

L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO

WEEKLY EDITION  IN ENGLISH*Unicum suum Non praevalent*

Forty-seventh year, number 51-52 (2376)

Vatican City

Friday, 19-26 December 2014

Pope Francis and diplomatic relations between the US and Cuba

One step closer

On Thursday, 18 September, Pope Francis expressed his satisfaction that, he said, "we have seen two nations, who were estranged for so many years, take a step closer together". The Pontiff was referring to the historic decision to restore diplomatic relations between the United States and Cuba.

That same day, the Secretary of State, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, told Vatican Radio that Pope Francis played "a critical role" in this decision, "because he took the initiative to write to the two presidents in order to invite them to overcome the existing difficulties between the countries and to find an agreement". According to the communiqué of the Secretariat of State on Wednesday, the Holy Father invited both Presidents "to resolve humanitarian questions of common interest, including the situation of certain prisoners, in order to initiate a new phase in relations between the two Parties". Furthermore Cardinal Parolin stated that it had taken "many years" to arrive at this point, explaining that decisions like these come out of "hard work, patience, many small steps forward".

In the communiqué, Pope Francis underlined that this decision was "in the interest of the citizens of both countries" and which aims to overcome "the difficulties which have marked their recent history".

Last October the Holy See also received in the Vatican Delegations of the two countries and "provided its good offices to facilitate a constructive dialogue on delicate matters, resulting in solutions acceptable to both Parties". "The Holy

See will continue to assure its support for initiatives which both nations will undertake to strengthen their bilateral relations and promote the wellbeing of their respective citizens".

As Cuba transitions through these future changes, the Archbishop of Miami, Thomas G. Wenski, expressed his hope that the change "is peaceful and offers real hope for the Cuban people on both sides of the Florida straits".



Miniature flags representing Cuba and the USA displayed in Havana, Cuba (AP)

At the General Audience the Pope looks to the example of the Holy Family in Nazareth

A new dawn from the outskirts

With the Incarnation a new history begins and it happens in a family from "a remote village on the outskirts of the Roman Empire". At the General Audience on Wednesday, 17 December, in St Peter's Square, the Pope looked at the simple life in Nazareth as a model for families. He then asked for a moment of silence followed by an Our Father for "the victims of inhumane acts of terrorism which took place in recent days in Australia, Pakistan and Yemen". The following is a translation of the Holy Father's address, which he delivered in Italian.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,
Good morning,

The Synod of Bishops on the Family, recently celebrated, was the first stage of a journey, which will conclude next October with the celebration of another Assembly on the theme: "The Vocation and Mission of the Family in the Church and [Contemporary] World". The prayer and reflection which must accompany this journey is required of all the People of God. I would also like the customary meditations of the Wednesday Audiences to be included in this common journey. I have therefore decided to reflect with you, this year, precisely on the family, on this great gift that the Lord has made to the world from the very beginning, when he entrusted Adam and Eve with the mission to multiply and fill the earth (cf. Gen 1:28); that gift that Jesus confirmed and sealed in his Gospel.

The nearness of Christmas casts a great light on this mystery. The Incarnation of the Son of God opens a new beginning in the universal history of man and woman. And this new beginning happens within a family, in Nazareth. Jesus was born in a family. He could have come in a spectacular way, or as a warrior, an emperor.... No, no: he is born in a family, in a family. This is important: to perceive in the nativity, this beautiful scene.

God chose to come into the world in a human family, which He himself formed. He formed it in a remote village on the outskirts of the Roman Empire. Not in Rome,

which was the capital of the Empire, not in a big city, but on its nearly invisible outskirts, indeed, of little renown. The Gospels also recall this, almost as an expression: "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" (Jn 1:46). Perhaps, in many parts of the world, we still talk this way, when we hear the name of some areas on the periphery of a big city. And so, right

there, on the outskirts of the great Empire, began the most holy and good story of Jesus among men! And that is where this family was.

Jesus dwelt on that periphery for 30 years. The Evangelist Luke summarizes this period like this: Jesus "was obedient to them"; - that is, to Mary and Joseph. And someone might say: "But did this God, who comes to save us, waste 30 years there, in that suburban slum?" He wasted 30 years! He wanted this. Jesus' path was in that family - "and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favour with God and man" (Lk 2:51-52). It does not recount miracles or healing, or preaching - He did none in that period - or of crowds flocking; in Nazareth everything seemed to happen "normally", according to the customs of a pious and hardworking Israelite family: they worked, the mother cooked, she did all the housework, ironed shirts... all the things mothers do. The father, a carpenter, worked, taught his son the trade. Thirty years. "But what a waste,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Sunday's parish visit Recipe for the Christmas spirit



PAGE 5

Happy Birthday, Holy Father!



