

Diocese of Honolulu • Office of the Bishop • www.catholichawaii.org
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August 15, 2014

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Peace be with you!

The Diocese of Honolulu is very excited to announce our plans to be part of **World Youth Day** in Krakow, Poland (July 22 – August 2, 2016). In Rio de Janeiro, Pope Francis asked the hundreds of thousands of young Catholics to read the Beatitudes again and to make them the action plan for their lives. It's not surprising, then, that the theme for the 2016 World Youth Day is taken from the Beatitudes, "*Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy*" (Matthew 5:7).

World Youth Day is an unbelievable weeklong spiritual journey where pilgrims from all over the world unite to share their faith. The week includes prayer, song, concerts, drama, sharing, liturgy, catechesis, and an unforgettable vigil and closing Mass with the Holy Father. In 1984, Pope John Paul II invited young people from all over the world to participate in a pilgrimage at the very first **World Youth Day**. Since that time it has been held in 11 different countries, most recently in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where approximately 3.7 million young people from 175 different countries participated.

World Youth Day is so much more than a vacation or a tour. It involves preparation, sacrifice, purposeful reflection, communal living and sharing, and a heart open to being formed by the Spirit of God, and its benefits continue long after the trip is over. It can be an exciting and life-changing event!

In summer of 2016, young people from around the world will gather in Krakow to celebrate our faith and to aspire to greater spirituality in our love for Christ. I invite you to join in this pilgrimage!

God bless you!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry Silva". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small cross at the beginning.

Most Reverend Larry Silva
Bishop of Honolulu