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MEDIA RELEASE

PAPAL COINS AND STAMPS CELEBRATE WORLD YOUTH DAY SYDNEY 2008

The Perth Mint's Chief Executive Officer, Ed Harbuz, presented the Archbishop of Sydney, Cardinal George Pell, with official World Youth Day Sydney 2008 (WYD08) commemorative coins during a special ceremony held at St Mary's Cathedral House in Sydney.

"The Perth Mint is delighted to present His Eminence with the Vatican-approved 1oz pure gold and 1oz pure silver proof coins, each accompanied by the 'number one' Certificate of Authenticity," said Mr Harbuz.

"World Youth Day is a momentous occasion in the history of Australia and the Catholic Church and we hope that our range of commemorative coins will help to keep the memory alive for years to come," he said.

Both precious metal coins depict His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, the WYD08 logo and the inscription 'World Youth Day Sydney 2008' on the reverse.

The event also marks the official launch of Australia Post's Papal stamps and the release of a limited edition WYD08 Stamp and Coin Cover, which features The Perth Mint's latest commemorative – an Australian legal tender coloured \$1 aluminium bronze coin.

The presentation of the WYD08 commemorative coins and stamps to Cardinal Pell follows the previous announcements by The Perth Mint and Australia Post as official WYO08 licensees.

Sydney will host the 23rd World Youth Day from 15 to 20 July, with more than 125,000 international visitors expected to attend and celebrate Pope Benedict's inaugural visit to Australia.

The Perth Mint's World Youth Day Sydney 2008 commemoratives are available by telephoning freecall 1800 098 817, by visiting The Perth Mint Shop located at 310 Hay Street, East Perth, through leading coin distributors, and select Australia Post outlets.

Collectors can also purchase these and many other limited edition Australian legal tender releases from www.perthmint.com.au

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PICTURE EDITORS: Images of the gold and silver World Youth Day 2008 coins can be downloaded from <http://www.perthmint.com.au/product-photography-distributors.aspx>

FURTHER INFORMATION:

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