



Franciscan Family



Rome, July 20, 2010

To all the members of Franciscan Family around the world

Dear brothers and sisters,

May the Lord give you peace!

In February 2010, you received a letter from the Conference of Franciscan Family expressing their wish that all young Franciscans meet during the World Youth Day (WYD) to be held **from August 16th to 21st, 2011 in Madrid.**

A specific program is being prepared for the members of our Franciscan Family. This program will be offered to all participants of the WYD so that they may come to know our Family more closely, with all its diversity and richness, and that carries the Franciscan charism into the life and mission of the Church.

To prepare, coordinate and animate this program, the Conference of the Franciscan Family has established two commissions, an International Commission of the Franciscan Family, composed of General Spiritual Assistants of the SFO and Youfra, and of members of the CIOFS Presidency's Youfra Commission, and a second commission formed by the Franciscan Family in Spain.

We invite you to take advantage of the time scheduled for these meetings to meet each other and to be together with other young people of the Franciscan Family from all over the world. This will be a unique opportunity to share our experience and, like the first brothers did after celebrating the Chapter of the Mats, to go out to all the world, encouraged to announce the Good News. So, with this letter, we provide you with some information about the program that we are preparing.

The program of the Franciscan Family will take place during the World Youth Day on **August 16-19, 2011** in the "**Franciscan Village**", which the International Commission of the Franciscan Family and the Commission of Spain will establish around the Church of **San Francisco el Grande**. We are very grateful to the Franciscans, religious and seculars, for generously providing this space for this Franciscan Village. The place will be open and available for participants every day from noon till midnight (12:00-24:00), except during the big events of the WYD and the "**Festival of Joy**".

The "**Franciscan Village**" will be the place for meetings and sharing. It is here that young people will be invited to live the universal fraternity in a simple way, an opportunity that is not often available during big events. The "**Village**" is intended to be used for a variety of activities like exhibitions, visual presentations, a venue to sell different objects, conferences, prayer and adoration etc. Refreshments will be available in the Village. But it is you, Franciscan groups from all over the world, who will give life to this "**Franciscan Village**" with your presence and also with your creativity.

As young Franciscans, we expect that you will participate in the program prepared for the WYD and encourage you to be present and active in the morning catechesis which will take place in different areas of Madrid. From 12:00 onwards, you are invited to participate in the activities and the program which is being prepared for the whole Franciscan Family. You are, of course, more than welcome to enrich the program with your own suggestions and activities. We therefore kindly ask you to offer and inform us of your proposals (prayers, visual projections, sales of different objects, etc.) as soon as

possible (but **not later than February 28, 2011**) so that that they can be included in the official program. Please communicate your proposals by **e-mail to gmg2011ff@gmail.com**. Do not forget that you are the ones responsible for these activities; we will provide you with some space and possibly some equipment, but it is you who will need to animate and realize the activity.

In summary, the “Franciscan Village” will take place on:

- **August 16-19, 2011, 12:00-24:00;**

and will be located at:

- **San Francisco el Grande
Plaza de San Francisco
Calle de San Buenaventura 1
28005 Madrid, Spain**

We also take advantage of this opportunity to inform you about the most important activities of the Franciscan Family during the WYD, in which we expect all young Franciscans will participate and in which we invite everyone else to get to know our charism:

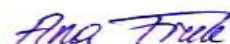
- **“Festival of Joy”, Wednesday, August 17, 2011, 21:00-24:00**
 - Concert with famous artists
 - Short performances and presentations by the artists
 - Testimonies
- **Franciscan prayer**
- **Catechesis and Eucharist**
- **Participation in all the major events of the WYD**

Regarding the applications to the WYD, you will need to contact the WYD organizers via internet (www.madrid11.com). We suggest that you apply as a single group so that we can ask the organizers to allow us to stay together during the Vigil and Final Mass, as well as other major events during the WYD. You will receive more information about this in the letters to come.

If you have any questions or need any clarification, please write to us at gmg2011ff@gmail.com.

While we wait for WYD and meeting each other, we extend fraternal greetings to each of you!

In the name of the International Commission,



Ana Fruk, coordinator

In the name of the Commission of Franciscan Family of Spain,



Xavi Ramos, coordinator