## WYD Quotations from Pope Francis - Panama 2019



The words below provide encouragement for staff and inspiration for students.

'To be an "influencer" in the twenty-first century is to be guardians of roots, guardians of all that prevents our life from dissipating and evaporating into nothingness. Be guardians of everything that can make us feel part of one another, to feel that we belong.'

'It is always possible to "sprout shoots and grow" when there is a community, a warm home that enables us to take root, that provides the confidence we need and prepares our hearts to discover a new horizon: the horizon of a beloved son or daughter who is sought, found and entrusted with a mission.'

'Prayer gives force and vitality to everything we do. In praying, we discover that we are part of a family larger than what we can see or imagine. In praying, we open everything we do to the Church that supports and accompanies us from heaven, to the saints who have shown us the way, but above all, we open it all to God.'

'We know well that to feel acknowledged or loved it is not enough to be connected all day long. To feel respected and asked to get involved is greater than simply being "on-line". It means finding spaces where, with your hands, your heart and your head, you can feel part of a larger community that needs you and that you yourselves need.'

'God chose not to reveal himself as an angel or in some spectacular way, but to give us a face that is fraternal and friendly, concrete and familiar. God is real because love is real; God is concrete because love is concrete.'

'You, dear young people, are not the future but the now of God.'

"You, dear young people, are not the future. No, you are the present. You are not the future of God, you young people are the now of God! May you feel that you have a mission, may you fall in love; the Lord will decide everything"

'Mary believed God himself and dared to say "yes" to taking part in this now of the Lord. She felt she had a mission; she fell in love and that decided everything.'

'Dear Young People, we are on a journey, keep walking, keep living the faith and sharing it. Do not forget that you are not the tomorrow, you are not the "meantime"; you are the now of God.'