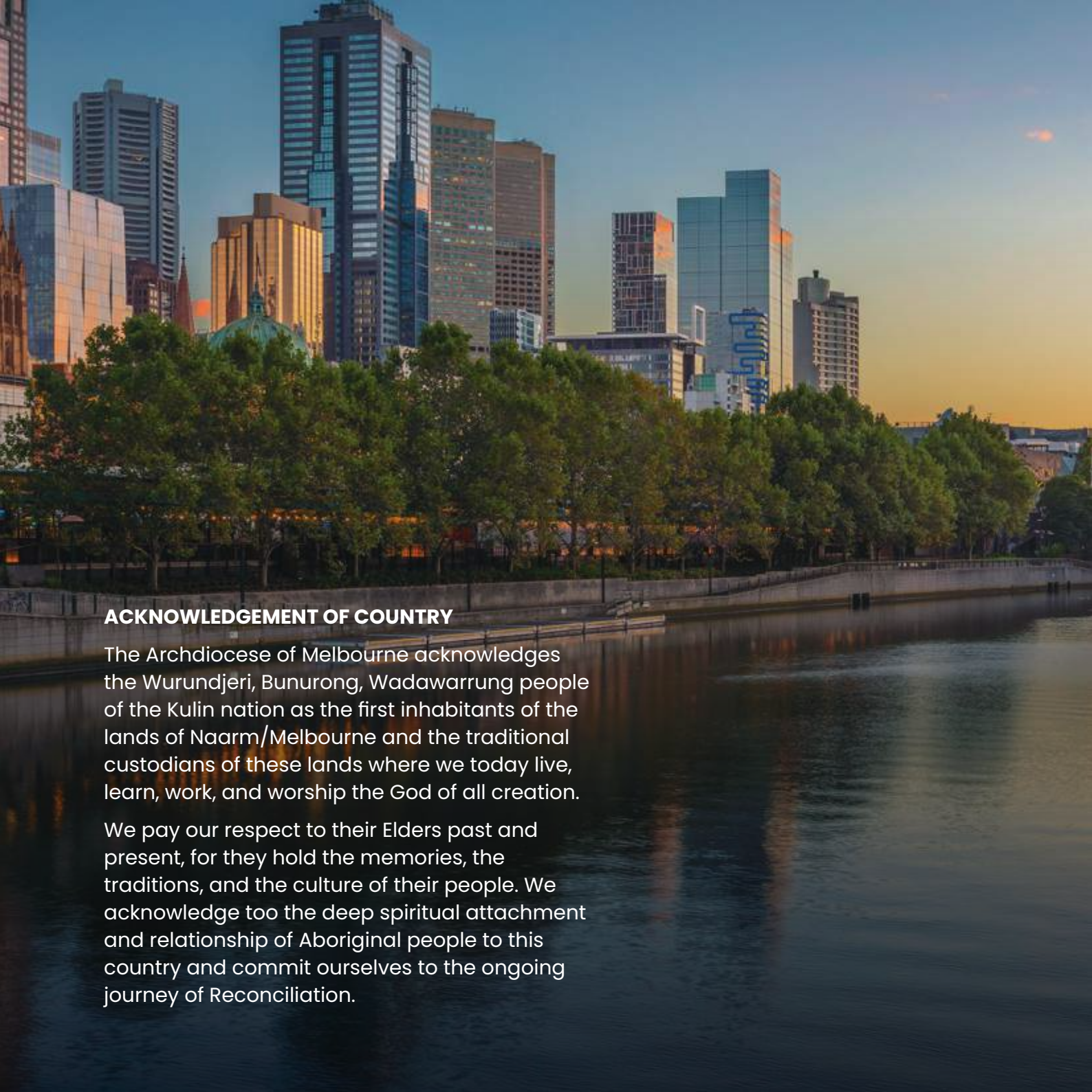




# ACYF 2025 REFLECTIONS



• MELBOURNE, VICTORIA • 30 NOVEMBER - 2 DECEMBER 2025 •



## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Archdiocese of Melbourne acknowledges the Wurundjeri, Bunurong, Wadawarrung people of the Kulin nation as the first inhabitants of the lands of Naarm/Melbourne and the traditional custodians of these lands where we today live, learn, work, and worship the God of all creation.

