



My dear young people,

Greetings of love and peace from your Bishop.

The international World Youth Day has been held every two to three years in different countries in the world since 1985, drawing together youth and young adults from every continent and facilitating a pilgrimage and festival of faith along with the Holy Father. It is a unique experience to participate in the World Youth Day where we get to share and celebrate our faith with youngsters of different countries in the world.

The next International World Youth Day is in Lisbon, Portugal, from August 1 to 6, 2023 on the theme, "*Mary arose and went with haste*" (Luke 1:39). It is an opportunity for us to encounter our brothers and sisters in faith coming from different cultures and languages and to overcome the fears of sickness and death that have overwhelmed us for the last two years. It is even providential that the Holy Father will celebrate the solemn mass with the youth on the feast of the Transfiguration, August 6, 2023. I hope that the young people on this pilgrimage will have the same transformative experience as that of Peter, James, and John.

I hope to see more and more young people from our vicariate join this festival of faith. The Young Adult Ministry of the vicariate and our parishes will organise the preparatory programs over the next two years. I encourage you to actively participate in these preparations and all information on the pilgrimage will be provided by the Young Adult Ministry. So, make up your mind to celebrate our faith at the World Youth Day in Lisbon.

With My Blessings

+ Paul Hinder

+ Paul Hinder OFM Cap

Apostolic Vicar of Southern Arabia.

