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Friday, Aug. 13

- 11:30 p.m. (1:30 a.m.), Sacrament of Reconciliation followed by silence.

Saturday, Aug. 14

- Early a.m., breakfast at housing sites
- 8 a.m. (10 a.m.), Mass with catechesis.
- 9 a.m. (11 a.m.), Mass for delegates of International Youth Forum at Denver cathedral. Sermon by pope.
- 9:30 a.m. (11:30 a.m.), Pilgrimage to Cherry Creek Park, site of the vigil and Mass with the pope.
- 10 a.m. (noon), Catechetical Masses at catechetical sites.
- 3:30 p.m. (5:30 p.m.), Arrival and allocation of places at Cherry Creek Park.
- 3:45 p.m. (5:45 p.m.), Liturgy of the Word for delegation of faithful from Denver Archdiocese at McNichols Arena in Denver. Talk by pope.
- 7:15 p.m. (9:15 p.m.), Prayer vigil with youth at Cherry Creek State Park. Talk by pope.

Sunday, Aug. 15

- 5 a.m. (7 a.m.), General public begins to arrive for Mass.
- 6 a.m. (8 a.m.), Morning prayer.
- 9:30 a.m. (11:30 a.m.), Close of World Youth Day with celebration of Mass for the solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary by the pope at Cherry Creek Park.
- 4:45 p.m. (6:45 p.m.), Meeting with representatives of U.S. Vietnamese Catholics in McNichols Arena. Talk by pope.
- 6:05 p.m. (8:05 p.m.), Visit with children at Mount St. Vincent Home in Denver. Greeting by pope.
- 7:15 p.m. (9:15 p.m.), Departure ceremony at Stapleton International Airport. Talk by pope.
- 7:45 p.m. (9:45 p.m.), Pope's departure from Denver for Rome.

Youths to get close-up view of pontiff

Diocese names three delegates

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

With hundreds of thousands of people expected to converge on Denver next week, getting a good vantage point to see Pope John Paul II could be a real struggle.

Ivonne Martinez and Jennifer Curatolo have earned the privilege of much closer encounters with the pontiff, however: they've been chosen to represent the Rochester diocese as delegates for two papal appearances.

The 22-year-old Martinez, a parishioner at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Rochester, will participate at a special Mass to be celebrated by the pope next Saturday, Aug. 14.

Meanwhile, the 15-year-old Curatolo, a parishioner at St. John the Evangelist Church in Spencerport, will be one of 500 youth representatives to greet the pontiff at Denver's Stapleton International Airport when he arrives for his four-day stay.

Martinez, along with 15-year-old Bill McGuire, a parishioner at St. Louis Church in Pittsford, was selected by diocesan youth coordinator Michael Theisen to participate in the Aug. 14 Mass with the pope at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. (McGuire could not be reached for this article.) Two youth representatives from each U.S. diocese will join Martinez and McGuire at the 9 a.m. service.

Only about 1,000 will be allowed to attend the Aug. 14 Mass — a stark contrast to the pope's closing Mass on Aug. 15, which could draw as many as 500,000 people to Cherry Creek State Park.

"I'm bringing my camcorder and



Jennifer Curatolo (left) and Ivonne Martinez will represent the Diocese of Rochester when they meet Pope John Paul II in Denver as part of World Youth Day, Aug. 11-15.

camera," remarked Martinez, who serves as a youth director at St. Francis of Assisi. In addition, she and McGuire are members of the Diocesan Youth Committee.

Martinez views herself not only as a delegate for the diocese, but also as a representative for her Hispanic culture.

"This is very important for the Hispanic Catholics, because it's a great honor to meet the pope," the Rochester resident commented.

Curatolo, meanwhile, views her assigned role in the pope's welcoming ceremony as "a miracle."

The Spencerport resident was chosen by Theisen as an airport delegate based on her preparatory efforts for the Denver excursion. She was the only youth on the diocesan World Youth Day planning committee.

Aside from their special roles, Martinez and Curatolo are also

looking forward to the many activities they will enjoy with approximately 600 other youths and chaperons from the Rochester diocese who are expected to attend World Youth Day.

Curatolo is intrigued by the diocesan group's planned two-mile pilgrimage to Cherry Creek Park next Saturday, followed by an overnight camp out at the park on the evening prior to the pope's final Mass.

"I've never slept under the stars without a tent before," remarked Curatolo, who is one of six St. John the Evangelist parishioners headed for Denver.

Martinez acknowledged that the entire World Youth Day experience is exciting for her and the three other St. Francis of Assisi parishioners making the trip.

"We'll be meeting new people from all over the country and all over the world," she said.

Denver

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throughout the world will be asked to consume only bread and water for lunch on Aug. 13, in honor of youths from countries currently experiencing extreme suffering. According to Monsignor Renato Boccardo, head of the

Pontifical Council for the Laity's youth section, money saved by skipping a full meal will be collected and sent to St. Joseph Hospital in Masaka, Uganda, for the care of young people with AIDS.

In regard to the upcoming festivities in Denver, Pope John Paul II said last Sunday, July 25, that he and the young people will meet "to celebrate life: the value of life, the beauty and joy of life."

Speaking from his summer residence

in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, the pope added that "the future of humanity very much depends on a vast alliance for life, and young people are called to be on the front lines of this demanding battle for civilization, which is also a battle for authentic progress."

World Youth Day is Pope John Paul II's own creation. The event's roots go back to 1985, when the pope issued a 15,000-word apostolic letter specifically addressed to the world's youths.

Later that year the pope announced his desire for a youth-day observance to celebrate the faith of young Roman Catholics worldwide. His announcement came in an address at the end of 1985, the United Nations' International Youth Year.

In January, 1986, the Pontifical Council for the Laity, which now oversees the celebration, released details on the annual event, which was to be marked every Palm Sunday. Bishops throughout the world were urged to plan youth events in their dioceses, and the pope challenged the world's youths in his Palm Sunday homily that year to work and pray for world peace.

That first Vatican observance set in motion an international youth event known as World Youth Day, now held every other year, in which the pope himself participates.

Previous World Youth Days took place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1987; Santiago de Compostela, Spain, in 1989; and Czestochowa, Poland, in 1991.

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