

CANOSSIAN YOUTH JUBILEE 2025



From July 25th until August 11th 2025 more than 80 Canossian Sisters, Brothers, Fathers, members of our Canossian Lay movements, and youth from 21 countries gathered for our Canossian Youth Jubilee at Acilia. We take this chance to share with you some of our memories that we will carry with us on the journey ahead!!!



25TH - 27TH JULY

JUBILEE OF CANOSSIAN YOUTH

During our first three days in Acilia, we had a time of Canossian formation aimed at youth, together with a group of young adults from Verona. We were blessed to join with members of the Fratelli and Sorelle Lay Canossians and truly experience our Canossian charismatic family spirit. Beginning with a beautiful opening ceremony where we celebrated our diverse cultures, our journey through the Holy Door at St Peter's was definitely a highlight. During the three days we explored various aspects of St Magdalene's life: her heart of a mother, her journeys and her invitation to charity where we are called to plant seeds of hope in our various realities today.



28TH JULY - 3RD AUGUST

YOUTH JUBILEE OF THE CHURCH

The next phase of our pilgrimage saw us join with over one million youth from around the world for the official Jubilee of Youth. During these days we were blessed to visit the Holy Doors of the other Basilica's of Rome and participate in many activities organised by the Episcopal Conference of Rome. Our days culminated with the journey to Tor Vergata where we celebrated an evening Vigil and Sunday mass with Pope Leo.



4TH - 6TH AUGUST

JUBILEE OF CONSECRATED CANOSSIAN YOUTH

Our final three days at Acilia saw us reflecting on our call as consecrated Canossian Youth. Among the highlights were sharing on a Letter of St Magdalene, the round table with our two Vicar Generals, Fr Francesco and Sr Josemary, our cultural night and a beautiful closing ceremony.



IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST MAGDALENE

Our Canossian Youth Jubilee concluded with a pilgrimage to Verona, Schio, and Venice, as well as visits to Monte Berico and the Sanctuary of Madonna della Corona. We were blessed to visit many significant places for our Canossian family which helped us to reflect deeply on how St Magdalene invites us today to be pilgrims of hope, in and for the mission that we have been entrusted with.



"I am grateful for the events and experiences that will be unforgettable in my life, in the tiring journey and pilgrimage, that's where I felt God's extraordinary love... thank you my God, answering Jesus' question to Saint Peter do you love me "yes God you know everything that I love you"...

(Sr Elizabeth, Indonesia)

"We had the privilege of entering in the room of St. Josephine Bakhita. The silence there was overwhelming.

No words came — only tears and a deep sense that her life still speaks to us today. Yes, this pilgrimage was more than miles walked or places visited. It was a sacred encounter — with God, with the Church, with our Foundress, and with one another."

(Sr Edal Quveen, India South)

REFLECTIONS...

"The experience of a living church. There is so much to discover, both within ourselves and in our surroundings. A faith that transcends boundaries and cultures. The pilgrimage we made as a family during these days was for me like receiving a warm embrace from God, who loves us immensely and wants everyone to experience it."

(Sr Gladys, Argentina)

"Meaningful connectivity is not about how many friends you have, but how deeply you walk with them. The Pope's words invite us young people to cultivate relationships that nourish life—friendships that lift us when we're down, challenge us to grow, and bring us closer to God."

(Jenalyn, Philippines)

"We are all one in Christ...todos, tutti, everyone! We can all spread love and be the best we can be! We must let the joy of our faith shine for everyone to see! We are the hope and the future of the Universal Church! We are the prophets of hope for a hopeless world...to stand on our faith and shout to the World: JESUS CHRIST YOU ARE MY LIFE, ALLELUIA."

(Sr Maria, Ottavia)

"Standing here in Rome, in the heart of our universal Church, is an absolute dream come true, and I feel nothing but elation! I am so grateful and happy!

Representing the youth of our Canossian world is something we are thrilled to have the opportunity to do! It is a tremendous honour and a truly profound responsibility. As a Pilgrim of Hope, I had the incredible privilege of walking in the footsteps of Saints, but also alongside the most inspiring dreamers, leaders and sisters around!

They continue to inspire hope in our world."

(Ezequel, Timor)



SR. ROCHELLE, FDCC

Many .. Yet one...

A JOURNEY OF HOPE...

I never imagined... until now I still
couldn't believe... it was just 3 weeks!!!
but those 3 weeks
will never be the same...
I prepared my "walking shoes,"
and my backpack... candies (yes!)
and clothes I'm comfortable wearing.
New adventure? yes!!!!



BUT THIS ONE IS MORE THAN ADVENTURE...it is more....

Who would ever think I'd meet my sisters and brothers and the young people from different continents???? YES! we have lots of differences—colors, habits, languages, tastes for food, cultures... but none of these became a barrier for us to "journey together." We laughed together, ate together whatever was served, slept in one room together, walked so fast together, and even enjoyed the ride on the metro train...

Together we "defeated" the scorching sun!!! The 17 km walk to Tor Vergata (with just the Australian flag to show we weren't lost yet)... The crowd squeezing us... ohhh... those were nothing. We enjoyed every moment of it-**together**. We prayed together, danced together, sang together with all our hearts...Yes, this is more than adventure... This is a journey of hope... We allowed ourselves to be "more" for each one of us...
"...Truly, God has written a story of hope in our hearts."



fen in love with it.

A MESSAGE FROM THE YOUTH WHO JOURNEYED WITH US...

We Canossian Youth, ask....

We aren't asking the Church to change its core truths. What **we are asking is for the people who represent the Church—our Sisters, Priests, and Lay Leaders—to meet us where we are.** What we need most is not judgment, but understanding. We need open minds and open hearts that are willing to listen to how we think, how we express ourselves, and how we seek God even when it looks different from your generations.

If young people sometimes seem distant from the Church, it's not because we don't care. It's because we often don't feel seen, heard, or understood. **We long for authenticity, connection, and community.**

That's why your presence not just your teachings is vital.

We want to feel that you are available to us. That your doors and hearts are open. That your lives reflect a joy and purpose that invites us in.

We invite you to update the system, not the core message, but the delivery. We know it is difficult for you to meet us that way, but that is the challenge. Let's incorporate real-life conversations, digital tools, storytelling, art, music, and the kind of dialogue that invites us to questions, rather than shuts us down and make us feel that our questions are not that worth of your time.

When the Church embraces this openness when it offers space for us to ask, wrestle, and grow it becomes not just a place we visit out of obligation, but a home we choose.

A Church that listens is a Church that inspires.

So we ask: walk with us. Not ahead, not behind us, but with us.

**Your wisdom and your presence,
can help light our way forward in faith. 🙏**





**THANK YOU
FOR PRAYING
FOR US**