

WYD took place in Madrid this year. It was an opportunity for young people associated with the Assumption Family to gather around the Pope with other young people from around the entire world. All branches of the family were represented. We've contacted some of them to give us their impressions by way of a personal testimony.

1. Reflection by Serge Patrick Simo, A.A.

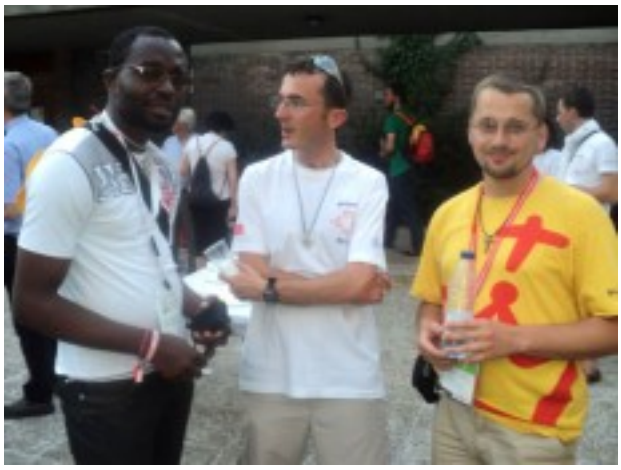
Men of breadth, men of their time, men of communion, on fire with and for God, on a mission, selfless….here are some of the qualities which characterize an Assumptionist in a society where Christian identity is often reduced to the sensational, on the one hand, if not to the shameful and despicable, on the other.



The theme of the most recent WYD, "Rooted and Built Up in Jesus Christ, Firm in the Faith"

(Colossians 2:7), was meant to renew and deepen the faith that I have in my depths as a Christian and an Assumptionist.

WYD was for me an opportunity to savor this breadth in an experience that was also educational, as eye-opening as it was cultural. WYD was one of the best ways to participate in the largest gathering of young people in my lifetime. Passion for the Kingdom of God brought me there. An apostle's zeal for young people encouraged me to be there. For me love for my congregation was a leitmotif which I tried always to remember in all that I did, whether in small groups, at the time of the catecheses, or when I met with individual young people.



WYD was an EVENT, a challenge at the faith level. I cite as evidence the different moments of intense prayer with young people: the Eucharist, Adoration, Reconciliation, catecheses, the Way of the Cross, etc. More than ever before, I realized how the vicissitudes of weather (dog days of summer, thunderstorms, which have occurred during WYD) can, in no way, suppress the ardent desire to meet Christ and to celebrate the Catholic faith. Gathered in the hundreds of thousands along city streets, proudly brandishing their multi-coloured flags and joyfully engaging in song under a sun that wasn't embarrassed to happily send its most searing rays, young Catholics bore witness to their unity and to their Christian fellowship rooted in their Catholic faith. Click to read all the article in french .

2. Reflection by Nicolas Potteau, A.A.











