast
- [Why is it so hard to forgive yourself?](#) by Ascension
- [A Prayer for Courage](#) by Catholic Online
- [How to make a Good Confession](#) by Catholic Link
- [Forgiveness](#) by Catholic Stuff | Podcast

TO READ MORE

- [Mercy with Misery](#) by Pope Francis
- [Diary of St. Faustina](#)
- [Christus Vivit \(Christ is Alive!\)](#) by Pope Francis
- [Catechism of the Catholic Church \(#1431\)](#)
- [YouCat \(#232\)](#)

THERE'S A LOT MORE WHERE THESE CAME FROM! **GOOGLE** WITH THE GHOST!

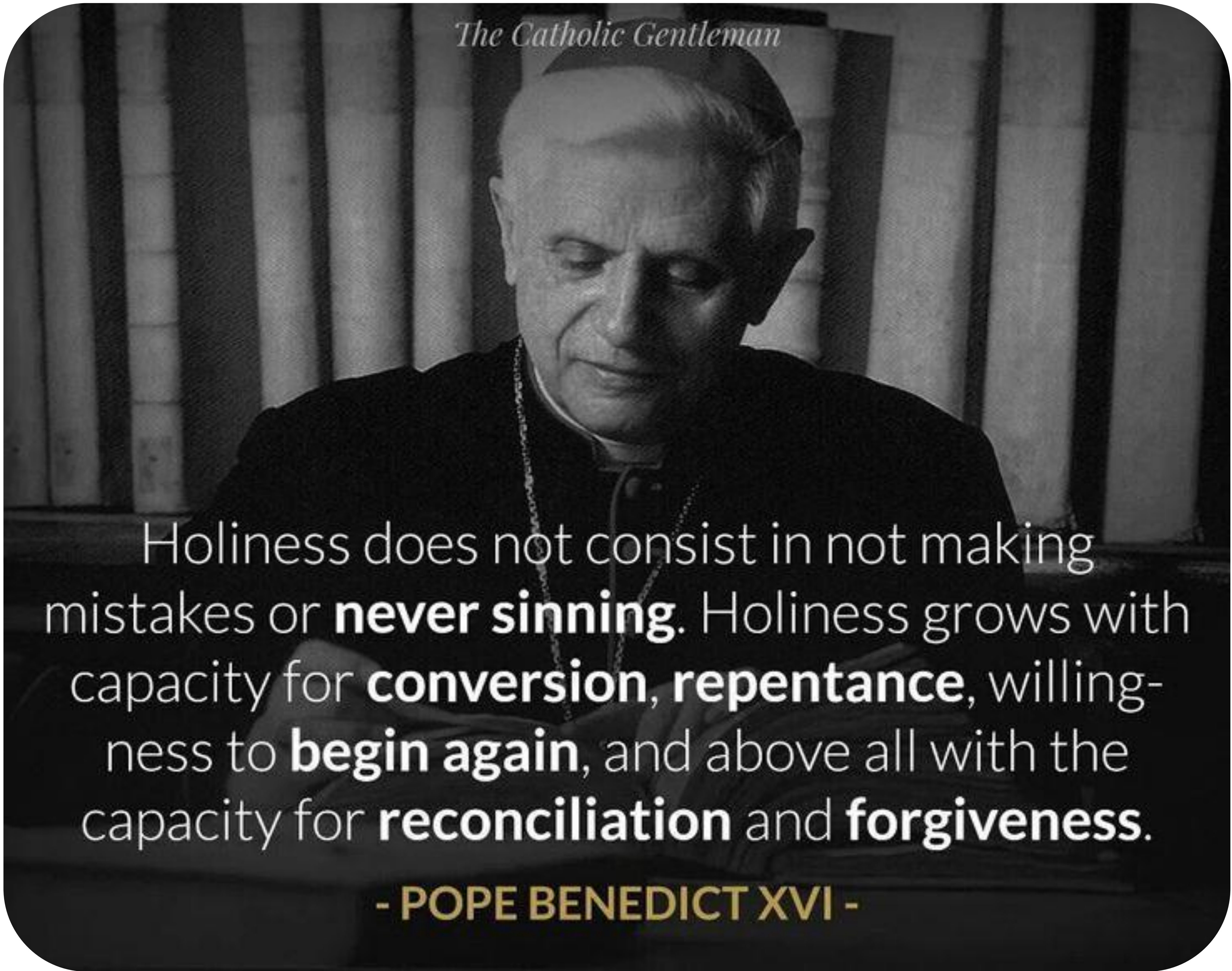


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Hope in Mercy

