Kia ora tātou

A couple of Sundays ago I was celebrating a 'usual' Sunday Mass. What was different, was that I was among a crowed 750,000 (the large majority in their 20s).

World Youth Day, in Panama City, Central America was the venue, and the presider was our Pope, Papa Francesco.

This was the first WYD I have been to. Before leaving my expectations had been neutral, but I returned from our two weeks in Panama (about 25 Kiwis contribution to the 750,000!) invigorated and in deep awe of the gift of our universal Church and faith. Papa Francesco was in great form and the welcome of the Panamanian people was infectious.

Please follow my Facebook www.facebook.com/BishopCharlesDrennan blog and photos of Panama WYD, or read more on our diocesan website site www.pndiocese.org.nz/. My reflections are heartfelt and I thank the Holy Spirit for ensuring the Church keeps dynamic in all we seek to be for Christ.

+ Charles