On Wednesday, 17 December, Pope Francis turned 78 years old; and Saturday, 13 December, marked the 45th year of his priestly ordination.

For Our Lady of Guadalupe
In God's style

PAGE 7

Results of the Apostolic Visitation of
women religious in the US

From sister to sister

PAGE 3

INDEX 2014

A complete list of this past year's publications in the English edition of *L'Osservatore Romano*.

PAGES 13-24

VATICAN BULLETIN

AUDIENCES

Wednesday, 10 December

Ms Christine M.O. Lagarde, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund

Thursday, 11 December

H.E. Mrs Alicia Castro, Ambassador of Argentina to the United Kingdom, with her daughter

Friday, 12 December

Cardinal Gerhard Ludwig Müller, Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith

Archbishop José Rodríguez Carballo, OFM, titular Archbishop of Belcastro, Secretary of the Congregation for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life

Archbishop André Dupuy, titular Archbishop of Selsea, Apostolic Nuncio in The Netherlands; Permanent Representative of the Holy See to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

Prof. Carl A. Anderson, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus

Saturday, 13 December

Cardinal Marc Ouellet, PSS, Prefect of the Congregation for Bishops

Archbishop George Kocherry, titular Archbishop of Othona, Apostolic Nuncio in Bangladesh

Cardinal Sean Patrick O'Malley, OFM Cap., Archbishop of Boston, USA

Hon. Mr Matteo Renzi, Prime Minister of Italy, with his wife and entourage

Mr George Weigel

Monday, 15 December

Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, Prefect of the Congregation for the Eastern Churches

Archbishop Aldo Cavalli, titular Archbishop of Vibo Valentia, Apostolic Nuncio in Malta and in Libya

Archbishop Edgar Peña Parra, titular Archbishop of Thelepte, Apostolic Nuncio in Pakistan

Don Pier Giorgio Perini, Founder of the Parish Cells Evangelization, Italy

H.E. Mr Dragan Čović, Croatian member of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, with his entourage

H.E. Mr Dennis Anthony Savoie, Ambassador of Canada, for the presentation of his Letters of Credence

CHANGES IN EPISCOPATE

The Holy Father appointed Fr Eduardo Vieira dos Santos as Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of São Paulo, Brazil. Until now he has

been Archdiocesan Chancellor and Parish Priest of São Paulo Cathedral (to Dec.).

Bishop-elect Vieira dos Santos, 49, was born in Bom Sucesso, Brazil. He holds a licence in canon law. He was ordained a priest on 15 December 2000. He has served in parish ministry and as: pastoral assistant to the Santa Luzia community; chaplain of the *Parque Gethsémani* cemetery; coordinator for extraordinary ministers of Communion of the Archdiocese; vice-rector of the São Paulo Seminary of theology; head of on-going formation for permanent deacons.

The Holy Father appointed Fr Devair Araújo da Fonseca as Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of São Paulo, Brazil, assigning him the titular episcopal see of Uzalis. Until now he has been Parish Priest of São José Parish in Orlândia and Diocesan Coordinator for Pastoral Ministry (to Dec.).

Bishop-elect Araújo da Fonseca, 46, was born in Franca, Brazil. He holds a licence in dogmatic theology. He was ordained a priest on 20 December 1998. He has served in parish ministry and as: rector of the *Nossa Senhora do Carmo* diocesan seminary; chaplain of Carmelo de Santa Teresa; professor at the João XXIII Institute of Theology, in Jaboticabal; secretary and president of the Organisation of Seminaries and Institutes of Brazil.

The Holy Father appointed Bishop Vicente Jiménez Zamora as Metropolitan Archbishop of Zaragoza, Spain. Until now he has been Bishop of Santander, Spain (12 Dec.).

Archbishop Jiménez Zamora, 70, was born in Ágreda, Spain. He was

ordained a priest on 29 June 1968. He was ordained a bishop on 17 July 2004, subsequent to his appointment as Bishop of Osma-Soria and on 27 July 2007 he was transferred to Santander, Spain.

