



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

520 S. 18th Street • Plattsmouth, NE 68048 • (402)296-3139

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, please contact:
Deb Walton (402) 660.8030

Local Youth Depart for “World Youth Day” in Poland July 26- 31

Plattsmouth, NE, July 18, 2016 – A local group from the Church of the Holy Spirit in Plattsmouth left Sunday for Kraków, Poland to attend the World Youth Day (WYD) event from July 26-31. The Plattsmouth group includes **Debi Baumert, Sam Baumert, Cathy Kassube, Josie Kassube, Joel Little, Cathy Thayer, Maggie Thayer and Mark Thayer.**

WYD is a worldwide encounter with the Pope which is typically celebrated every three years in a different country. The most recent WYD was celebrated in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from July 23rd to 28th, 2013.

“World Youth Day is a unique way to deepen your faith and grow closer to Christ, by means of prayer and the sacraments, together with thousands of other young people who share the same interests and ambitions,” said **Fr. Loras Grell**, Pastor of Church of the Holy Spirit. Fr. Grell is also a part of the Plattsmouth group attending the event.

Prior to the six days of WYD proper, the pilgrimage from Plattsmouth, along with other members from the Lincoln Catholic Diocese, will visit Warsaw, Auschwitz, and Wadowice, the hometown of Pope St. John Paul II. The Diocese pilgrimage will spend its first five days staying with local host families.

The pilgrimage encounter includes a complete cultural agenda in addition to the events with Pope Francis. Highlights include culturally-based welcoming and closing ceremonies, a walking pilgrimage to the Divine Mercy Shrine and the Pope St. John Paul II “Have No Fear” Shrine, and Pope Francis’ Via Crucis (The Way of the Cross). After WYD officially closes, and before heading home, the group will tour Prague.

Each of the pilgrimages are assigned a guide during the encounter. Guides are essential to the encounter’s mission – serving as faithful Catholic leaders who provide spiritual and logistical care to help youth be open to the many graces during the encounter with Christ.

WYD is open to all young people who want to take part in a festive encounter with their contemporaries centered on Jesus Christ. The event is an opportunity to experience in first person the universality of the

Church; to share with the whole world the hope of many young people who want to commit themselves to Christ and others. For a complete WYD agenda, visit www.lincolndiocese.org/pilgrimages/world-youth-day.

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Photo courtesy of Terry Little

The Plattsmouth Pilgrimage attending WYD in Poland are:

(L-R)

Front: Joel Little, Josie Kassube

(L-R)

Back: Debi Baumert, Fr. Loras Grell, Cathy Kassube, Cathy Thayer, Maggie Thayer, Mark Thayer and Sam Baumert