

Australian Church launches national year of the youth - La Croix International

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La Croix International editorial staff

Australia



Logo of the Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Sydney.

Stepped up dialogue and engagement to reconnect young people with life in the Catholic Church has been identified by Australian bishops as the focus of the national Year of Youth, which started December 3.

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference launched the 2018 liturgical

year with an Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Sydney from December 7 to 9.

Prelates pledged to undertake programs upholding the dignity of young people, ensuring a safe environment from physical, emotional and spiritual harm in the 2018 liturgical year and after.

They asked clergy and the religious to encourage young people's renewal of faith and participation in prayerful discernment for future leadership roles.

The aims of the Year of Youth include challenging local faith communities to explore new horizons for young Catholics in Australia.

It called for "authentic and personal engagement" by Church leaders in the challenges and success in young people's lives.