

L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO

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Unicuique suum*Non praevalerunt*

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At the General Audience Pope Francis looks back at his Apostolic Journey to Portugal

WYD, a sign of hope for the future

And prays for the people in war-torn Ukraine and
for the victims of natural disasters in Slovenia and Georgia



Youth from the Diocese of Tonga and
Niue who participated at WYD

Following his traditional July break, Pope Francis resumed his weekly General Audiences.

On Wednesday, 9 August, the Pope reflected on his recently-concluded Apostolic Journey to Portugal for WYD in Lisbon. The Holy Father praised the event as a moment to meet Christ, discover faith, and experience God's love. "I witnessed a moving demonstration of the presence of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of the Risen Christ, at work in the hearts and lives of young Christians throughout the world", he emphasized.

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WYD – Pope's Discourses

Embracing Christ

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We would like to inform our readers that our next publication will be on Friday, 25 August.

THIS WEEK

Letter to priests of Rome

I am on the journey with you

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The athletic WYD

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Interview with the Archbishop of Seoul

The opportunity to experience unity

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Gospel Reflection

Encountering Jesus

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More than one way to run

ANDREA MONDA

"In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah" (Lk 1:39). This verse from the Gospel of Luke was chosen as the theme for WYD Lisbon 2023, which ended on Sunday, 6 August. It is a theme that characterized the entire event, also thanks to the words of the Pope, who from his very first discourse to his last, reflected on this theme of moving with haste, in dialogue with the young people (circa 1.5 million), who joyfully invaded the streets of the Portuguese capital. In his last address, as he thanked over 25,000 World Youth Day volunteers, the Pontiff emphasized that moving quickly [with haste] has to do with love because: "Those who love do

not stand idly by, but serve others. Those who love hasten to serve, hasten to dedicate themselves to the service of others. And you ran a great deal in these past months". He added an important distinction: "You have done much running about, yet never in a frenetic or aimless way that can sometimes characterize our world. No, you ran in a different way. You ran to meet others in order to serve them in the name of Jesus".

And it's true: there are different ways of running, just as there are different ways of hurrying. There can be the blessed haste of Mary, who runs to see her cousin Elizabeth, and there can be the "frantic" haste of those who are always "running" in life, but without a destination, just to arrive before the others as if to



want to cover up a grey area of insecurity and fear with their winning performance. There is the race of Zacchaeus (whom the Pope quoted in his last speech), who hurried down a sycamore tree to see Jesus, and there is the running and fleeing of the wicked, as mentioned in the Book of Proverbs: "The wicked flee when no one pursues" (28:1), a flight away from oneself. Who knows, perhaps Zacchaeus knew that kind of

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