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WYD and the Spiritans

We, the Spiritans in Portugal, are very happy to meet the challenge to gather young Spiritans from all over the world to prepare and enjoy the next World Youth Day, in Lisbon, and to grow together as a Family, united to the Church, the Pope and the entire world. That’s why we, professed and lay Spiritans of Portugal, are offering to young Spiritans from all over the world an opportunity to experience this event as part of the Spiritan Family. That is why we created Família Una: from the 22nd to the 31st of July 2023 we will gather together to cement our faith, nourished by our Spiritan roots, and get to know our founders and our charism better, through the concrete mission that awaits us! Família Una is the name chosen for the event that will bring together young people from around the globe, who come to us through the Spiritan world.

1. WHAT IS THE WYD?

The World Youth Day (WYD) is always a great event for the Catholic Church, bringing together hundreds of thousands (even millions) of young people from all over the world in a meeting with the Pope, which includes formation, prayer, and above all growth in Christian discipleship and in the sense of belonging to the Church.

More than just a random moment, it is envisaged as the end of a long preparatory, catechetical and prayerful journey, and the starting point for a further phase of growth in young people’s commitment to the Church. The first gathering was held in Rome in 1986. Since then, the aim of the WYD to help participants take their rightful place in the Universal Church and develop a personal encounter with Christ. Young people are the protagonists of this event and the bringers of peace, union and fraternity to peoples and nations around the world.

The event itself has two large sections:

a. **Pre-WYD (optional): from the 22nd to the 31st July 2023**, there is an additional opportunity for formation, prayer and growth of a sense of belonging, according to the different events offered by dioceses, movements or religious institutes.

b. **World Youth Days: from 1st to 6th August 2023**. We follow the common programme, with the participation of the Pope.
WHERE WILL THE WYD2023 TAKE PLACE?

During the week-long WYD, young people are given hospitality by parishes, individuals or organized movements, and participate in various initiatives organized by the WYD team in the host city. There are moments of prayer, sharing and leisure, and various celebrations with the Pope. These are the key points in Lisbon, Portugal, under the motto «Mary arose and went with haste» (Lk 1:39).

HOW DID THE CONGREGATION IN PORTUGAL COME ABOUT AND WHAT DO THE SPIRITANS DO?

On 3rd November 1867, the Congregation of the Holy Spirit opened its first community in Portugal. Its task was to create missionary dynamism and open the Church in Portugal to the world. It was founded not for a home mission, but for a mission in Portuguese-speaking Africa. The Spiritans wanted to go to Angola but the Portuguese government would only allow evangelization in Angola if it were done by Portuguese missionaries. This was the starting point for the birth of the Congregation in Portugal.

At present, the Spiritans run 20 parishes in Portugal, from the north to the south. Over the years they have founded lay missionary movements: Jovens Sem Fronteiras - JSF (Youth Without Frontiers) is the youth movement, started almost 40 years ago; the Liga Intensificadora da Ação Missionária, better known as LIAM, (The Intensifying League of missionary Action) is the adult movement, started in 1937 with over 3,000 members. Other movements followed. The Spiritans in Portugal also work in the social area: we have a geriatric nursing home in Braga, called Anima Una, we work with the vulnerable migrant population in Lisbon through CEPAC (Centro Padre Alves Correia) and in the struggle for equal education for all in developing countries and in Portugal, through Sol sem Fronteiras (Solsef).
HOW ARE THE SPIRITANS IN PORTUGAL PREPARING TO WELCOME SPIRITANS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD?

The Spiritans, present in Portugal for over 150 years, and with extensive experience in missionary animation, and more particularly in youth ministry through the Youth Without Frontiers (JSF) movement, propose a concrete journey on the occasion of the WYD 2023 aimed at young people from various contexts and places in the world where Spiritans work.

The presence of Spiritans throughout the world, with the cultural diversity of the young people they accompany, and the Spiritan identity with our particular charisma and mission are an asset for the Church and for the WYD.

WYD wants to be a sacred space of proclamation, silence and life. We too need to go up to the synagogue in Nazareth to hear the Spirit whispering his plan for our vocation (Lk 4:14-21).