We pay our respect to their Elders past and present, for they hold the memories, the traditions, and the culture of their people. We acknowledge too the deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal people to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

A scenic view of a river at sunset. The sky is filled with vibrant orange and yellow clouds, reflecting on the water. A multi-arched bridge spans the river in the middle ground. In the foreground, a large boat with a purple canopy is docked on the right bank. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

## PRAYER FOR RECONCILIATION

God of all creation,  
as we journey together in this Great South Land,  
we pray for healing, forgiveness and unity,  
creating a path of good will, with justice and compassion.

Jesus, through the power of your love,  
you have given us the courage, wisdom and strength  
to share our gifts and talents in humility.  
In peace and understanding we reconcile with each other.

Creator Spirit, we come together in prayer and thanksgiving  
for the many blessings we have received.

Allow your Spirit to wash over us  
and give us strength to walk together as one.

Amen.

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# INTRODUCTION

With hearts full of gratitude and wonder, we give thanks for the remarkable grace that has flowed through the Church of Australia during the Australian Catholic Youth Festival 2025, held and hosted in Melbourne. For those few unforgettable days, our Church came alive with the vibrant faith of over 6,000 young pilgrims—a radiant sign of Christ alive among us.

Throughout the Festival, we witnessed a Church deeply alive: young people singing with joy, kneeling in reverence, seeking God’s mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and uniting in the Eucharist with profound love. Their faces reflected hope, their hearts radiated faith, and their voices echoed the joy of knowing Christ. It was a living encounter—a testimony that the Church is young, and Christ is truly alive in the midst of His people.

To all dioceses, parishes, movements, communities, orders, schools, families, group leaders and teachers, and diocesan staff: thank you. Your support, encouragement, and faithful

accompaniment opened the door for so many of our young people to walk this sacred journey. Whether you were a pilgrim, prayed from afar, volunteered, spread the word, or walked alongside our youth—your role mattered, and the fruits are already visible.

To those who could not attend: seek out someone who did. Ask them what they saw, heard and felt. Let their stories renew your own faith.

As we look ahead to World Youth Day 2027 and the International Eucharistic Congress in 2028, we carry with us the blessings sown during ACYF. May these seeds grow into deeper discipleship, vibrant vocations, renewed mission, and lasting holiness in every corner of our Church—in homes, schools, and parishes alike.

Let us continue to walk together, young and old, clergy and lay, rejoicing in what God is doing among us. May Mary, Help of Christians, accompany our young people always, and may the Holy Spirit fan into flame the gifts we have received.

# ACYF

The Australian Catholic Youth Festival is an initiative of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

Building upon previous Festivals held in 2013 (Melbourne), 2015 (Adelaide), 2017 (Sydney), and 2019 (Perth), the 2025 Festival host was the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

The Festival was held over three days from Sunday 30 November to Tuesday 2 December 2025. It provided young people from across Australia a chance to come together in fellowship, to grow in their faith, to strengthen their relationship with Jesus, and to be inspired to live out their Catholic values in everyday life. The Festival was shaped and created around the following foundations:

- **Encounter:** Provide a high-quality formative and experiential opportunity for young Catholics to encounter Jesus Christ, in the context of the Catholic Church in Australia;
- **Evangelise:** Evangelise young people and empower them to be evangelists;
- **Listen:** Listen to and discuss the issues and challenges in the lives of young Catholics in Australia;
- **Experience:** Provide young people with local Catholic models and connections to vocations, social action, liturgy and prayer, music and catechesis.





# POPE LEO'S MESSAGE

## Pope Leo speaks to the youth of Australia

Not on anyone's bingo card for ACYF 2025 was the appearance of another pilgrim—Pope Leo XIV from Rome!

In a special message for Australian pilgrims, the Holy Father sent his blessings and prayers for all those gathered.



Watch the full video by scanning the QR code, or go to [melbcath.org/ACYFPope](https://melbcath.org/ACYFPope)

“It is with immense joy that I greet you today, young people together with priests, religious and bishops from all over the country, on the occasion of the Australian Catholic Youth Festival. ...

Our lives, therefore, find their ultimate purpose in becoming who God made us to be, in other words, by living out his will in our lives. Do not try merely to imitate others; instead, listen to what God is calling you to be and do. In particular, I am sure that the Lord is calling some of you to serve Him in the priesthood or consecrated life. Please have the courage to say “yes”!