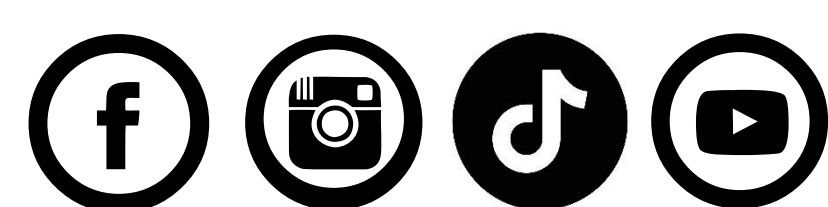


Holiness does not consist in not making mistakes or **never sinning**. Holiness grows with capacity for **conversion, repentance**, willingness to **begin again**, and above all with the capacity for **reconciliation** and **forgiveness**.

- POPE BENEDICT XVI -

- POPE BENEDICT XVI -

capacity for reconciliation and forgiveness,
willingness to begin again, and above all with the



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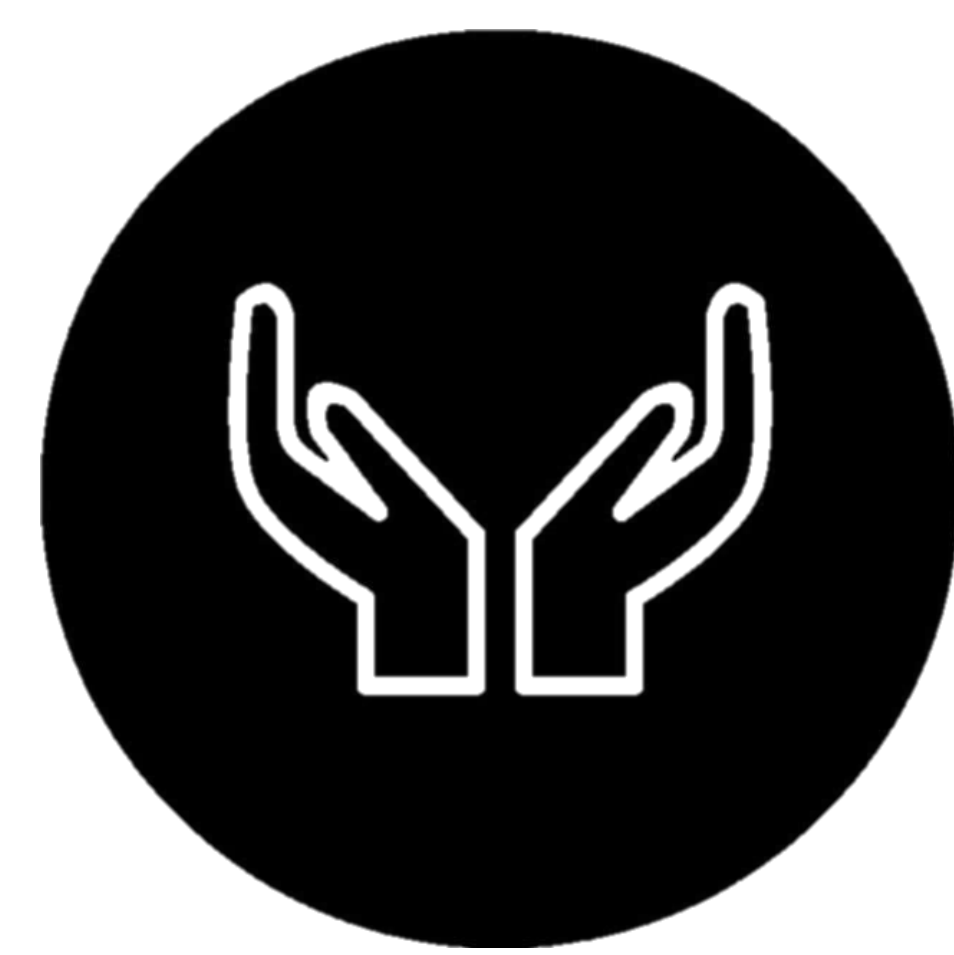
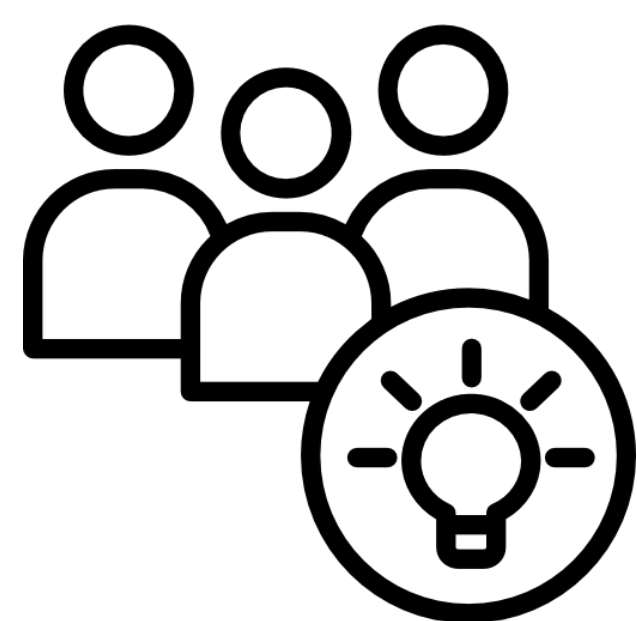