We Spiritans live in community, in a spirit of fraternal support, prayer, discernment and sharing of the same mission; we live in communion with the local churches, sharing the mission with many lay people; we live among the people to whom we are sent, learning their language and culture and sharing their challenges: we now have a unique opportunity to review our roots: who we are, what we do and why we do it. We want to help the young people who participate in WYD to become wide awake to their commitment, vocation and mission.

That’s why we created a team dedicated to the preparation of the pre-WYD and to the preparation of Familia Una!

This team is divided into smaller groups, with the common goal of building up a well-structured pre-WYD programme.

Other useful information will be sent in the near future. Any questions can be sent to the following email address, created to facilitate communication with all of those who are going to be registered in the WYD through the Spiritan Family: jmj@espiritanos.pt
Pre-WYD: Familia Una

HOW WILL THE PRE-WYD WEEK OCCUR: FAMILIA UNA?

We offer a joint activity for the young people from the Spiritan family who come to Portugal for WYD 2023. This specifically Spiritan journey focuses on the pre-WYD week, with the following stages:

a. **Tempo Missio** (July 22nd-27th, 2023)
   Pre-WYD in different places of the country where Spiritans live and work (Braga, Barcelos, Porto, Godim), all located in the north of the country. Young Spiritans will have the opportunity for interacting personally with elderly people, children and young people. We will take part in liturgical celebrations. Each day we will work on a different topic, with time to take part in cultural activities where we will be able to share our personal background with each other. Last but not least, there will still be enough time to explore the region!

b. **Tempo Ave Maria** (28th July 2023)
   A full day at the Shrine of Fatima. We will explore the Shrine and its history, one of the 7 most visited Marian Sanctuaries in the world! We will also take part in the Eucharist, the Rosary and the candlelight procession.

c. **Tempo Cor Unum** (29 to 31 July 2023)
   A three-day meeting in the Spiritan house of Torre d’Aguilha (Cascais) with times of prayer, formation, celebration and mission. The various groups will have the chance of sharing in activities and have an opportunity to share experiences and testimonies from around the world, participate actively in the local community and even have some fun playing traditional games and sports.

d. **WYD** (August 1st-6th, 2023)
   Participation as a group in the whole programme of the World Youth Days.
These are the fundamental objectives of the Spiritan pre-WYD programme:

a. To have a profound experience of God at all times;
b. To make a journey of holiness and encounter with Jesus Christ in a Spiritan ethos;
c. To learn about Spiritan spirituality (founders, mission and life);
d. To have a space for sharing life, experience, faith and mission;
e. To have an experience of the Extended Spiritan Family;
f. To invite the young people to a greater commitment in daily life.

Don’t be afraid, trust us! We promise a very complete program, with time and specific moments to pray, grow, serve, learn, make friends and much more. Make sure you’re 110% into this mission!

HOW WILL THE GROUPS BE ORGANIZED DURING FAMILIA UNA?

We’ll do our best to respect as much as possible the groups of each country, not separating their elements, during the Tempo Missio. During the entire Familia Una, each group will have at least one person in charge who can communicate in Portuguese and in the predominant language of the group. But don’t worry, one of the goals of the pre-WYD is also multicultural interaction and learning. As far as direct communication is concerned, there will certainly be translators.

IN WHICH LANGUAGE WILL WE COMMUNICATE DURING THE PRE-WYD?

Communication between all participants and during the different activities will be in the 3 official languages of the Congregation: Portuguese, English and French. Depending on the number of Spanish-speakers we intend to use Spanish as well. We advise each group to plan for dynamics that promote non-verbal communication, and so minimize the need to use words, in interaction with the local people to whom they will be sent. We invite you to let yourself be inspired by the Holy Spirit and be creative!

HOW OLD MUST I BE IN ORDER TO BE PART OF FAMILIA UNA?

You should be at least 16 years old.

WHAT WILL BE THE TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN THE PRE-WYD LOCALS?

Transport will be made by bus, suitable for the event, from Tempo Missio to the WYD itself.
WHAT CONDITIONS WILL I HAVE DURING PRE-WYD?