# ATTENDEE OVERVIEW

# 6,295 pilgrims



**140 Workforce  
volunteers**

**37**

**Bishops**

**75**

**Confessors for  
the Sacrament of  
Reconciliation**

**384**

**Exhibitors**



**137 Presenters  
and musicians**

**32**

**Dioceses and  
Eparchies**

**120**

**WYD Cross and  
Icon bearers**

**86**

**Archdiocese of Melbourne  
and Catholic Development  
Fund employees**



**291 Clergy  
and Religious**



**6 Masses**

52

**Committee members**

23

**Media representatives**

4

**Patron saints**



**8 Languages at the  
Commissioning Mass**

79

**Expo stalls**

5

**Plenary sessions**

1

**WYD Cross and Icon**



**1 Pope!**

**102 workshops**



# FROM PILGRIMS AND LEADERS

**‘It’s a good way to surround myself with other young people in the faith, and be encouraged to share it in public.’**

**ELTON, PERTH**

‘I’m here to have a good experience and learn more about the Catholic faith.’

**SEB, KARRATHA**

‘I’m really happy right now. I feel connected to God and I’m just grateful for everything.’

**PILGRIM**

‘I’m absolutely loving it!’

**PILGRIM**

‘It’s the first time our parish has ever sent youth to ACYF.’

**KHAN, KARRATHA**

‘Just having that opportunity for prayer, has been really wonderful.’

**PILGRIM**

**‘It’s so nice to meet everyone from other countries, and all the pilgrims ... I just hope everyone enjoys the experience and grows in their faith.’**

**MALEA, SYDNEY**




# WELCOME TO MELBOURNE FESTA AND PILGRIMAGE WALK

## Day 1: Sunday 30 November

The World Youth Day Cross and Icon were flown into Melbourne especially for the Festival, almost 20 years since they last visited the Australia. They have been visiting parts of Asia and the Pacific in the lead-up to World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul, Korea.

As part of the Festival's opening liturgy, pilgrim groups carried the cross and icon from St Patrick's Cathedral through the streets of Melbourne to the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, the venue for ACYF 2025.



A large crowd of young people is gathered outdoors, likely at a festival. In the foreground, several young people are holding a blue banner. The background is filled with more people and green trees. The scene is bright and sunny.

'These signs of faith, courage and love, entrusted to the young people of the world by Pope St John Paul II ... remind us that **Christ walks with His Church** and that His mother Mary journeys alongside the disciples on the road of faith.'

**ARCHBISHOP PETER A COMENSOLI**

**PILGRIMS OF HOPE**



#CDF





A large crowd of people is gathered in a dark arena, illuminated by blue stage lights. The audience is dense, and the atmosphere is vibrant. In the foreground, a wooden stage is visible with a few speakers. The text "YOU BELONG HERE" is overlaid in large, white, bold letters, framed by large, semi-transparent quotation marks.

**“YOU  
BELONG  
HERE”**

'Whatever reason has brought you here, somehow **Jesus** had a part in that ...

'**You belong here.** I want to welcome you to your new house—this house of the Church. And it's your house too ....

'Welcome to these days of ACYF. Welcome to this **house of God.**'

Welcome and Opening Address by Archbishop Peter A Comensoli



# Opening Plenary




'The world may try to silence your faith, but it can never silence **your prayer** ...

**'Even the smallest whispered prayer reaches the ear of God.**  
No government can ban it.  
No bully can break it.  
No social pressure can erase it.  
Your prayer is your **strength**.  
Your prayer is your **freedom**.  
Your prayer is your **hope**.

'Being different in Christ is not a burden; it is a **blessing**.'

Prayer led by His Eminence  
Mykola Cardinal Bychok CSSR



A woman in a dark blue and white religious habit is speaking at a podium. She has her hands clasped in front of her. The background is a blue grid pattern.

'You were called to the  
great adventure of love.  
You are not God's project.  
You are God's beloved son,  
God's beloved daughter, and  
**saving you is His delight.'**

**SR MARY GRACE SV**

# CREATED FOR LOVE

Day 2: Monday 1 December  
(Morning Plenary)

'Jesus is your friend.  
**He loves you as you are ...**

'God wants you. Your  
heart. Your life. Your gifts.  
Your story—even the  
messy parts.'