The Holy Father appointed Fr Adelio Pasqualotto, CSI, as Vicar Apostolic of Napo, Ecuador, assigning him the titular episcopal see of Abthugnì. Until now he has been Provicar of the Apostolic Vicariate of San Miguel de Sucumbios (12 Dec.).

Bishop-elect Pasqualotto, 64, was born in Novoledo di Villaverla, Italy. He entered the Congregation of St Joseph and made his first religious profession on 27 September 1967, and his solemn profession on 13 October 1973. He was ordained a priest on 11 March 1978. He has served in parish ministry and as: vice rector of the St Pio X Community, Rome; head of the vocations apostolate in Sicily and then in Foggia; provincial vicar of the Mexican Province.

The Holy Father appointed Msgr Marek Szkudlo as Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Katowice, Poland, assigning him the titular episcopal see of Wigry. Until now he has been Episcopal Vicar for the Permanent Formation of the Clergy (13 Dec.).

Bishop-elect Szkudlo, 62, was born in Tychy, Poland. He was ordained a priest on 23 March 1978. He has served in parish ministry and as diocesan visitor for catechetical centres, chaplain for scouts; member of the diocesan liturgical commission, chaplain for workers and miners, moderator of young priests, member of the council for consultants, and president of the diocesan commission for the clergy.

The Ambassador of Canada presents his credentials

Dennis A. Savoie, 69, is married with two children. He holds a degree in sociology. Beginning in 1969 he began working at New Brunswick Electric Power Corporation, serving in various roles including vice-president. In 1996, he retired and until 2000 he worked as a volunteer and in consulting in the non-profit sector. He has also served as executive director of the New Brunswick Association of Nursing Homes (2000-04); assistant to the Supreme Treasurer of the Knights of Columbus, New Haven, Connecticut (2004-06); Supreme Treasurer of the Knights of Columbus, New Haven, Connecticut (2006); Deputy Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, New Haven, Connecticut (2006-13).



On Monday morning, 15 December, Pope Francis received H.E. Mr Dennis Anthony Savoie, the new Ambassador of Canada, for the presentation of the Letters by which he is accredited to the Holy See.

The Holy Father appointed Fr Adam Wodarczyk as Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Katowice, Poland, assigning him the titular episcopal see of Pomezania. Until now he has been Moderator General of the "Luce-Vita" Movement (13 Dec.).

Bishop-elect Wodarczyk, 46, was born in Tarnowskie Góry, Poland. He was ordained a priest on 14 May 1994. He holds a doctorate in pastoral theology and has studied liturgical pastoral care and as a postulator at the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. He is the Postulator for the Cause of the Servant of God Franciszek Blachnicki. He has served as: vice-curate of Santa Edvige della Slesia parish, Chorzów; diocesan moderator of the deaconry for Evangelization of the "Luce Vita" Movement; consultant of the council for pastoral care of the youth, of the committee for the new evangelization, and of missionary radio broadcasts.

The Holy Father accepted the resignation Bishop Max John Rodrigues of Hyderabad in Pakistan. It was presented in accord with can. 401 § 1 of the Code of Canon Law (16 Dec.).

The Holy Father appointed Fr Samson Shukardin, OFM, as Bishop of Hyderabad in Pakistan. Until now he has been Vicar General of the same Diocese (16 Dec.).

Bishop-elect Shukardin, 53, was born in Hyderabad, Pakistan. He holds a diploma in art, he graduated in theology and holds a licence in civil law. He made his solemn profession to the Franciscan Order of Friars Minor on 2 August 1991. He was ordained a priest on 10 December 1993. He has served in parish ministry and as procurator of the Franciscan Province, custodian of the Franciscan Order, president of the Conference of Superiors Major in Pakistan, diocesan director of the Commission for Justice and Peace, and director of formation of small Christian communities.

PONTIFICAL BIBLICAL COMMISSION

The Holy Father appointed Fr Pietro Bovati, SJ, as Secretary of the Pontifical Biblical Commission (12 Dec.).

ADVENT SERMON

On Friday morning, 12 December, in the presence of the Holy Father, Fr Raniero Cantalamessa, OFM Cap., Preacher of the Papal Household, gave the second Advent Sermon in the Vatican's "Redemptoris Mater" Chapel.