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Hope in Mercy



PARISH

1. Organise a simple Lenten retreat focused on themes around the grace of Repentance. Speak to your parish priest about preparing presentations or getting a guest speaker. Recruit youth to share stories of their own journey with Repentance. Plan a special prayer liturgy focused on attaining the grace of Repentance. Speak to your priest about including Adoration and Confession. Make use of some the suggested resources.
2. Do a virtual Novena to the saint of the month (Maria Goretti) or another saint selected by your youth group, e.g. your parish/group patron saint or models of repentance such as St. Augustine, or St. Mary of Egypt, St. Bartolo Longo. Use your youth group social media platforms to promote and maximise participation.
3. Prayerfully explore the thematic Bible passages during your youth gatherings. This can also be done through WhatsApp groups or other social media platforms. You can also explore St. Faustina's diary together with the Scriptures.

PRIVATE

1. Examine your own interior posture of mercy.
2. Make small acts of mercy a habit. You can do this gradually.
2. Do a private novena to the saint of the month or a saint of your choice.
3. If you haven't already, try making the Rosary a regular prayer/mediation practice.
4. Go to Adoration as often as possible. If it's not offered in your community often enough you can do it virtually on YouTube.
5. Try to attend Mass daily or more than once a week.
6. Reflect on the thematic scriptures and resources privately.



TIP: THE HOLY SPIRIT TAKES
CREATIVITY TO THE HIGHEST
LEVEL!