**BISHOP GEORGE KOLODZIEJ SDS**



“It was the first time that I experienced a love that was not transactional, a love that was not earned and **a love that looks like Jesus.**’

**ZAHRA, PILGRIM**

# A GOD WHO DRAWS CLOSE


Day 2: Monday 1 December  
(Evening Plenary)



'Will you face Him?  
Will you see Him?  
Will you gaze upon  
Christ crucified?  
**Will you come before  
the God who meets  
us at the cross?'**

FR CHRIS RYAN MGL





'There is nothing  
that you have gone  
through or will ever  
go through that Jesus  
does not **go through**  
**with you.**

FR CHRIS RYAN MGL


# A GOD WHO SAVES US

Day 3: Tuesday 2 December  
(Morning Plenary)



**'I just let all my emotions out.**  
I just felt very connected with  
God and everybody in the room.'

**PILGRIM**

A large crowd of people is seated in a church or arena, looking towards the front. In the foreground, a bishop in white and red vestments is kneeling with his hands clasped in prayer. To his left, a woman in a black jacket and glasses is also kneeling. To his right, a woman in a green and white shirt is kneeling with her hands clasped. The background is filled with many other people, some standing and some sitting, all appearing to be in a state of prayer or adoration.

'Adoration was one of my favourite moments, because you're literally in front of Jesus.

'You're looking right at Jesus and He's looking right back at you ... and everyone is quiet. It's a different kind of feeling. **I think it's a little miracle, honestly.'**

**PILGRIM**

'It's another way, I suppose, of saying it's time to get on the **great adventure of giving your life to God.'**

**BISHOP MARK EDWARDS OMI**





**THOUSANDS FALL SILENT  
IN ADORATION OF THE LORD.**

# ACYF 2025 COMMISSIONING MASS

The Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre's main theatre was transformed into a sacred space for the final liturgy, celebrated by Archbishop Peter A Comensoli and concelebrated by over 32 Bishops from Australia and Oceania. Music was provided by the Melbourne Youth Orchestra, the choir of Trinity College Melbourne and the Festival house band. Mary Finsterer and Fr Christopher Willcock SJ composed and rewrote hymns especially for the festival, including *Auxilium Christianorum*, which accompanied the fanfare and processional.

The celebration began with the procession of the Cross and Icon, the Message Stick and the Samoan Catholic Community processing the Gospel to the Ambo. Different community languages were incorporated during the prayers of intercession with young people reading the prayers in Vietnamese, Spanish, Tamil, Ukrainian, Arabic and Cantonese, revealing some of the breadth of the Catholic Church in Australia.





'What God has begun in you in these days must not fade ...

**'Carry this fire home.** Share it with your families, your friends, your peers at school or university or at work, with your world. Let these days ... be the start of something beautiful in you, not the end.'

**ARCHBISHOP ANTHONY FISHER OP**



“It’s okay to be trusting enough to receive Christ’s friendship, and to know his joy in you. Be searchers for an eternal horizon, not a shrunken enclosure. Be the ones who know that you need Him and yearn for his healing.

Happy are you—blessed are you—who have seen the face of Jesus and now walk with Him. It is the path to life, and to a heart of joy.

I wonder how many of you are anxious about the future. Mental health? Personal identity? Family struggles? The path ahead? The state of our planet? Your place in society? Sometimes it can feel as if our lives are a cut-back, dried-out, death-like tree stump.

Into that experience, I want to encourage you to hear Isaiah speaking to us: “A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse.” From that stump of Jesse, the life of Jesus sprang forth. Out of what looks done and dusted, dead, God makes something new grow.

Our heavenly Father, who delights in you, wants us to grow from death to life, from fear to hope. We are poised in anticipation, eager with hope for the life we are offered in Christ. Look around you: thousands of young people, praying,

singing, listening, serving.

To be among God’s young ones with a vision for the future, to grow new shoots of life and hope that our world so desperately needs, to rest in the joy that Jesus has for each of you: these are the things in the backpack of a pilgrim of hope.

A tourist comes for the experience, the photos, the Insta feeds, but not for life. The pilgrim lets the journey change their heart and renew their lives.’