L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO

WEEKLY EDITION  IN ENGLISH
Unicusque suum  Non praevalent

Vatican City
cd.english@ossrom.va
www.osservatoreromano.va

GIOVANNI MARIA VIAN

Editor-in-Chief
Giuseppe Fiorentino
Assistant Editor
Mary M. Nolan
Editor
Editorial office
via del Pellegrino, 00120 Vatican City
telephone +390669899300, fax +390669898765

TIPOGRAFIA VATICANA EDITRICE

L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO
don Sergio Pellini s.n.b.
Director General
Photo Service
photo@ossrom.va www.photo.va
Advertising Agency
Il Sole 24 Ore S.p.A.
System Comunicazione Pubblicitaria
Via Monte Rosa 91, 20149 Milano
segreteria@redazione.ossrom.va

Subscription rates: Italy - Vatican: € 58,00; Europe: € 100,00 - US\$ 148,00; Latin America, Africa, Asia: € 100,00 - US\$ 162,00 - £ 88,00; Oceania, North America: € 162,00 - US\$ 240,00 - £ 130,00.
Management Office: phone +390669899480; fax +390669898764; e-mail subscriptions@ossrom.va.
For India: The weekly English Edition of L'Osservatore Romano is published and distributed in India by Camel International Publishing House, Cotton Hill, Tiruvandrum - 695 014, Kerala-India; phone: +9147232723; fax: +9147232896; e-mail: ciplh@midiasnl.net.
For North America: L'Osservatore Romano (USPS 06-490) is published fifty times per year (weekly, except third week in August and last week in December) by Our Sunday Visitor, L'Osservatore Romano, English Edition, 200 Noll Plaza, Huntington, IN 46730. Periodicals Postage Pending at Huntington, IN, and additional mailing offices, USA - phone: 800-348-2440 ext. 237; fax: 866-891-7390 - e-mail: ossales@ossrom.com.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Our Sunday Visitor, 200 Noll Plaza, Huntington, IN 46730

Consistory set for February

The Pope has convoked a consistory for the creation of new cardinals on 14-15 February. This will be the second consistory of his pontificate. Fr Federico Lombardi, Director of the Holy See Press Office, announced this on Thursday, 11 December, at a briefing regarding the meeting of the Council of Cardinals, the so-called C9, which was underway. The Council, he said, will also meet again on 9-11 February and then on 12-13 February a consistory will be held with the whole College of Cardinals discuss Curia reform.

As to the Council's recent meeting (9-11 December), Fr Lombardi said that the Pope participated in every session except the morning of the General Audience. Opening with an address by Bishop Secretary Marcello Semeraro, the Council examined the results of the meeting of dicastery heads on 24 November.

At the meeting several proposals and observations were examined, confirming the intention to combine several dicasteries into two: one for laity and the family and another for justice, peace and charity. The process has begun but no final decision has yet been made nor is one expected soon.

Joseph F.X. Zahra, Deputy Coordinator of the Council for the Economy, participated in the meeting of the Council on Thursday morning. Several members of the commission are working to define the status of the commission and of the Secretary for the Economy.

New members of the Commission for the Protection of Minors appointed

As anticipated, Pope Francis has appointed new members to the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors, chosen from various parts of the world, so as to allow a broad representation of different situations and cultures. The Holy See Press Office announced this on Wednesday, 17 December, in a press release which indicated the complete composition of the Commission as follows:

Cardinal Scán Patrick O'Malley, OFM Cap., President; Msgr Robert Oliver (United States), Secretary; Rev. Luis Manuel Ali Herrera (Colombia); Dr Catherine Bonnet (France); Marie Collins (Ireland); Dr Gabriel Dy-Liacco (Philippines); Baroness, Prof. Sheila Hollins (England); Bill Kilgallon (New Zealand); Sr Kayula Gertrude Lesa, RSC (Zambia); Sr Hermenegild Makoro, CPS (South Africa); Kathleen McCormack, AM (Australia); Dr Claudio Papale (Italy); Peter Saunders (England); Hon. Hanna Suchocka (Poland); Dr Krysten Winter-Green (United States); Rev. Dr Humberto Miguel Yáñez, SJ (Argentina); Rev. Dr Hans Zollner, SJ (Germany).



The next plenary session of the Commission will take place in the Vatican from 6-8 February 2015, as previously announced.

The next plenary session of the Commission will take place, as previously stated, in the Vatican on from 6-8 February 2015.

