



Session 2: Mission

17/05/2025

Consolidated response from Listening & Discernment Session

The second pillar session of the Catholic Youth Assembly focused on the theme of Mission, with the Parable of the Wedding Banquet (Matthew 22:1–14) serving as the scriptural foundation for prayer, reflection, and group discernment. The young adults were invited to contemplate the question: *How can young people as missionary disciples of Christ "go and invite" "everyone" to the Lord's divine banquet in their contribution to spreading the Gospel in today's world?*

From this session, it became evident that the young people recognise mission as both a personal and communal calling. There was a strong consensus that mission begins from within – starting with a transformation of the self and within the Church before reaching outward. Drawing from the parable, many reflected on the symbolism of the “wedding robe” and the need to come spiritually prepared. This preparation is not about perfection but about having the right disposition: humility, openness, and readiness to respond to God’s invitation.

Throughout the discussions, young people expressed a desire to be bold in living out their Catholic identity, even in the face of discomfort or societal indifference. There was a notable emphasis on the need for courage—choosing faith over fear, comfort, or shame. Several reflected that it is often fear of judgement or misunderstanding that prevents them from openly sharing their beliefs. Yet they also acknowledged that people are often more open to Catholicism than we may assume, and that joyful, consistent witness can shift perceptions and open hearts.

The concept of everyday evangelisation was a recurring theme. Participants agreed that mission does not need to be dramatic or grand. Instead, it often begins in the quiet, faithful living of the Gospel through simple invitations, casual conversations, and acts of kindness. Many suggested inviting others to Mass, Adoration, or faith-based events as

natural ways of evangelising without pressure. This approach, grounded in relational evangelisation, was paired with the idea that authentic friendships can often create the most fertile ground for the seeds of faith to be sown.

Another key insight was the importance of inclusivity. Drawing from the parable's invitation to "everyone," the young adults stressed that the Gospel is for all people—those within the Church, those on its margins, and those outside of it altogether. Evangelisation, they noted, should not be limited to the "good" but should embrace the complexity and messiness of humanity. This inclusive vision of mission must also be accompanied by a deep sense of mercy and patience, understanding that everyone is on a journey and that we all fall short at times.

Finally, many spoke of the importance of being equipped intellectually and spiritually. Learning the faith, especially through apologetics, was seen as vital for confidence in missionary outreach. At the same time, they acknowledged that even small acts of saintly conduct can have a powerful impact—affirming that holiness in daily life is itself a form of mission.

This session highlighted a beautiful maturity and clarity among the young people regarding the nature of mission. They understand it not as an optional extra, but as a core part of their identity as disciples. They are ready to invite others with joy, patience, and authenticity, trusting that God will work through their efforts—no matter how small—to bring others to His divine banquet.