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Press Release

Rise UP

World Youth Day Lisbon 2023 mobilizes young people around the world to prepare for WYD by reflecting on the major themes launched by the pontificate of Pope Francis.

The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) for World Youth Day (WYD) Lisbon 2023 will inaugurate a new model of catechesis - the Rise UP Encounters - which includes a series of preparatory meetings between April, May and June. It proposes that young people from all over the world be the protagonists of reflection on the central themes for the world and for life in society: Integral Ecology, Social Friendship and Mercy.

With the launch of the Rise UP catechetical itinerary, WYD Lisbon 2023 will offer all young people an experience in line with the 2021-2024 synodal journey, currently underway in the universal Church on the theme "For a Synodal Church: communion, participation and mission".

The aim is to listen to the young people and for them to listen to each other, mobilizing them to discuss the themes that will then be worked on in the Rise UP meetings during World Youth Day Lisbon 2023.

The Rise UP preparatory meetings are open to all young people who wish to participate, from catechetical groups, youth groups, movements and ecclesial realities linked to youth and university ministry, regardless of whether or not they are pilgrims to the Day. The groups will be able to organize the sessions according to their needs, and will be provided with support material and will be invited to send their reflections.

The Rise UP catechetical itinerary will be developed in phases and in three stages until WYD Lisbon 2023:

- **Listening**, through preparatory meetings where they will be able to reflect and freely express what they feel and think about the topics;
- **Dreaming**, through dialogue among the participants about the possibilities of a future trip (What do I feel about what I have heard? What inspires me?); and
- **Arise**, with the final synthesis of the meetings that will be shared on the WYD Lisbon 2023 platform, to give continuity to this joint reflection.



About WYD Lisbon 2023

Lisbon is the city chosen by Pope Francis for the next international edition of World Youth Day, which will take place between August 1 and 6, 2023.

The international editions of WYD are a religious and cultural event that brings together hundreds of thousands of young people from all over the world for about a week.

The WYD was born from the initiative of Pope John Paul II, after the success of the meeting promoted in 1985 in Rome, during the International Youth Year.

The first edition took place in 1986 in Rome. WYD has already taken place in the following cities: Buenos Aires (1987), Santiago de Compostela (1989), Czestochowa (1991), Denver (1993), Manila (1995), Paris (1997), Rome (2000), Toronto (2002), Cologne (2005), Sydney (2008), Madrid (2011), Rio de Janeiro (2013), Krakow (2016) and Panama (2019). WYD Lisbon 2023 will take place from August 1 to 6, 2023, under the theme "Mary arose and went in haste" - Lk 1:39.

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