England & Wales

world youth sunday



20th - 22nd November

FRIDAY

World Youth Sunday Livestream For Schools

SATURDAY

Social Saturday

SUNDAY

World Youth Sunday in your Parish

For more information

www.cymfed.org.uk/wys

CYMFED
CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY FEDERATION
Forming and serving Youth Ministry in England and Wales

Register here

world youth sunday



ABOUT WYS

World Youth Sunday is more than just an event. Across three days, schools, parishes and dioceses take part in a national celebration that encourages young people to encounter Christ, deepen their faith and recognise the important role they play in the life of the Church.

Each year, young people from across England and Wales come together to celebrate World Youth Sunday, joining with the wider Church in a shared experience of faith, community and mission.

Through prayer, worship, inspiring speakers, music and shared celebration, World Youth Sunday creates opportunities for young people to connect with one another, grow in faith and be inspired to live the Gospel in their everyday lives.

This booklet has everything you need to know about World Youth Sunday 2026. We hope it helps you prepare for a joyful and memorable celebration as we come together with thousands of young people across England and Wales.

THIS YEARS THEME



CELEBRATING THE YEAR OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

World Youth Sunday 2026 celebrates the Year of St. Francis of Assisi, inviting young people to discover the life and witness of one of the Church's most beloved saints.

St. Francis responded to God's call with humility, joy and courage, dedicating his life to prayer, service, peace and care for creation. His example continues to inspire Christians around the world to live simply, love generously and place Christ at the centre of their lives.

Throughout the three-day programme, participants will take part in sessions exploring the life of St. Francis and the values that shaped his mission. These will include themes of peace and care for creation, prayer, encouraging young people to reflect on how they can live out the Gospel in their own schools, parishes and communities.

world youth sunday

A THREE DAY CELEBRATION

Friday 20th November
World Youth Sunday Livestream for Schools

The UK's largest online event for Catholic schools, the World Youth Sunday Livestream is a five hour interactive celebration for pupils of all ages. Featuring prayer, liturgy, inspiring speakers, music and interactive activities led by national Catholic organisations, the livestream is designed to engage every key stage.

This year's programme explores the life of St. Francis of Assisi through sessions on peace, service and care for creation, encouraging young people to live out the Gospel in their everyday lives.

Saturday 21st November
Social Saturday

Follow the celebration on our social media channels as schools, parishes and dioceses across England and Wales share how they are marking World Youth Sunday. Look out for messages from Bishops, youth ministry teams and special guests and join the celebration by sharing your own photos, videos and stories throughout the 3 day celebration.

Sunday 22nd November
World Youth Sunday

World Youth Sunday is celebrated across the Catholic Church each year on the Feast of Christ the King. Moved to this date by Pope Francis in 2020, it invites young people around the world to celebrate their faith, recognise their place in the Church and respond to Christ's call to mission.

Across England and Wales, schools, parishes and dioceses unite in prayer and celebration as part of this global event, reminding young people that they are at the heart of the Church today.

JOIN IN WORLD YOUTH SUNDAY



Who Can Take Part?

Young people, schools, parishes and dioceses across England and Wales are all invited to take part in World Youth Sunday.



How to Get Involved

Join the Schools Livestream, take part in Social Saturday, and celebrate World Youth Sunday in your school, parish or local community through prayer, worship and shared celebration..



Benefits

Discover your place in the Church, grow in faith, connect with others, and be inspired by St. Francis of Assisi to live out the Gospel through peace, service and care for creation.

For more information, visit

www.cymfed.org.uk/ wys