

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF BISMARCK

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My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

World Youth Day 2019 in Panama City, Panama may seem too far away for consideration, but please accept my invitation to start preparing NOW for this life-changing celebration with our Holy Father, Pope Francis!

The Diocese of Bismarck will host a World Youth Delegation for young adults (18 years and older) and adults involved in parish young adult ministry, campus ministry, our SEARCH for Christian Maturity retreat program, and vocation discernment ministry, including singles and young married couples.


Fr. Keith Streifel, Pastor of St. Joseph Church, Dickinson, ND will serve as our World Youth Day spiritual director, and our delegation will be coordinated by Carrie Davis, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry. Will you join them?

World Youth Day was created in 1985 by St. John Paul II from his deep love for the young church. Then Pope John Paul II invited dioceses to celebrate World Youth Day every Palm Sunday and he created an international WYD gathering every 2-3 years. Our pilgrimage to Panama City will take place January 21-28, 2019. Imagine praying, learning, and celebrating with young adults from around the world!

The 2019 WYD theme is "I am the servant of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word. (Luke 1:38), echoing our Blessed Mother's "Yes!" to God's call in her life. From Mary's "Yes!" you and I have the opportunity to know, love, and serve our Lord, Jesus Christ. This is a call worth answering.

Be assured of my prayers as we prepare for World Youth Day 2019. I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Most Reverend David D. Kagan
Bishop of Bismarck