



Friday 1 February 2008

MEDIA RELEASE

PERTH MINT ISSUES VATICAN-APPROVED COMMEMORATIVES TO CELEBRATE WORLD YOUTH DAY

Australia's Perth Mint has released pure gold and silver commemorative coins marking World Youth Day, which takes place in Sydney in July 2008.

The event, which is expected to attract in excess of 125,000 overseas visitors and to be strongly supported by Australia's five million Catholics, also marks the first visit by Pope Benedict XVI to the region.

Issued as Australian legal tender, the coins are produced from 99.99% pure gold and 99.9% pure silver in stunning proof quality. The reverse of each coin bears a Vatican-approved portrait of the Pope, which is struck in traditional fashion on the gold coin and reproduced in eye-catching colour on the silver coin.

The design on each coin also includes the official WYDSYD08 logo and the letter 'P', The Perth Mint's distinguishing mintmark that has appeared on many of its historic coins since 1899. The Ian Rank-Broadley effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the monetary denomination appear on the obverse of each coin.

"The World Youth Day 2008 commemoratives mark the first time that a Pope has been depicted on an Australian legal tender coin," said Ron Currie, The Perth Mint's Sales and Marketing Director. "We are delighted to be involved with an event that is clearly very important to many young people around the globe."

Availability of the gold and silver coins is strictly limited. Ensuring rarity and collectability, no more than 1,000 pure gold coins and 25,000 pure silver coins will be issued. Each coin is housed in premium timber presentation packaging and an illustrated shipper accompanied by a numbered Certificate of Authenticity.

World Youth Day Sydney 2008 commemorative coins 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.

Alternatively, collectors can purchase these and many other limited edition Australian legal tender releases from the website www.perthmint.com.au

END

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:

Ron Currie, Sales and Marketing Director, The Perth Mint
Telephone +61 8 9421 7269 Mobile 0412 559 067 Email ron.currie@perthmint.com.au