

Juventutem report in outline:

A) Not since the end of the traditional Roman liturgy as the main official Latin rite in the Catholic Church in 1970 has that rite been offered:

- 1. on such large scale: in about 20 parish churches, shrine churches, basilicas, abbey churches from southern to central Germany (700 km)
- 2. continuously during 12 days;
- 3. by as many prelates: bishops, archbishops, cardinals (including, Cardinal Pell of Sydney, Archbishop Haas of Vaduz), major superiors of communities;
- 4. for as many young people: 1,000 from 20 nations and all continents;
- 5. with all necessary permissions;
- 6. with so many sound theologians and preachers to giving hundreds of lectures on the Catholic faith in various languages;
- 7. in the framework of the largest youth gathering in the world (over 1 million in Cologne);
- 8. with as many clergy: 60 (of which nearly 30 seminarians attended the special papal meeting with seminarians) representing the major masculine apostolic communities using the 1962 missal in communion with the Church;
- 9. with so wide and so favourable a media coverage: articles in *Le Figaro*, *La Croix*, *The Daily Telegraph*, *The Tablet*, *Il Giornale*, *Inside the Vatican*, *Zenit*, etc. (please see press review).

B) Liturgical and moral guaranties:

- 1. All Juventutem Masses and Vespers, etc. were according to the 1962 liturgical books. We had priests give Holy Communion to our youth at the papal Mass, receiving kneeling and on the tongue. Confessions were heard at all times by our priests using the traditional prayers and absolution.
- 2. We explained in various lectures the need for modesty in dress, and had ladies from our staff remind newcomers of that rule if needed. We were also careful not to allow any exclusive relationships to develop between young men and young ladies, asking even those who were officially engaged to refrain from expressing mutual affection in public so as not to be an occasion of temptation for other single youths.
- 3. The constant presence of clergy with each group of youth fostered genuine Catholic behaviour. During night adoration in Bavaria we had security staff accompany each youth from the camp to the chapel to make sure he would reach the location of adoration without any mischief.
- 4. In Marienfeld the last night, our young ladies slept in a group on one side, young men on the other side, and clergy in the middle (there are precedents of ladies sleeping outdoor for the glory of God surrounded with men: Judith in Holophernes' camp; St. Joan of Arc at the French army; American and European young ladies every year at the Chartres pilgrimage...) In Wigratzbad,



we paid for an indoor dormitory for all our young ladies (thus incurring an extra expense of $\ensuremath{\mathfrak{S}}$,000).

C) Global Juventutem budget: 243,714 GBP (= 425,289 USD = 355,000 EUR = 100%).

- 1. Already paid: 83% (= 211,258 GBP = 369,076 USD = 308,000 EUR)! Please help us now to pay off the
- 2. Already raised in September 2005: 4,000 EUR.
- 3. Still to be raised: 17% (= 32,231 GBP = 56,291 USD = 47,000 EUR). Our heartfelt thanks for your support!
- 4. Includes:
 - Clergy: Juventutem was probably the official WYD delegation with the highest proportion of clergy per number of pilgrims. Why? In order to ensure a generous amount spiritual support for our youth, Juventutem paid the WYD fees and expenses for all our 60 priests, religious and seminarians. That amounts to about €300 per cleric. We ask for generous benefactors to help us gather the €18,000 of debt for clergy (€300 euros x 60 clerics).
 - Music: professional singers and conductor, demonstrating the value of classical repertoire;
 - Buses and coaches:
 - Subsidising the costs of participating in WYD for numerous pilgrims from poorer countries and families.

D) Future: Raising funds is not only about past debts, but also for future projects, as youth ask for further Juventutem events to take place even before WYD Sydney 2008. We plan:

- 1. Youth gathering in an ancient Catholic shrine in France, early August 2006.
- 2. Other youth gathering in the summer 2007.
- 3. July 2008: WYD Sydney
- 4. October 2008: 20th anniversary of motu proprio Ecclesia Dei in Rome.