**‘IT IS JESUS, THE ONE WHO IS FOREVER YOUNG, WHO IS POINTING OUT TO YOU THIS HORIZON OF LIFE AND HOPE, ENCOURAGING US TO LOOK OUT TOWARDS WHERE HE IS STRIDING IN TO GREET US. GO OUT TO GREET HIM; HE’S WAITING TO WELCOME YOU!’**

*Excerpts from  
Archbishop Peter A Comensoli’s homily*





# PRESENTERS, PERFORMERS AND PANELS

A “choose your own adventure” experience—designed so pilgrims could follow what sparked their curiosity and spoke to their heart. Over a hundred interactive and engaging sessions were offered, with pilgrims provided the opportunity to explore how to pray, live authentically as a Catholic, and wrestle with the big questions of life and faith.





“I had one youth leader tell me a young person in her group left the workshop and told her, “I don’t even know why I’m crying! God is just doing something in my heart!”’

**WORKSHOP PRESENTER**





“

‘Thank you for inviting me to be part of this vibrant and joyful gathering. It did my soul good to be there ... I love seeing young people living out their faith and desiring to do good in this troubled world.’

**WORKSHOP PRESENTER**



# BISHOPS X-CHANGE

Forums with bishops and lay leaders from around the country, provided a chance for young people to ask honest questions and share their hopes and concerns about the world.





# EXPO

The Expo was a vibrant space in which pilgrims were invited to explore, discover and embrace their person vocation. Interactive experiences and connections with representatives of various Catholic communities and organisations, to help young people discern God's will, live as disciples of Christ and make positive and hope-filled contributions to the Church and the broader world.



# CENTRAL CATHOLIC BOOKSHOP



# JUSTICE ACTIVITY CENTRE

In a sign of hope for the future, young people at the Festival immersed themselves in the social and ecological justice activities at the festival's interactive Expo. The Justice Activity Centre provided hands-on service projects and outreach initiatives that bring faith into action.



# INDIGENOUS YOUTH / YARNING SPACE

The Yarning Space was in a light filled room with views of the Yarra River through a canopy of gum trees which created a beautiful connection to Country.

This peaceful and relaxing space was setup and supported by the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria, NATSICC and Binnap Partners. Pilgrims were welcomed into the space to reflect, learn and engage in conversations related to the connection between Indigenous spirituality and

Catholicism. Initially many of these conversations were prompted by the pilgrims wanting to know more about the Aboriginal Stations of the Cross that were on display outside the Yarning Space. These conversations continued as they learnt more from the cultural artifacts display that had an altar feel to it, viewing the Country Language map and books, while joining in the yarning mat weaving activity.



# SACRED SPACES

Sacred spaces at the Festival offered a variety of opportunities for different types of prayer, times of reflection and participation in the Sacraments. Spaces included a dedicated Festival Chapel to attend Mass, a Chapel that had the Blessed Sacrament available—with many pilgrims spending time in Adoration, and a Chapel housing the World Youth Day Cross and Icon and

relics of St Carlo Acutis and St Teresa of Calcutta. The Cross and Icon, a feature at every WYD, was given to young people as a gift by Pope St John Paul II. They are symbols of the heart of our faith, always on pilgrimage around the world. The image of Salus Populi Romani ('Protectress of the Roman People') is one of the most beloved icons of Mary.



# MERCY PARK

At the heart of the Festival venue, Mercy Park offered a contrast to the high-energy plenary sessions and workshops. Many pilgrims availed themselves of the opportunity to spend some time in deep, personal reflection and receive the mercy of God in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In fact, so many pilgrims took up this invitation that extra confessors needed to be found to accommodate the need for confession.



# EXHIBITIONS



## Great Women of Faith

Featuring 24 striking portraits of extraordinary women of faith by Cologne-based artist Barbara Skorupa, the exhibition celebrates the diverse ways women across the centuries have responded to God's unique call in their lives.



## St Carlo Acutis' Eucharistic Miracles

St Carlo Acutis had a love for the Eucharist that also made him fascinated with the phenomenon of Eucharistic miracles around the world and this Exhibition was designed and created by the young Italian saint himself.



## Shroud of Turin

The Shroud of Turin exhibition shared the studies and mounting evidence to suggest it may be none other than the burial shroud of Jesus of Nazareth Himself.



## Aboriginal Stations of the Cross

The Aboriginal Stations of the Cross were imagined, dreamed and painted by John Dunn, an Olkola/Djabaguy man from Far North Queensland. Pilgrims were able to follow Christ's Way of the Cross, rich with Aboriginal tradition and symbolism.

