

# Active Witness



## Youth Leaders Formation Course

25 November to 20 December 2008

**“May the fire of God’s love descend to fill your heart, unite you ever more fully to the Lord and his Church, and send you forth, a new generation of apostles, to bring the world to Christ”**

**Pope Benedict XVI**

# Serve Christ... grow in faith... change the world!

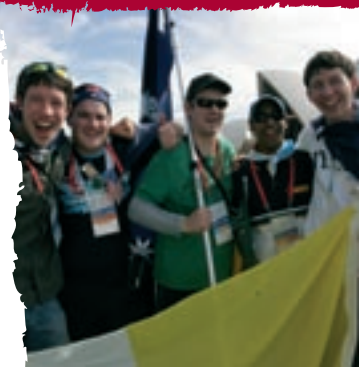
This Youth Leaders Formation Course is designed to help those who desire to serve the Church to grow in their knowledge, service and love of Christ, and to be formed in servant leadership.

Through the program each candidate will:

- Become a more enthusiastic witness to faith in Jesus Christ for youth, young adults and the wider Australian community
- Be ready to be an agent for the new evangelisation, a builder of a culture of life, and an architect of a new civilisation founded on love
- Increase their understanding of the many aspects of the Catholic faith: beliefs, sacraments, Christian life and prayer
- Develop skills in pastoral leadership particularly in the service of young people
- Be equipped to help young people to experience the power of the Holy Spirit especially in the Word of God and the Sacraments

“Today too there is a need for disciples of Christ who give unstintingly of their time and energy to serve the Gospel. There is a need for young people who will allow God’s love to burn within them and who will respond generously to his urgent call, just as many young blessed and saints did in the past and also in more recent times. In particular, I assure you that the Spirit of Jesus today is inviting you young people to be bearers of the good news of Jesus to your contemporaries.”

[Pope Benedict XVI’s Message for WYD, 2008]



## WHO?

30 - 40 young Australians aged between 18-30 years.

## WHEN?

The course will commence on **Tuesday 25th November 2008** and conclude on **Saturday 20th December 2008**.

## WHAT?

The formation program will be a rewarding period of intense learning and personal reflection during which participants will explore a range of key themes including:

- What is leadership
- This Faith of Ours
- Building a Culture of Life; a Civilisation of Love
- Witnesses to the World

This course has four pillars

### **Pastoral**

– Forming youth leaders with the heart of Christ and the mind of the Church. Evangelisation, service, youth leadership and being apostles in the 21st century.

### **Spiritual**

– Living a life in the Holy Spirit: daily prayer, regular celebration of the sacraments, retreats and the inspiration of the saints.

### **Intellectual**

– Faith foundations: to deepen knowledge and understanding of key aspects of the Church's teachings, to articulate them in the context of contemporary culture and to inspire others to live the Gospel.

### **Human Formation**

– Living the day to day life of charity as men and women of faith: relationships, work, offering talents and sharing all aspects of daily life.

## WHERE?

The Course will be a live-in experience for **ALL** participants at Benedict XVI Retreat Centre, Grose Vale (90 min drive from Sydney CBD and 6km from Richmond).

**“Whatever our situation we must pray for an openness of heart, for a willingness to take the next step, even if we are fearful of venturing too much further. If we take God’s hand, He will do the rest. Trust is the key. God will not fail us.”** [Cardinal Pell Message at WYD08 Opening Mass]



## APPLICATION & COST

The course will cost \$AU495, which is inclusive of course fees, materials, accommodation, meals and course-related transport. This amount needs to be paid in total by Monday 17th November 2008 by cheque or electronic funds transfer.



To apply you will need to submit:

1. a statement of personal motivation
2. a CV and where applicable include pastoral experience
3. a letter of personal recommendation from your Bishop, parish priest or group leader
4. a recent passport sized photo

Applications must be received by **24th October 2008**.

Applicants will be interviewed and notified of the outcome of their application by **7 November 2008**.

**All applications and enquiries should be directed to:**

Thérèse Nichols (Coordinator)  
Youth Leaders Formation Course  
Polding Centre  
133 Liverpool Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000  
AUSTRALIA

T +61 2 9390 5448  
F +61 2 9390 5905  
[therese.nichols@wyd2008.org](mailto:therese.nichols@wyd2008.org)