Spiritual report

A bunch of hobbits...

A conference on Tolkien was planned at Juventutem in Wigratzbad. Although I was unable to attend I can tell, together with those who have been working on that daring Juventutem project over the last 18 months, that we frequently felt we were a bunch of hobbits escaped from Lord of the Rings!

The task just seemed out of proportion with our very scarce means, with our lack of experience, our weakness, our lack of time and of connexions. Many times obstacles rose before us like insurmountable walls. Almost nobody believed in our adventure!

To bring together hundreds or even thousands of youths to WYD, not incognito but with our emblematic monstrance on our banners raised high for the first time, to ask for a church to offer publicly the traditional Mass and have our vespers included in the official WYD program, to obtain the support of many bishops, to collect funds, to set up consistent logistics out of nothing, to persuade laity, clergy and media of the importance of that project, yes, it all seemed an unrealistic challenge. I could not see how the whole thing could ever be completed, how the preparation was carried on (despite several warnings), how buses and kitchens and tents and our dear Sankt Antonius church finally got filled in, how so rich a schedule was fulfilled with good humour so as to generate an impulse whose value has been appreciated by all observers.

Honour to our lay volunteers.

Or rather I know and we know Who put into the hearts of our tiny team so genuine a dedication, such self-denial and so disinterested a perseverance. Only the Good Lord has been able to achieve that project undertaken for His glory's sake. Although it will displease them, here I must pay tribute to the Juventutem Bureau and to their immediate collaborators. For longer than a year, those very rare lay people took from their leisure time, from their week-ends, from their nights, from their physical and nervous and financial resources in order to sustain our enterprise by strength of arms. I even wonder whether some of them did not go too far when labouring for all of us. They knew the importance of Juventutem to reveal to the masses the fecundity of Catholic past for today and for tomorrow. Bearing witness to it at such major Church event as WYD, as they saw, would be a grace with long-lasting fruit. They sacrificed a lot in order to reach that goal. That is why I wish to thank now on all our behalves the President, the Treasurer, the Secretary, the webmaster, the person in charge of the security, the local correspondents worldwide and all those who offered their help according to their abilities.

About sixty consecrated persons.

As you have noticed, many clerics attended Juventutem. Our delegation may have been the one with the highest proportion of consecrated persons at the service of the laity. We want to thank all those priests and seminarians and religious who dedicated themselves so generously, thus ensuring the apostolic success of Juventutem: our spiritual council (Very Rev. Fr. de Blignières, FSVF, Fr. Guillard, ICKSP, Fr. Robinne, FSSP, Brother Michel, CRMD); those in charge of the doctrinal programme (Very Rev. Fr. de Blignières, FSVF); of the logistics in Wigratzbad (Fr. Leclère, FSSP) and in Cologne (Fr. Stegmaier, FSSP). We also thank the superiors of communities who allowed their members to partake in Juventutem, as well as the lay and clerical WYD officials in Rome and in Cologne, who trusted in our project.



Our benefactors

Let us not forget our benefactors, who shared in our efforts through prayers and almsgiving. The most generous among them are mostly ignored, such as that aging widow who took from her low income to support Juventutem, or like the army officer who did not give up when the online "Paypal" system would not accept his donation... Not to mention the parents of often large families and the godparents who have offered their children and godchildren their inscription fees and flight tickets. Some among those benefactors are unfamiliar with the traditional rite. Others have given from their own goods and time, like Fr. Creurer who opened wide for us the doors of Wigratzbad, and Fr. Aust who discreetly washed a 2,000 square meter floor after we had departed to Cologne on August 15. All have given out of trust in us, as investing in the future of the Church, of which they found us to be a legitimate and joyful component. As St Louis-Marie de Montfort reminds us: "Let us pray for our benefactors, the debt urges us; O Lord as recompense, deign to pour favours upon them!" The best reward we can ever give them is our sanctification at the service of the Church for the glory of God.

Juventutem nostram.

