As World Youth Day 2008 draws nearer, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference would like to recognise the contribution of many WYD workers throughout the country.

You are committed to working hard in dioceses, parishes, schools and communities in the big cities and in the remotest regions. Many of you are giving generously of your time, talents and youthful enthusiasm to serve the Church and we know that everlasting fruit will be borne from your efforts.

WYD08 promises to be an opportunity like no other for the renewal of the Church in Australia. The part you play to this end is invaluable and we look to you and the many young people you represent to lead the Church along the path to WYD08 and the years beyond.

Already you are living the WYD08 theme (Acts 1:8) as you bring your powerful witness with the help of the Holy Spirit to activate the nation to receive the gift of World Youth Day. The Bishops of Australia say ‘thank you’ and continue to be united in prayer with your efforts.