'My ACYF journey has been sort of just finding about who I am as a young man living in a secular world, trying to navigate my Christian life and eventually being married and having children and being a positive role model to my kids.'

**BENSON, SYDNEY**

**'My favourite part ... was being able to actually connect and talk with a lot of like-minded Catholic youth.'**

**PILGRIM**

**'I think I really needed this. It is like a spiritual nourishment. Back where we live, there's not many young people practising their faith, and so to see so many other young people so energised and passionate about celebrating our faith ... it keeps the fire going, for me at least.'**

**MARK, MANDURAH**

'The biggest thing that I got out of this is that God is in love with us ... I think that's such a beautiful message to hear. So I'm going to go back and preach that to people and tell them about how I love God and all the good things that God's done for me that can also happen for them.'

**PILGRIM**

**‘The thing I’ve gotten out of this is that God is in love with us ... I think that’s such a beautiful message that people need to hear.’**

## **PILGRIM**

‘We see them put their hands up a lot more to be more involved. They’re the ones that are like a beacon for others to also stand up and give it a go.’

**JOHN, MELBOURNE**

‘I found it encouraging to see how many young people wanted to go from our parish ... seeing all of this celebration of our faith, it’s amazing. I’m having a great time.’

**JERICHO, PERTH**

‘My students came away deeply transformed and conformed to Jesus Christ. Many received the loving mercy of God through the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. All experienced the deep love of God in Adoration. Curiosity turned into deep devotion for the Shroud of Turin for many, and all came back in love with Christ Jesus.’

**LEADER, BROKEN BAY**

‘It was so inspiring to see thousands of people walking and believing in Christ ... I just feel so grateful to have been a part of this and share this experience with everyone else here.’

**PILGRIM**

# REMEMBERING CHRIS RUA ANTONY

The impact of ACYF on the lives of our young people cannot be underestimated. This included 16-year-old Chris Rua Antony, who attended ACYF with his older sister, Auxilia, and his local parish youth group (Our Lady Help of Christians, Narre Warren). Sadly, in February this year, Chris was tragically involved in a car accident and died. He was a devout young man who 'had a blast' at ACYF, shared his older sister.

'For those three days I would see him walking around, jumping up and down with his ACYF bandana across his head with all of his friends. He even took a photo with the Cardinal [Mykola Bychok] which he told me about it immediately. "I took a

“During the plenary [sessions] when we had praise and worship, I would see Chris jumping up and down. I'd never seen that kind of joy in him before.”

**AUXILIA, CHRIS' SISTER**

photo with the possible future Pope," he said. That was really cool for him.'

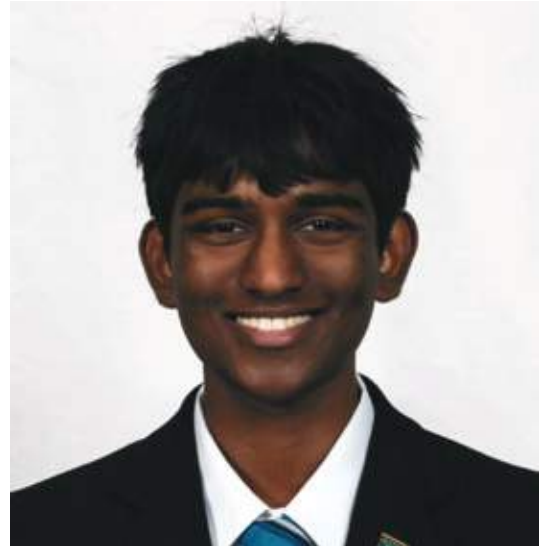
Chris was a student at Mazenod College and 'a very disciplined and studious kid,' said Auxilia. 'He would always say, "I can't go to this, I will be busy studying." So seeing that joy in him [at ACYF] made me really happy and proud of him. From then on, his faith sort of just blossomed, which was beautiful to see.'

Chris' mum, Agal, described him as 'the perfect son ... faithful and the gentlest of all'. She and Chris' dad, Antony, were very proud of their son who altar served almost every Sunday. The family recently discovered that on 5 February, eight days before Chris' fatal accident, he had written these words on his laptop: "If you're reading this, know Jesus loves you."



The Lord is my shepherd  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where He gives me repose.  
Near restful waters He leads;  
He revives my soul.