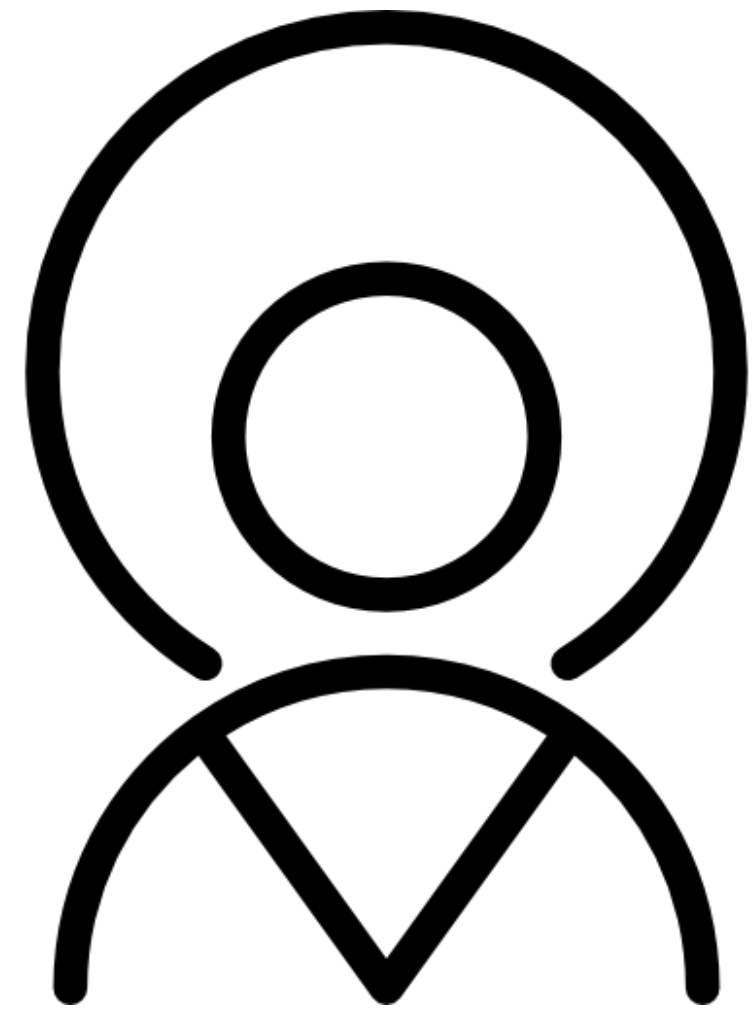


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Rom 12:12

MAR

Hope in Mercy



ST. MARIA GORETTI



This young saint of the month was selected due to her **outstanding display of mercy and compassion!**

NOVENAS/PRAVERS

- [Pray More Novenas](#)
- [Catholic Novena App](#)
- [The Goretti Group](#)
- [Novenaprayer.com](#)

GET TO KNOW ST. MARIA!

- [Mariagoretti.com](#)
- [Catholic Online: Saints & Angels](#)
- [Franciscan Media](#)
- [Christian Family TV](#)
- [EWTN \(YouTube\)](#)
- [Catholic Online \(YouTube\)](#)

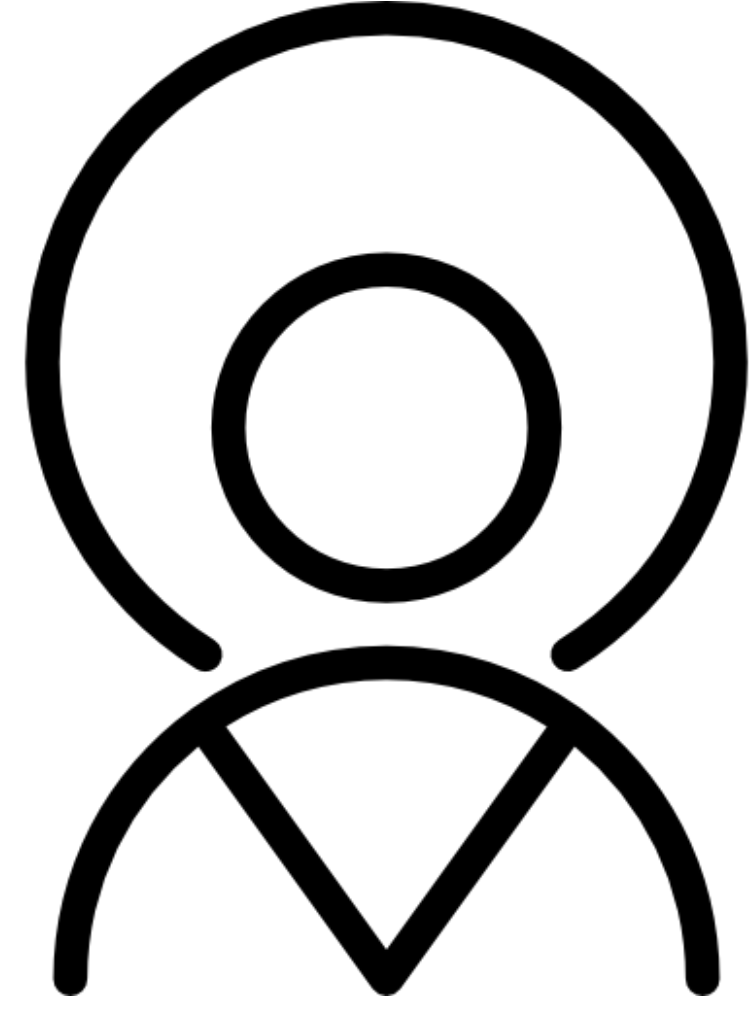


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Rom 12:12

MAR

Hope in Mercy



ST. MARIA GORETTI

He loves
He hopes
He waits.

