



ARCHDIOCESE OF BALTIMORE

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OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

September 3, 2013

Dear Pastor / Pastoral Life Director / Principal;

Earlier this summer, Pope Francis gathered with young people for World Youth Day in Brazil. While he was with them, he said that “the experience of the encounter must not remain locked up in your life or in the small group of your parish, your movement or your community.” He continued, “that would be like withholding oxygen from a flame that was burning strongly. Faith is a flame that grows stronger the more it is shared ... so that everyone may know ... Jesus Christ, the Lord of life and history.”

Twenty years ago, my predecessor, then-Archbishop Keeler, returned from the 1993 World Youth Day inspired by the experience. This was especially true of the moment Pope John Paul II walked the Way of the Cross through the streets of Denver with young people who carried a large cross. Over the previous two decades, our Annual Archbishop’s Youth and Young Adult Pilgrimage has taken to the streets of Baltimore. In this act, they are fanning the flames of faith as they share it with one another and those they encounter along the way.

The April 12, 2014 pilgrimage date may seem far away, yet it is my hope that you will strongly encourage your campus ministers and parish youth contacts to begin making plans now to have your school or parish represented in walking alongside me throughout the day. The day has a full agenda – the Sacrament of Reconciliation available, a rally experience, Eucharistic Adoration, some catechetical and service stations, praying the Rosary, a concert with a nationally renowned recording artist – all culminating in a celebration of the Palm Sunday vigil Mass at 5 p.m. in the Cathedral of Mary our Queen.

Last year was my first experience walking with our Catholic young people and they inspired me with the hope that many more will make the walk with me this coming year. I hope to see young people from your parish or school walking with our Church’s younger members this spring and if your schedule permits, please join me for a day filled with many graces at the outset of the holiest week of the year.

Faithfully in Christ,

Most Reverend William E. Lori
Archbishop of Baltimore



**Archbishop's Youth and
Young Adult Pilgrimage
April 12, 2014**



Featuring:

Jackie Francois