Last but not least, thanks be to you, dear Juventutem pilgrim friends. Whether students or professionals, you planned your holidays so as to partake in that big adventure. You showed courage in coming, when the undertaking was presented to you as hazardous – and proved good humoured, when you remained with us despite the not flawless logistics. Your perseverance, your prayers and your élan have been decisive. Gathered in Wigratzbad, then in St Antonius, then along the Rhine in Cologne and eventually all one thousand of you in the famous "trad quarter" on the huge field in Marienfeld with your banners floating high in the wind (see pictures), you have manifested through your very presence the vigour and valour of the traditional movement in the Church nowadays. Our lay staff could have worked out the best organisation, our clergy could have rehearsed the most beautiful liturgies - without your numerous and enthusiastic attendance there, Juventutem would have seemed... a nice display. But we all knew that the Ecclesia Dei movement is much rather a family, diverse and lively, whose Head is our Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI. Together, we have expressed it.

Traditional diversity.

What was striking was the variety of the traditional family during this WYD, as was manifested already by the habits of our clergy: cassocks from various horizons (Italy, New-Zealand, France, America, Poland and even Japan), with linen collars for the London Oratorians or with leather belts for the Austrian-German SJM scout chaplains; black or beige (Riaumont) habits; Dominican cloaks without or with a cross (Fraternity of St Vincent Ferrer); capes of the Ordo Militiae Templi; immaculate scapulars of the Canon regular of the Mother of God; purple and red of our prelates (Cardinal Pell's cappa magna did not seem that long after all, as His Eminence is so tall). How could we forget here the invisible spiritual presence of so many contemplative Carmelites, Benedictines, Missionaries of Charity, Premonstratensians, etc, all over the world, supporting Juventutem with their prayers? Many cloisters in America, Liechtenstein, France, Italy and England have united their prayers to ours during our stay in Germany.

The clothing, the faces and the accents of our thousand youths (from all continents and twenty countries) confirmed that diversity. The many exterior visitors to Juventutem noticed how interest for that rite and customs united youths and clerics from a variety of backgrounds. That dimension of universality (not uniformity) is an



asset for the evangelisation: from Chicago to Nairobi, including Campos, Natitingou, London, Versailles, Melbourne and Budapest, many youths have come closer to Christ with Juventutem. Thanks be to God, our presence has been truly missionary.

The Church has encouraged us.

Cardinal Castrillon Hoyos, Prefect of the Congregation for Clergy and President of the Pontifical Ecclesia Dei Commission officially recommended Juventutem to the authorities both in Rome and in Cologne. WYD head organiser Mgr Francis Kohn understood well our desire for a serene and fruitful integration preserving our identity. Despite its relatively low number compared with the expected one million WYD pilgrims, Juventutem benefited from ecclesiastical authorities' genuine consideration. For instance, you saw how St Antonius' Church where we celebrated our liturgies in Düsseldorf was vast, beautiful and equipped with an organ of very good quality. Moreover, the bishops who came to give lectures were familiar with the traditional movement.

Unfortunately, inserting our Holy Masses as part and parcel of the official programme (listing about 300 WYD events proposed to everyone in the Cologne diocese) seemed premature for the authorities. We will wait until the next WYD. Nevertheless, we are glad that the rite which is so dear to us was included twice in that official programme for the occasion of the pontifical vespers at St Antonius.

We also regret the unequal attribution of the permanent centres for activities. Despite our very attractive programme (doctrinal conferences, catechetical debates, films on Catholic art and on pro-life issues, sacred art exhibition, spiritual concerts, perpetual adoration), Juventutem was not allowed to receive such a centre, although other new communities or movements were granted with up to three centres each. Officials judged that Juventutem was not to be too prominent in this XXth WYD.

