



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL - Sunday 30 November 2025



SUNDAY 30TH NOVEMBER, 2025 ITINERARY

Morning: Sunday Mass & lunch

Pilgrims are welcomed at parishes across the Archdiocese and the City of Melbourne for Sunday Mass.

After a self-catered lunch, groups will journey to St Patrick's Cathedral in East Melbourne to begin their pilgrimage.

1.30pm: Welcome to Melbourne Festa

At Melbourne's beautiful Cathedral, pilgrims will have the opportunity to pray with the World Youth Day Cross and Icon, walk the pilgrim path, and enjoy live performances and activities around the Cathedral grounds.

2.30pm: Official Welcome

Official welcome and prayer, led by the Catholic Bishops of Australia, with the World Youth Day Cross and Icon being carried out of the Cathedral to take pride of place in the pilgrim walk procession.

3.00pm: Pilgrimage Walk

Pilgrimage walk with the World Youth Day Cross and Icon through the heart of Melbourne to the Festival venue.

5.00pm (approx.): Arrival at venue & dinner

Arrival at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, where pilgrims can visit the Expo & Justice Centre, enjoy music and live performances and grab an early dinner from food trucks and vendors.

7.00–8.30pm: Opening Plenary

Opening Plenary hosted by Festival MCs Zahra Hanratty, Mark D'Silva and Katie Prejean McGrady, featuring an address by Cardinal Mykola Bychok, keynote by Archbishop Peter A Comensoli, music led by Emmanuel Worship, along with prayer and creative elements.

MONDAY 1 DECEMBER 2025 ITINERARY

9.30am: Morning Plenary

Morning Plenary featuring keynote speaker Sr Mary Grace SV, music led by Fatai, an address by Bishop George Kolodziej along with prayer, music and creative elements.

11.00am–7.00pm: Expo, workshops, talks & live performances

"Choose your own adventure" with hundreds of activities to pick from, including workshops, forums, Expo, social justice activities, games, prayer experiences, Reconciliation and Synodal spaces. Masses will be celebrated in the Chapel throughout the day.

12.00–2.00pm: Lunch

Pilgrims can take a break and enjoy lunch at their own preferred time. A great moment for groups to reflect on their experiences so far.

5.00–6.30pm: Dinner

Pilgrims can rest and enjoy dinner at their own preferred time. A good opportunity for groups to unpack their experiences of the day and share reflections.

6.30–8.30pm: Evening Plenary

Evening Plenary with keynote speaker Fr Chris Ryan MGL, music by Louisa Daniels and the house band, along with prayer, music and creative elements.





TUESDAY 2 DECEMBER 2025 ITINERARY

9.30–11.00am: Morning Plenary

Morning Plenary with keynote speakers Maggie Craig and Bishop Mark Edwards, plus music led by Fr Rob Galea, Alyssa Agius and Natasha Pinto, followed by a time of Adoration.



11.00am–4.00pm: Expo, workshops, talks & live performances

“Choose your own adventure” with hundreds of activities to pick from, including workshops, forums, Expo, social justice activities, games, prayer experiences, Reconciliation and Synodal spaces.

12.00–2.00pm: Lunch

Pilgrims can take a break and enjoy lunch at their own preferred time. A good moment for groups to reflect on their experiences.

4.00–6.00pm: Commissioning Mass

Commissioning Mass, celebrated by Archbishop Peter A. Comensoli, marking the official close of the Festival, with pilgrims sent on mission back to their own communities.

6.00–8.00pm: Expo & live performances

The Expo & Justice Centre will re-open, with food trucks and activations on the Expo Stage for those remaining in Melbourne.

6.00–7.30pm: Dinner

Pilgrims can enjoy dinner as suits them.



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