

Wow, what an experience the Australian pilgrimage was. There were many memorable moments, but one that comes to mind is the march to Barangaroo. This was the route taken to get into position to welcome the Pope on his first official day in Sydney. As our group from St. Andrews made our way off the train, we were caught up in a throng of pilgrims making their way to the venue. The streets were closed to car traffic, and walkers spilled into the street, all ages and from countries all over the world. Many had signs or flags indicating their country and were singing and chanting. The enthusiasm and excitement was contagious even to those standing on the sidewalk observing the activities. What a “once in a lifetime experience” and to have it happen during WYD with youths so excited about their faith, I’ll remember forever.

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