OUR LORD PREFERS TO
WAIT FOR THE SINNER FOR
YEARS RATHER THAN KEEP
US WAITING AN INSTANT

ST. MARIA GORETTI

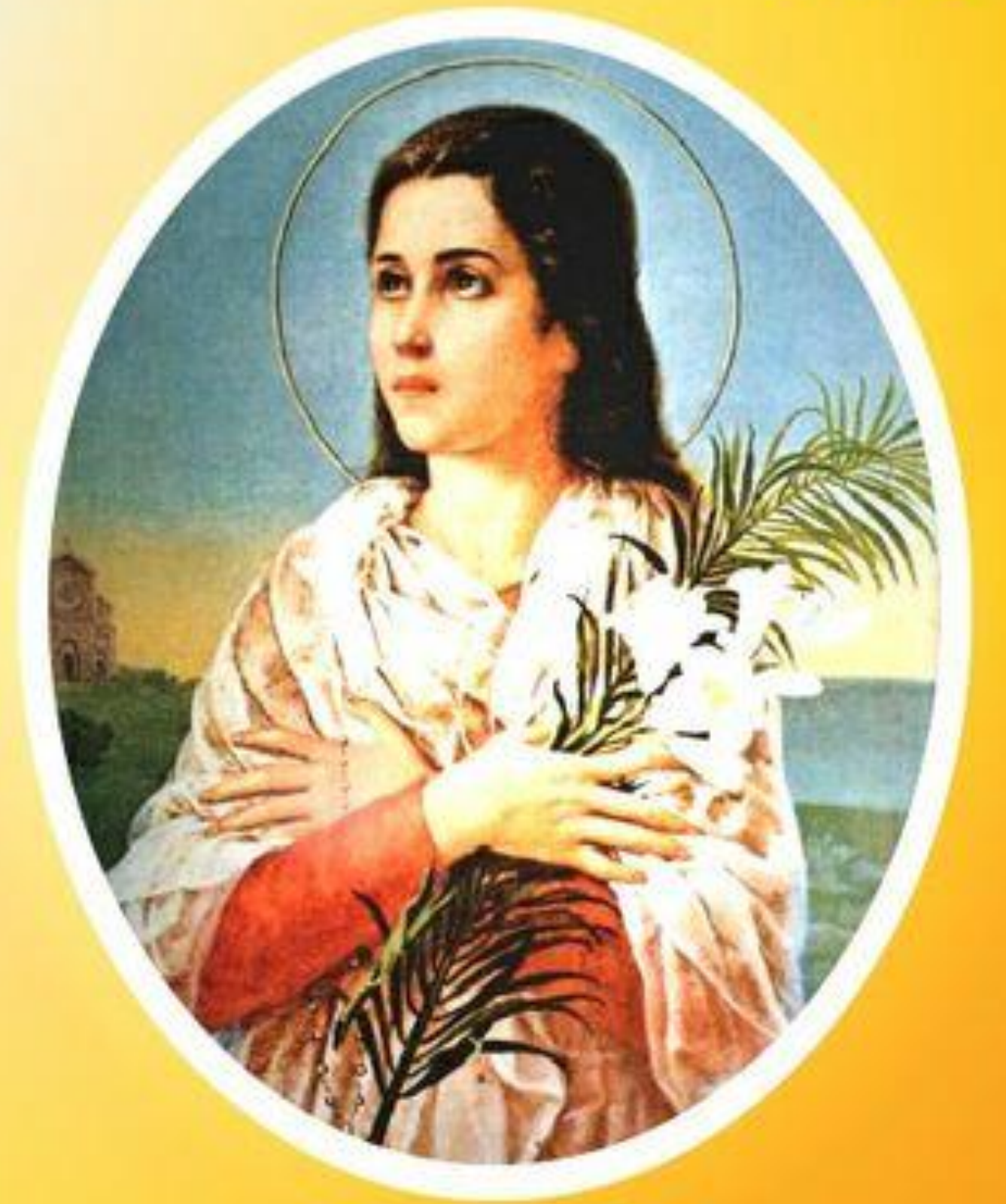


ST. MARIA GORETTI

US WAITING AN INSTANT



*" Yes, I too, for the love
of Jesus, forgive him...
and I want him to be
with me in Paradise.
May God forgive him,
because I have already
forgiven him."*



*St. Maria Goretti,
Pray for us*

afcmmedia.org

Pray for us
St. Maria Goretti!