The Holy See Press Office statement provided brief biographies of the members, which is given below:

Cardinal Scán O'Malley, a Capuchin, is the Archbishop of Boston and serves as the President of the Commission and a member of the Council of Cardinals.

Msgr Robert Oliver serves as the Secretary of the Commission, following many years in child protection work for the Archdiocese of Boston, the U.S. Conference of

The results of the Apostolic Visitation of women religious in the US

From sister to sister

Approximately 50,000 sisters in 341 diocesan and pontifical right institutes were involved in the Apostolic Visitation of the women religious in the United States of America, which took place from 2009-2012. The results of the Visitation were presented in the Holy See Press Office on Tuesday morning, 16 December. Presenting at the conference were Cardinal João Braz de Aviz and Archbishop José Rodríguez Carballo, respectively Prefect and Secretary of the Congregation for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life; Mother Mary Clare Millea, Visitor; Sr Sharon Holland, President of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR); Sr Agnes Mary Donovan, Coordinator of the Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious (CMSWR); and Fr Thomas Rosica, Assistant to the Visitation Committee.

Cardinal Braz de Aviz explained that the Visitation "offered new opportunities for women religious to discover God's presence and salvific action in fruitful communication with other religious, with the Church's pastors and lay faithful". "May the self-assessment and dialogue sparked by the Apostolic Visitation," he said, "continue to bear abundant fruit for the revitalization and strengthening of religious institutes in fidelity to Christ, to the Church and to their founding charisms".

The Cardinal Prefect didn't hide the fact that the Apostolic Visitation was met with "apprehension by some women religious", in fact some decided "not to collaborate fully in

the process". Despite this bitterness, the Cardinal expressed his willingness "to engage in respectful and fruitful dialogue with those institutes which were not fully compliant". The dicastery, he said, is committed to collaborating "in the realization of Pope Francis' resolve that 'the feminine genius' find expression in the various settings where important decisions are made, both in the Church and in social structures", as is made clear in *Evangelii Gaudium* (n. 103). Thus in this sense the celebration of the Year of Consecrated Life is a propitious occasion in which they "can work toward that full reconciliation which will offer a radiant and attractive witness of fraternal communion to all".

Then Archbishop Rodríguez Carballo took the floor, offering various details about the visit. He explained that the Visitation involved religious institutes of women which engage in apostolic ministry and which have a generalate, provincialate and/or initial formation program in the United States. Each province of institutes which had more than one province in the United States was considered a separate unit. Therefore 405 entities were considered in the Visitation. The dicastery, the prelate recalled, appointed a woman religious from the United States, Mother Mary Clare Millea, ASCJ, as Apostolic Visitor, "granting her the faculties to design and carry out the Visitation". She, in turn, chose a core team of American religious who assisted her throughout the process. "Not only was the Apostolic Visita-



James B. Janknegt, "The Visitation" (2008)

tion vast in its proportions", Archbishop Carballo said, it also examined "diversified expressions of apostolic religious life throughout the country". He then explained that from the beginning "it sought to convey the caring support of the Church in respectful, 'sister-to-sister' dialogue, as modeled in the Gospel account of the Visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth". Emphasis was placed on listening on "the lived reality of the religious, understand their rich heritage, current challenges and future hopes, within the context of the ecclesial community".

The Visitation was divided into four phases. "In the first phase", he said, "266 superiors general (78% of their total number) voluntarily engaged in personal dialogue with the Visitor". Subsequently, all major superiors were asked "to complete a questionnaire requesting empirical data and qualitative information regarding the spiritual, community and ministerial life of the individual institutes".

In its final phase, Mother Millea submitted a final report to dicastery on the major issues and trends in women's religious life in the United States.

At the press conference Mother Millea herself explained that the Apostolic Visitation offered many opportunities for reflection, dialogue, communion among women religious and their relationship with pastors and laypeople. Religious superiors, including those which had initially resisted, "shared that the process has yielded surprising positive results", especially producing "honest confrontation with the transformative power of the Word of God". Other results include the "deep spiritual conversations" among sisters about the life, witness and message of the foundresses and founders, and the "increased solidarity among women religious and renewed desire to move beyond attitudes which prevent us from being in communion with one another". Bishops, clergy and lay persons expressed an "outpouring of loving gratitude" for the women religious, which has sparked "new energy and resourcefulness among us and has awakened a renewed interest in the promotion of vocations to the religious life". The Apostolic Visitation - she added - offered "priceless opportunity to renew our commitment to the consecrated life and to place our unique gifts at the service of the Church", especially emerging threats to human dignity, religious freedom and conscience protection.