**PSALM 23**  
(CHRIS' FAVOURITE PSALM)



*Eternal rest grant unto him,  
O Lord, and let perpetual shine  
upon him. May he rest in peace.*

# WORKFORCE

## Thank you

The Festival could not have proceeded without the presence and assistance of our workforce volunteers who provided warm hospitality and safe spaces. Thank you for your extraordinary commitment to young people and our Church! Your joy and infectious enthusiasm permeated the Festival and the experience of our young people.





# FESTIVAL SUPPORTERS

## Thank you

To our supporters and sponsors who enabled so many aspects of the Festival to flourish—thank you! Your generous financial contribution was invaluable and a great gift to the young people who attended and the broader Church.

Our grateful thanks to:

- Victorian Catholic Education Authority
- Villa Maria Catholic Homes
- Catholic Development Fund
- Aid to the Church in Need
- Divine Mercy Australia
- Australian Catholic University
- Champion College Australia
- Freedom Publishing Books
- Mary MacKillop Spirituality Ministry
- Veritatis Publishing
- AON

# COMMITTEES AND ORGANISING TEAM

## Thank you

The Australian Catholic Youth Festival is made possible through the contributions, support, and dedicated efforts of the following people and organisations.

### **Archdiocese of Melbourne**

- Archbishop Peter A Comensoli
- Chancery staff including the Archbishop's Office, Vicar General's Office, Proclaim: the Office for Mission Renewal, Communications, Stewardship, Finance, Development and Philanthropy, IT, Legal, HR, Safeguarding.
- St Patrick's Cathedral including the Dean of the Cathedral, Archdiocesan Master of Ceremonies, Cathedral Master of Ceremonies, assistant priests, sacristans, parish staff, altar servers, choir and cantors.
- Corpus Christi College including the Rector, seminarians and staff.

- Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools including their schools, staff and students.
- Archdiocesan agencies including the Catholic Development Fund, CatholicCare Victoria, Catholic Social Services Victoria and their staff.

### **Australian Catholic Youth Festival Organising Team**

ACYF 2025 Executive and Steering Committees: Communications, Encounter, Plenary, Program and Event, Policy Risk and Workforce Management Committees and the Festival Office.

Thank you for the committee members whose dedication and faith, vision and tireless work brought the Australian Catholic Youth Festival 2025 to life. It has been a privilege and a blessing to have each of you share in this extraordinary journey.



### **Australian Catholic Bishops Conference**

In particular the Bishops Commission for Evangelisation, Laity and Ministry (BCELM), the Director of the National Centre for Evangelisation, Malcolm Hart, and the Bishops Delegate for Youth, Bishop George Kolodziej SDS.

### **All Bishops, schools, parishes and communities across Australia**

who supported young people to prepare for and attend the Australian Catholic Youth Festival.

Thank you to all the organisations, partners, presenters, exhibitors and guests who helped make the Festival a success.

Thank you also to the tireless volunteers for their hard work during the Festival.

Finally, I extend my prayerful gratitude to the young people and their leaders who journeyed to Melbourne in faith for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival 2025. The witness of your faith and joy, embodies the spirit and purpose of the Festival.

***Teresa Rhynehart***

*Festival Director  
Australian Catholic Youth Festival  
Melbourne 2025*

# GO. YOU ARE SENT.

## **This is it.**

Months of preparation and excitement. Countless hours of saving and fundraising. Three days of music and inspiration, of forging new friendships, of beginning to learn the truth about who God is and who we were created to be. Now we are here, at the end. Now the Australian Catholic Youth Festival is over.

But that's okay. The Festival was only ever meant to be the start of something greater. Here, in this place, you started the greatest adventure of your life.

You were never here by accident. You were never just here simply because of your own choices or the choices of others. Remember the words from the Gospel: it is Jesus who chooses us. It is Jesus who reveals Himself to us. You were always

here because He wanted you here, and He has given you something precious to take with you and share with everyone.

Throughout the last few days, you will have heard these words constantly: pilgrims of hope. This is who you are. You were a pilgrim of hope.

In the Bible, God says: 'For I know what plans I have in mind for you—declares the Lord—plans for peace, not disaster, to give you a future and a hope' (Jeremiah 29:11).

This is the God who chose you. This is the hope you have discovered. There are so many people who need to discover the same thing, and they cannot do it without you.

Now is the time.

Go. You are sent.





CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE  
OF MELBOURNE