AYF ENCOUNTER

Parish Youth Leader?
You're invited!

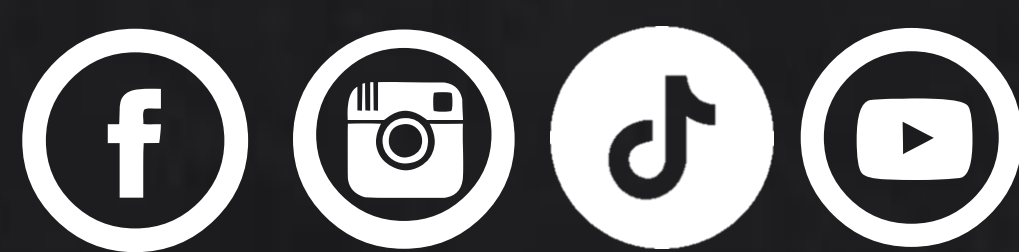
9 MARCH '24

HOLY
TRINITY
BRAAMFONTEIN

HTB

10AM TO 1PM

REGISTER



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AYF ENCOUNTER

WHAT IS IT?

Parish Youth Leader?
You're invited!

The Archdiocesan Youth Forum (AYF) Encounter is a quarterly gathering of parish youth leaders. It is a platform for young leaders to enter spaces of encounter and conversation with each other, allowing them opportunities to pray, listen, reflect, and share inspiration towards encountering Christ. It is also about equipping leaders with practical ministry tools to improve parish youth ministry.

The encounter is a means for parish youth leaders to share their ministry experiences, form relationships, network, support and inspire each other.

Finally, the AYF Encounter is an encounter between young leaders and the Vicar for Youth and Youth Dept. staff.



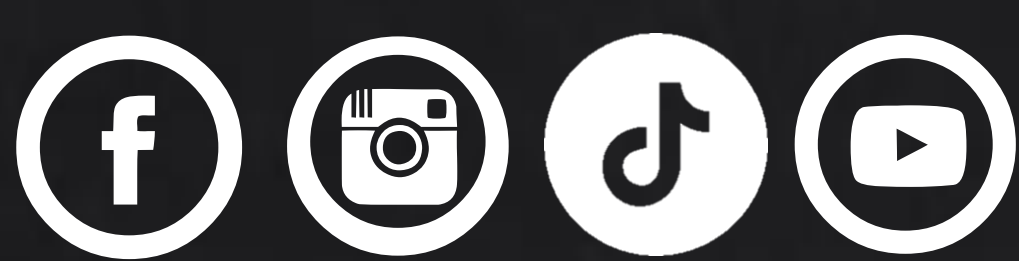
AYF ENCOUNTER

Parish Youth Leader?
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REGISTER



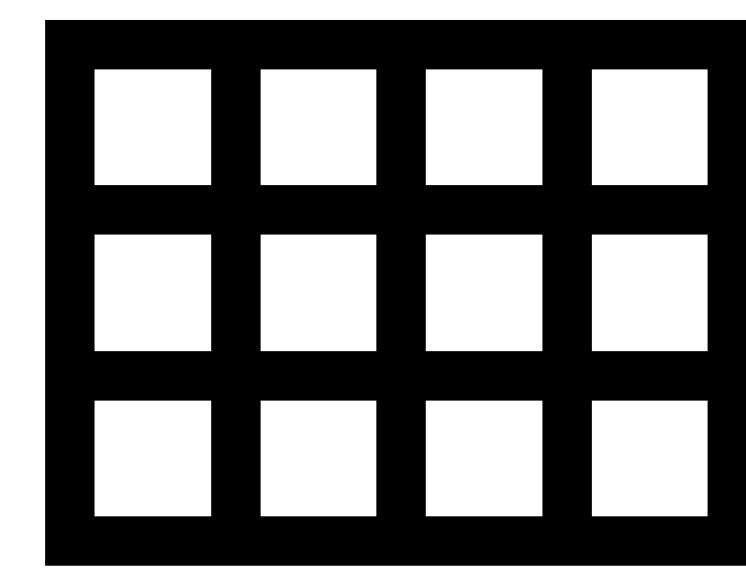
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PARISH & DEANERY EVENTS