Everywhere the sleeping conditions will be in beds in dormitories or on the floor. There will be sufficient bathrooms and (quite probably) Wi-Fi. If you activate roaming, and if you are from outside the European Union, we advise you to avoid using mobile data or minutes, and to wait for Wi-Fi to be able to talk to your family members via Whatsapp or another internet communication platform. As for roaming prices, find out before leaving your country: which operator has the most advantageous prices and agreements with your cell-phone network?

WHERE WILL WE STAY DURING FAMILIA UNA?

We will stay in Spiritan houses and parishes. It is very likely that at some point in Familia Una small groups will be boarded in family homes. People will be very happy to have us! Of course, we must also become aware of local attitudes and ways of being, showing respect for customs, culture, and the life of each person and each family. That’s a way of showing that we are missionaries - with respect for different mentalities and different ways of being made welcome, showing delicacy in the way we treat others and in being ready to eat whatever is offered to us. Jesus will be present in every hug, in every family, in every person - let’s try to remember that!

WHAT SHOULD I BRING TO FAMILIA UNA?

We want you to feel as comfortable and prepared as possible to live these pre-WYD to the fullest, so we have some tips that might be useful to you!

Comfortable clothes and shoes for everyday life (for hiking and long walks) and light fabrics. Hat, sunglasses and sunscreen are very important. On a practical level, it will be important to bring a sleeping bag, bath towel, slippers. When it comes to clothes, be prepared for both heat and cold, because at night, in some places, you’ll need a warm coat and a scarf around your neck. Personal documents, power bank, underwear, hygiene products... all this you already know, right?

ALRIGHT, I HAVE UNDERSTOOD THE LOGISTICS OF THIS EVENT. BUT... HOW ABOUT SPIRITUAL PREPARATION?

Fear nothing! It is through the Holy Spirit that we are united in faith and friendship. But to be in sync, we propose a joint journey of prayer, learning and mission, until we all meet in Familia Una. Clues will be shared, through the email used in the registration form, for prayer and reflection so that we can start walking this path together even before we know each other. This is why we say we are together: in prayer and in mission, Jesus gathers us and sets our hearts beating at the same rhythm.
Registrations

HOW CAN I SIGN UP?

All you have to do is to just fill in the registration form and guarantee your place with the respective payment: https://forms.gle/TGZNcwuepV66Mrdh9

Registration, that should be held by the responsible of each group, will be available in phases by country. For the moment they are only available for people living in Portugal.

If there’s any question, contact us to our official email: jmj@espiritanos.pt

WHAT IS THE PRICE FOR THE WYD?

We still don’t have a price fixed by the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) but, as you know, each country has a different amount to pay. Once this information is shared we will update this document. For now, for Portugal, the price can range from €250.00 to €300.00.

ACCORDING OF WHERE I COME FROM, WHAT DOCUMENTS SHOULD I BRING?

If you come from the Schengen Area (Austria, Germany, Belgium, Czechia, Denmark, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland), you must bring your national identification card, and the European health card, if you are from Europe.

If you are from outside the Schengen Space, then your passport is mandatory. As for obtaining a visa for Portugal, when you apply, in coordination with the LOC, we will send you a letter with the necessary documentation to apply for your visa. You should go to the Portuguese embassy or consulate in your country, and be informed in time of the documents needed for your stay in Portugal.

For more information on visa application and necessary documents visit: https://pedidodevistos.mne.gov.pt/VistosOnline/Questionario. If you are in doubt about which countries need a visa to enter Portugal, visit: https://vistos.mne.gov.pt/pt/vistos-schengen/informacao-geral/quem-precisa-de-visto#pais-2.
WHAT IS INCLUDED IN MY APPLICATION?

Your registration includes all logistics within Familia Una: transportation, accommodation, meals, materials for activities and Wi-Fi on certain occasions.

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED IN MY APPLICATION?

Transport to the location of Mission Time must be provided by each group of origin. As it will take place in the north of the country, we advise all participants who come by plane to purchase tickets to Sá Carneiro airport in Porto. For those who come by bus or other means of transport, we will give you more information after distributing the groups according to location.

