



On Tuesday evening, seventeen students and administrators left from Boston's Logan International Airport on their way to World Youth Day celebrations in Madrid. In Paris they will join the international Assumption-Family contingent that will be preparing for World Youth Day by participating in the annual pilgrimage to Lourdes from August 11 to 16.

The Assumption College group is headed up by assistant director of Campus Ministry, Fr. Dinh Vo Tran Gia, AA, and Mr. Chris Kelley, who graduated in May. Accompanying the group are Dr. Francesco Cesareo, the president of the College and his family, as well as Br. Ronald Sibugan, AA, a third-year seminarian at Boston College, and Mr. James Rizza, Director of Campus Ministry.



Since the 19th century, the Assumptionists have been sponsoring a large-scale pilgrimage to Lourdes on the occasion of the feast of the Assumption, an event that gathers some 10,000 pilgrims each summer. World Youth Day organizers highly encourage participants to dedicate a period of preparation (a retreat, pilgrimage, study session, etc.) before attending the actual WYD events.



Philip W. MacIsaac, SJ, Minister of the Basilica of the Assumption in Lourdes, France, during the opening ceremony of the Assumption College World Youth Contingent.



The Basilica of the Assumption in Lourdes, France, during the opening ceremony of the Assumption College World Youth Contingent.