Some of the theme cards include dates of key Archdiocesan events (see definition card below for clarity). We encourage parish and deanery youth leaders to keep these dates open and devise your own year plans around them. Listed below are proposed parish and deanery activities for consideration and planning. Note that these are basic key events and not exhaustive. Smaller activities will be suggested as monthly theme cards are released, and deaneries and parishes are encouraged to be prayerful, creative and diligent in organising activities and gatherings.



Please remember to share your year plans, promotion materials and info with the Youth Dept. as we would like to share and promote your activities in our social circles!

DEANERY YOUTH MASS

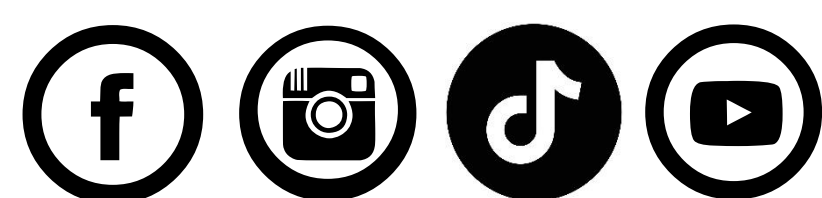
Youth Mass remains a highlight and has proven to be a powerful and empowering spiritual encounter for young people. Whether celebrated on its own or as part of other deanery activities (as listed below), we invite the Deanery Youth Forum (DYF) of every deanery to plan this celebration and welcome all youth within your respective deaneries.

YOUTH DAY (JUNE 16)

Deaneries have celebrated vibrant youth day events over the years filled with creative uniqueness. As a lead-up to AMOF, we invite DYF's to make Youth Day celebrations celebrated on June 16 a priority. This day can include multiple activities such as Youth Mass, spiritual formation activities, listening circles, culture and sport activities, fundraising initiatives (e.g. raffles, food and merchandise sales), etc. Our virtual connections via social media make this a multi-centred occasion by which we are apart yet one in this celebration. Looking forward!

WORLD YOUTH DAY (CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY)

Pope Francis has moved the annual global Youth Day celebration to the feast of Christ the King each year. Since our local Youth Day celebrations are celebrated in June (AMOF JOZI & June 16), we invite Parish Youth Forum (PYF) leaders to work with their respective parish pastoral councils (PPC's) in planning a special parish Youth Mass for this feast. Mass can be followed by fun and fellowship activities facilitated by the youth for all parishioners. This celebration also serves as a launching platform for the upcoming theme of the following year.