HOW CAN I GET FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE LOCAL OF TEMPO MISSIO?

According to the place where your group will live the Mission Time, we will give further information. As for now, be assured that public transportation in Portugal will be more than enough.

» If you stay in the Porto area: you will have the metro that will take you where you need to go!

» If you stay in the Godim area: you will have to take the regional train on the Douro line (it’s a wonderful sight and trip!).

» If you stay in the Barcelos area: the express bus (Rede Expresso) will be the best option for you!

» If you stay in the Braga area: whether you take the train or the bus, both transports will take you where you need to go!

More details will be sent via email after distribution of the groups throughout the different places of Mission Time.
Vaccination or recovery certificate issued by a third country, recognized under conditions of reciprocity and containing the minimum data required for this recognition, provided that its holder has been inoculated with one of the vaccines identified in a joint circular of the DGS (Directorate-General for Health) and INFARMED (National Authority of Medicines and Health Products, I.P.).

Vaccination certificates attesting to primary vaccination will be valid if more than 14 days and less than 270 days have passed since inoculation with the last dose of that series. Certificates proving vaccination with the booster dose do not have an expiration date.

Passengers who do not carry one of the certificates mentioned above at the time of boarding must present proof of having carried out a Nucleic Amplification Test (TAAN), carried out within 72 hours prior to boarding or a Rapid Antigen Test (TRAg), performed within 24 hours prior to departure. In this case, only rapid antigen tests on the common list agreed by the EU Health Security Committee are allowed. Minors under 12 years of age are exempt from all testing obligations for travel purposes.

Accepted certificates issued by third countries under conditions of reciprocity: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Benin, Cape Verde, Colombia, El Salvador, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Israel, Iceland, Jordan, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Tunisia, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and Crown dependencies (Jersey, Guernsey and Isle of Man), Uruguay, Vatican (https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/safe-covid-19-vaccines-europeans/eu-digital-covid-certificate_en)

There is no obligation of prophylactic isolation related to travel.

For more inquiries visit: https://www.visitportugal.com/pt-pt/content/covid-19-medidas-implementadas-em-portugal
HOW IS THE WEATHER LIKE IN PORTUGAL?

During Familia Una and WYD2023 will be summer in Portugal, the hottest season of the year. This means, according to the location, temperature will be between 20-35°C, with hotter day and fresher nights. You should be ready for summer hot days but also for some cooler nights.

WHAT IS THE FOOD LIKE IN PORTUGAL?

Gastronomy in Portugal is very rich and varied! It is the sea that gives the most striking feature to Portuguese cuisine, with tasty and fresh grilled fish, as well as abundant seafood that can be tasted in the coastal area. As for meat dishes, the famous Cozido à Portuguesa mixes meat, vegetables and various sausages. In addition, there are excellent Portuguese meats from north to south of the country. You cannot miss the opportunity to taste our wines (if you are of legal age!), tasty cheeses and delicious local sweets.

We eat a lot of meat and fish in Portugal, on a daily basis, where we usually have at least one of these two animal protein in our dishes. Rice, salad, potato or soup tend to be very common ingredients in our meals. And there are also more and more people opting for a vegetarian or vegan style of eating, and food options without animal protein are also possible to find, especially in the capital. Supermarkets also have many options for all types of tastes and dietary restrictions (gluten, lactose, etc). If you have any, let us know, through the registration form, so that we can try to provide more suitable food for you!

WHAT IS THE CURRENCY IN PT? MB CARD, CAN I USE IT? CURRENCY EXCHANGE, IS IT POSSIBLE?

The official currency in Portugal is the Euro. In Portugal, the card is only accepted if it has one of the brands accepted in the ATMs and Automatic Payment Terminals network – MULTIBANCO, American Express, Maestro, MasterCard, Visa or Visa Electron. In the case of dual or mixed cards, the international brand is dealt with priority in transactions in which this brand is contracted. Currency exchange can be carried out in several establishments created for this purpose, including at the airport.
What are you waiting for to sign up?

You can find the form at the following link:

https://forms.gle/TGZNcwuepV66Mrdh9