



# SIGN OF HOPE TESTIMONIALS

From 30 November to 2 December 2025, ten of our young parishioners attended the Australian Catholic Youth Festival at the ICC in South Wharf, Melbourne. It was a grace-filled time of transformation, challenge, and deep connection. Together with 6,000 young Catholics from across Australia, we began at St Patrick's Cathedral with the launch of the WYD Cross and Icon.

"I had an amazing time at ACYF. The workshops and talks were thought-provoking and provided tips on growing my faith and relationship with God. My favourite part were the worship songs at the beginning and end of each day. It was so cool to see so many young people all together praising God and getting to know Him deeper."

- **Natalie, LukTim YAM**

"As six thousand eager pilgrims waited for the procession of the World Youth Day Cross and Mother Mary Icon to enter St Patrick's Cathedral, the excited energy of the crowd and the angelic singing of the cantors reminded me of how it must've felt to try and glimpse a look at the Lord as He passed through a crowd."

- **Molly, LukTim YAM**

"The ACYF was a really positive experience for me. Meeting other young Catholics helped me feel connected, and the talks from nuns, priests, and other speakers were genuinely inspiring. They explained Catholic teaching in a relatable way and encouraged me to live my faith with confidence. It was uplifting and strengthened my sense of community."

- **Michael, LukTim YAM**

"God has given me a great hope in the youth around us at the ACYF. From the initial doubts of even going to ACYF and the multiple unknowns of organising the journey for our fledgling group, I was challenged to grow to trust in Our Lord who graciously opened the door to each of us pilgrims calling us by name. The young side of the church is not to be taken lightly! Thank God with all your heart and let yourself be chosen to do His Will, young or old."

- **Trevis, LukTim YAM leader**

"Attending the Australian Catholic Youth Festival was such an incredible experience. Standing among 6,000 people singing powerful worship music and praying together moved me in a way I didn't expect, filling me with a real sense of unity. The inspiring talks throughout the couple of days offered real guidance for living out Gods call. I must say, I left feeling renewed, grateful, and excited to grow deeper in my faith, an experience I'll never forget."

- **Olivia, LukTim YAM**



DAY 3: COMMISSIONING MASS

For more information on LukTim YAM, please email: [alexander.chow@cam.org.au](mailto:alexander.chow@cam.org.au) or visit our website by scanning the QR Code.



SCAN ME

“All throughout the three days, there is a great feeling of unity amongst the pilgrims. From being able to walk through rain together, to praying and participating in the Mass as one Body, you could identify the catholicity of the Church. As an inquirer, there have been moments of isolation and doubt, but the festival had so many sublime moments - most notably the complete silence before the World Youth Day Cross and Icon, and before the Lord in the Eucharist - that it drew me out of those thoughts. What’s more, it was very encouraging to see all of the clergy and religious orders gather with us, not only to lead us, but to celebrate us. I pray that all the youth will be determined to persevere in their faith, being strengthened by the memory of this event.”

**- Isaac, RCIA Inquirer & LukTim YAM**

“Experiencing ACYF had a profound and lasting impact on my life, providing me with a non-judgmental space to learn the catechism and openly explore my faith. The praise and worship, together with the solemn power of the Eucharist in adoration and Mass, deeply moved me and strengthened my relationship with God. Above all, ACYF affirmed that I am not alone in my faith, grounding me in a united, life-giving community.”

**- Daniella, LukTim YAM**



DAY 2: WITH ARCHBISHOP PETER COMENSOLI

“ACYF was truly a life-changing experience. Supporting Fr Alex in leading our young people was a blessing, but what moved me most was how the festival ignited a deeper sense of faith within me. Over just three days, I felt my heart open to God and to the community, strengthened by shared prayer, joy, and unity we experienced. I return home renewed and excited to carry God’s mission into our community with greater love, purpose, and enthusiasm.”

**- Michelle, LukTim YAM leader**

“My time at the ACYF was extremely fun, being surrounded by many Catholics as well as being exposed to many workshops. During the adoration in the second night, we all were sitting and kneeling for minutes meditating and adoring amongst the World Youth Day cross and icon. Whilst adoring I felt the presence of the Holy Spirit flood through my body evoking a supernatural warm tingling feeling. Getting across to other places and workshops was definitely prolonged as Father Alex was quite garrulous when conversing with other parishes.

Overall, the ACYF is something that has been positively embarked into my memory as I experienced many ventures with my new friends at the LUKTIM YAM and that our harmony amongst other parishes as Catholics revealed the goodness of God.”

**- Joshua, Young pilgrim**