



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

4 JULY 1986

Agreement has been reached with Vatican authorities on the program for the visit to Australia by Pope John Paul II.

In the course of his stay, the Pope will visit Canberra and all State capital cities. In the Northern Territory, he will visit both Darwin and Alice Springs. In Canberra, which will be the Pope's point of arrival in Australia, the Government will hold a reception in his honour.

The Government is delighted that the Pope is able to make the visit, which is in response to invitations from the Government and the Catholic Bishops of Australia. I am taking close interest in the visit and, to this end, I have appointed Mr Hurford to assist with the Government's involvement.

The Pope is a Head of State and a leading world figure. It is appropriate that he should come to Australia in the International Year of Peace as Australia has given international peace initiatives a high priority in our foreign policy.

The Pope will spend the greater part of his time meeting the people of Australia. There is already eager anticipation within the Australian community about the visit and a great many groups from widely differing backgrounds are involved in preparations for it.

The Pope's general itinerary is attached.

VISIT BY POPE JOHN PAUL II
OUTLINE PROGRAM

CANBERRA

MONDAY
24 NOVEMBER

p.m. Arrive RAAF Base, Fairbairn from
New Zealand

Celebration of Eucharist at National
Exhibition Centre

Calls on Governor-General and
Prime Minister

Government Reception

TUESDAY
25 NOVEMBER

a.m. Receive Heads of Diplomatic Missions

BRISBANE

p.m. At Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Sports Centre (Visit sick and disabled persons
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(Meet members of the media
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(Celebration of the Eucharist

Address people assembled in King George
Square

SYDNEY

p.m. Attend youth rally at Sydney Cricket
Ground

WEDNESDAY
26 NOVEMBER

a.m. Receive leaders of Jewish community

Address rally of industrial workers at
Seven Hills

p.m. Attend meeting with members of religious
orders at Sydney Opera House

Address representatives of Australian institutions of higher education at University of Sydney

Celebration of Eucharist at Randwick Racecourse

HOBART

THURSDAY
27 NOVEMBER

a.m. Address group of unemployed persons

p.m. Celebration of Eucharist at Elwick Racecourse

MELBOURNE

Light a Unity Candle and pray in St. Paul's Cathedral

Attend Ecumenical Service at Melbourne Cricket Ground

FRIDAY
28 NOVEMBER

a.m. Visit Parish of St Leo the Great, North Altona

Address teachers, students and graduates of Catholic Teachers Colleges

Address gathering of clergy and seminarians at St Patrick's Cathedral

p.m. Visit Ozanam House

Celebration of Eucharist at Flemington Racecourse

Visit Mercy Maternity Hospital

Meet Polish Community at Melbourne Cricket Ground

DARWIN

SATURDAY
24 NOVEMBER

Celebration of Eucharist at Darwin Showgrounds

ALICE SPRINGS

p.m. Attend Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander event

ADELAIDE

Light Advent Candle for Peace

SUNDAY
30 NOVEMBER

a.m. Attend rural industries function at
Festival Centre

Celebration of Eucharist at Victoria Park
Racecourse

PERTH

p.m. Celebration of Eucharist at Belmont
Racecourse

Address aged persons

Open Catholic Education Centre at
Leederville

MONDAY
1 DECEMBER

a.m. Leave Perth for overseas