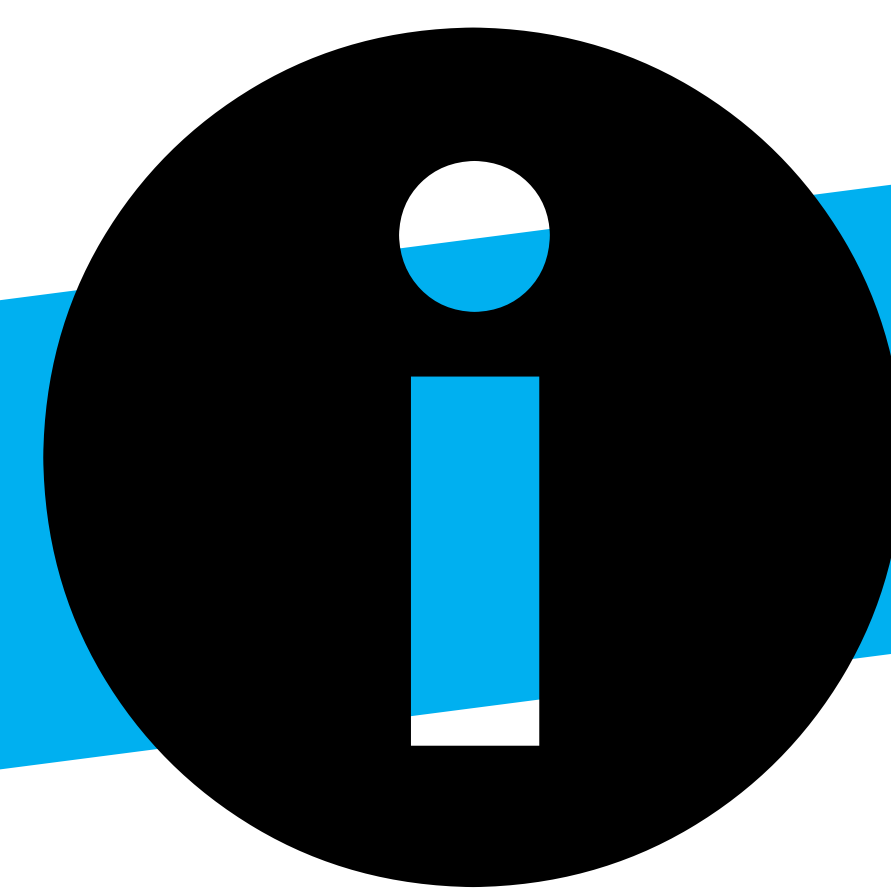


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DEFINITIONS

CYJ = CATHOLIC YOUTH JOZI

The archdiocesan catholic youth body. #CYJ23 refers to all things pertaining to the youth of the Johannesburg archdiocese. The year is specified, as a key theme (usually a scripture verse) is at the core of all events, gatherings and resources that will be produced in that year. The 'CYJ Mass' is a celebration open to all youth during which we give thanks for the year behind us and consecrate that before us to Jesus.

AYF = ARCHDIOCESAN YOUTH FORUM

The AYF refers to the archdiocesan body of parish youth leaders, i.e. all Parish Youth Forum (PYF) chairpersons. This can be viewed as a youth version of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council (APC). The 'AYF Encounter' is therefore a leadership platform by which we aspire to form, inform, inspire and connect parish youth leaders.

PYF = PARISH YOUTH FORUM

The Parish Youth Forum (PYF) consists of all parish youth. PYF leaders are referred to as the 'PYF Executive'.

DYF = DEANERY YOUTH FORUM

The Deanery Youth Forum (DYF) consists of the chairpersons and secretaries of every PYF in a given deanery. Deanery leaders are elected from the DYF to form the 'DYF Executive'.

WYD = WORLD YOUTH DAY

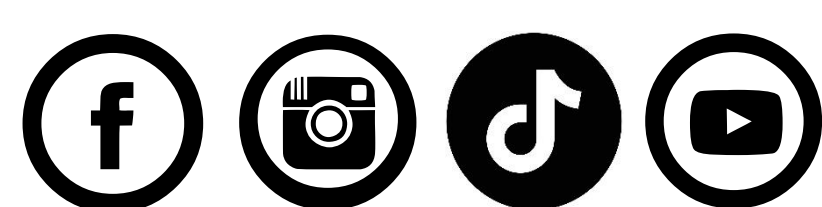
World Youth Day is celebrated every year across the world on the feast of Christ the King. One particular large gathering is celebrated every three years in a selected host country. The next large gathering ('WYD2023') will in be Lisbon, Portugal from 1-6 Aug.

AMOF = ARCHDIOCESAN MEETING OF FAMILIES

One of our newest and biggest archdiocesan events, now officially hosted by the Youth department in collaboration with the Marriage & Family Life and Evangelisation departments. 'AMOF JOZI' has been instituted as the official youth event that will be celebrated each year in June (youth month). This event is by the youth, for the church!

ALC = ARCHDIOCESAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Another new and large archdiocesan event hosted by the Evangelisation department in collaboration with the Youth and Marriage & Family Life departments. ALC has been instituted as the official leadership formation event that will be celebrated each year on the Saturday before World Mission Sunday. This event is for all church leadership and welcomes aspiring leaders.



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