



CONFERENCE OF THE FRANCISCAN FAMILY

Rome, 2 February 2010
Presentation of the Lord
Feast of Lights

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Peace and all Good to you!

In 1984, Pope John Paul II gave start to the celebration of World Youth Day (WYD), which is celebrated annually on Passion Sunday (also known as Palm Sunday) in all the Dioceses of the world. Every three years, WYD is celebrated at an international level with the participation of the youth from all over the globe in one of the biggest cities of the world. The last gathering took place in 2008 in Sydney, Australia. Madrid, Spain is the city set to host the next World Youth Day in 2011.

World Youth Day always draws a great number of young people from Franciscan youth (SFO/YouFra), young Friars from both the First Order and the Third Order Regular, young religious sisters from various Congregations and Franciscan Institutes, and, together with them, many other youth who are connected in different ways to our Franciscan Family.

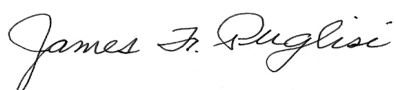
For this reason, the Conference of Franciscan Family wishes for the first time on the occasion of WYD in Madrid that all Franciscan youth (lay and secular, male and female religious), as representatives of the Franciscan Family, participate together in all common gatherings of WYD. They are also to participate especially in those gatherings that specifically belong to the Franciscan Family, in order to both share and bear witness to the Charism of our common Seraphic Father, St. Francis.

Since all this requires a suitable organization way in advance, we entrust the Presidency of the International Council of the Secular Franciscan Order (CIOFS) with the responsibility to coordinate this event through the Commission of Franciscan Youth and the Conference of Assistants General of SFO-YouFra. In order to carry out this service, they can count on the invaluable collaboration of a Commission of the Franciscan Family of Spain, purposely formed for both the preparation and programming of this event during WYD.

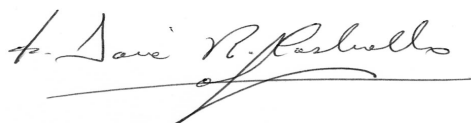
We invite you, therefore, to begin the necessary preparations in your respective countries, Orders, Congregations, and Institutions, so that we may have a common, numerous, and well organized participation. More specific information will follow suit from the organizers.

While we express both our hope and joy as we draw closer to this event and thank all of you for your commitment to this event, we also implore the blessing of the Lord and the intercession of our heavenly patrons St. Francis, St. Clare, St. Elizabeth of Hungary, and St. Ludovic.

Fraternally,



Fr. James F. Puglisi, S.A.
President CFI – TOR and
President of CFF



Br. José Rodríguez Carballo, OFM
Minister General



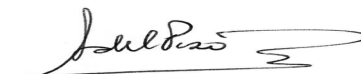
Br. Marco Tasca, OFMConv
Minister General



Br. Mauro Jöhri, OFMCap
Minister General



Br. Michael Higgins, TOR
Minister General



Encarnación del Pozo, SFO
Minister General

Nota :

For further information, write to:

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2. Franciscan Family Commission of Spain for WYD 2011

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