

Media release

Friday 9 November 2007



World Youth Day 2008 is looking for Jesus! And Mary, and Pontius Pilate....

A casting call to find Australia's Jim Caviezel is taking place on the weekend of 1 – 3 December 2007.

World Youth Day organisers are holding a Casting Call to find actors who can play pivotal roles in the Stations of the Cross performance, an integral component of the World Youth Day week of activities.

Roles include Jesus, Mary, Pontius Pilate, Simon of Cyrene, the 12 Apostles, Roman Soldiers, religious authorities as well as a crew of extras.

World Youth Day will be the largest event that Australia has hosted, attracting up to 500,000 people to its major events. The week of activities takes place from 15 – 20 July 2008.

The Stations of the Cross will be telecast live to the world on Friday 18 July 2008 from major Sydney CBD locations. At the 2002 World Youth Day in Toronto, Stations of the Cross was watched by one billion viewers worldwide.

The casting call is open to males and females of all backgrounds, and is available to those with and without acting experience. Registrations are essential at wyd.reception@wyd2008.org or call 02 9390 5955.

The Stations of the Cross will be directed by Fr Franco Cavarra. Fr Franco has directed operas internationally and in Australia, including productions at the Sydney Opera House. He is a founding member of the longstanding Melbourne International Festival.

Sydney will host the XXIII World Youth Day next year with up to 500,000 people, including 125,000 international visitors. The event will also mark the first visit to Australia of Pope Benedict XVI.

Only 249 days to go to WYD08!

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