For all those constraints, we think ecclesiastical authorities have appreciated our fair and loyal behaviour. The Secretary General of the French conference of bishops summarized in a way the consideration of the eleven bishops from the whole world (including three cardinals) who have participated in Juventutem when he told *Le Figaro* on August 17, 2005: "The youth from Juventutem also are part of the Church. Their presence shows that there are several ways of living the faith. It is important that everyone accepts the different ways of discovering the Good News and I am delighted with their participating in the Cologne WYD".

The benevolence of local clergy.

During the first week in Bavaria, we received a friendly welcome (apart from our groups of walkers who were dismissed on several occasions in the diocese of Augsburg) in the various churches where our liturgies were to take place as arranged beforehand. The Abbot of Ottobeuren (the Benedictine abbey, a jewel from Bavarian baroque, where our opening Mass took place) had insisted in guiding us in person around the huge building when we had first come to ask for his hospitality for our Mass. He put the abbey church at our disposal with genuine friendliness. By Lake Constance, the Dean of Lindau was very happy with our masses. He had recommended Juventutem to Cardinal Meisner of Cologne, a personal friend of his. In Düsseldorf, the young parish priest of St Antonius welcomed us affectionately. He was truly delighted to see so many youths from all over the world crowding in his beautiful church, all united by their love for the traditional liturgy. He attended our solemn liturgies in choir. He also housed several prelates and clerics from our group and took it for granted that any Catholic parish would have rejoiced in welcoming Juventutem.



All the cardinals and bishops who came to offer our liturgies were very amiable and have encouraged us. We are grateful to them, particularly when considering their busy schedule during WYD. We certainly want to express Their Excellencies George Alencherry and Fernando Arêas Rifan our heartfelt thanks for having travelled from India and Brazil respectively in order to stay among Juventutem the whole time. Archbishop Wolfgang Haas from Vaduz also celebrated for us the Holy Sacrifice in Bavaria and in Düsseldorf. Let us pray for our very friendly (whether they played the accordion or not – see pictures!) and generous Excellencies for so many lectures and sermons delivered in several languages, for so much advice given and so many liturgies conducted with devotion.

That which has changed.

The programme and style of this XXth WYD was rather similar to previous ones. We are pleased with the fact that many people were interested in and supportive of our traditional behaviour. For most of them, it was like a revelation. Not pretending anything, it was mere charity on our behalf: showing that Catholic youth can dress with modesty and remain on their knees and sing in Latin without ceasing to be recollected or joyful according to circumstances.

We liked the Holy Father's initiative to meet with the seminarians and the religious in formation, thus allowing about 30 consecrated young men from Juventutem to receive the Holy Father's special blessing (one of our American deacons was even able to kiss his ring). We also enjoyed the Holy Father's arrival by boat ("Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini") in Cologne and the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Saturday evening, 20 August, in Marienfeld. The day after, our lay people and seminarians were glad to receive Holy Communion according to the traditional rule kneeling and on the tongue (from priests and with communion plates - see pictures) at the papal Mass.

The great novelty for us was to partake as an official delegation. Juventutem wanted to reveal the traditional movement as a young and well disposed collaborator for the evangelisation of our times. Our identity was favourably perceived, as shows the wide media coverage, almost always supportive of Juventutem. Public opinion seems to have better understood that the traditional Mass is not necessarily to be reclaimed as a grievance but can be offered as a grace.

It may be the first time since the beginning of the Ecclesia Dei movement in 1988 that the traditional Roman liturgy has been offered with such enthusiasm and on such large scale. During twelve days, in dozens of churches from South to Central Germany, prelates from all over the world prayed in that venerable rite and encouraged our hundreds of pilgrims amidst the largest youth gathering on earth. At all our solemn ceremonies churches were full, obliging our youths to remain standing or sitting on the floor for want of space. Many youths and adults and clerics came independently of Juventutem, attracted simply by the beauty and devotion in our ceremonies. Thus better known, all of us traditional youths and clerics and communities, will be better understood and welcomed, and our humble service in the Lord's Vineyard will bear more fruit, God willing.

On the Feast of the Divine Motherhood of the Most Holy Virgin, Fribourg, October 11, 2005.