At the Angelus on Gaudete Sunday

Where joy is at home

"Joy is at home in Jesus". Pope Francis invited the faithful gathered for the Angelus on Sunday, 14 December, to repeat these words, which were written on a sign held high by some children from the Centro oratori romani in St Peter's Square. Many children were present in the square for the traditional blessing of the "Baby Jesus" figurines, for their Christmas nativity scene. On this occasion, in order to help them be "missionaries of joy", the Holy Father gave the faithful a pocket-size prayer book, which the Pope traditionally provides each year on Gaudete Sunday. The following is a translation of the Pope's reflection, which was delivered in Italian.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,
Dear Children, Dear Boys and
Girls, Good Morning!

For two weeks already, the Season of Advent has been calling us to spiritual vigilance in preparing the way for the Lord who is to come. On this Third Sunday, the Liturgy sets forth another interior attitude by which to live out this time of waiting for the Lord, that is joy. The joy of Jesus, as that sign [held up in St Peter's Square] reads: "Joy is at home in Jesus". That's it, it proposes Jesus' joy to us!

The human heart desires joy. We all desire joy, every family, every people aspires to happiness. But what is the joy that the Christian is called to live out and bear witness to? It is the joy that comes from the closeness of God, from his presence in our life. From the moment Jesus entered into history, with his birth in Bethlehem, humanity received the

seed of the Kingdom of God, like the soil receives the seed, the promise of a future harvest. There is no need to look further! Jesus has come to bring joy to all people for all time. It is not just a hopeful joy or a joy postponed until paradise: as if here on earth we are sad but in paradise we will be filled with joy. No! It is not that, but a joy already real and tangible now, because Jesus himself is our joy, and with Jesus joy finds its home, as your sign there says: joy is at home in Jesus. All of us, let us say it: "Joy is at home in Jesus". Once more: "Joy is at home in Jesus". And without Jesus is there joy? No! Well done! He is living, He is the Risen One, and He works in us and among us especially with the Word and the Sacraments.

We who are baptized, children of the Church, we are called to accept ever anew the presence of God among us and to help others to discover Him, or to rediscover what



they have forgotten. It is a most beautiful mission, like that of John the Baptist: to direct the people to Christ – not to ourselves! – for He is the destination to which the human heart tends when it seeks joy and happiness.

In today's liturgy St Paul again indicates the conditions for being "missionaries of joy": praying constantly, always giving thanks to God, giving way to his Spirit, seeking the good and avoiding evil (cf. 1 Thess 5:17-22). If this becomes our lifestyle, then the Good News will be able to enter so many homes and help people and families to rediscover that in Jesus lies salvation. In Him it is possible to find interior peace and the strength to face different life situations every day, even the heaviest and most difficult. No one has ever heard of a sad saint with a

mournful face. This is unheard of! It would be a contradiction. The Christian's heart is filled with peace because he knows how to place his joy in the Lord even when going through the difficult moments in life. To have faith does not mean to never have difficult moments but to have the strength to face those moments knowing that we are not alone. And this is the peace that God gives to his children.

With her gaze turned to Christmas already close at hand, the Church invites us to bear witness that Jesus is not a person of the past; He is the Word of God who today continues to illuminate the path of mankind; his gestures – the Sacraments – are the manifestation of the tenderness, consolation and love that the Father bears for every human being. May the Virgin Mary, "Cause of our joy", render us ever more joyous in the Lord, who comes to free us from the many forms of interior and exterior slavery.

After the Angelus, the Pope said:

Dear brothers and sisters, I forgot how that phrase went. There it is, let's see: "Joy is at home in Jesus". All together: "Joy is at home in Jesus".

And now I greet with affection the children who have come for the blessing of the "Baby Jesus" figurines, organized by *Centro oratori romani*. My compliments! You have been so good, you were joyful here in the square, my compliments! And now you are carrying a blessed crib. Dear children, I thank you for your presence and I wish you a happy Christmas! When you pray at home before your nativity scenes, remember to also pray for me, as I will remember to do for you. Prayer is the soul's breath: it is important to find moments throughout the day to open your heart to God, even with simple and brief prayers of the Christian people. That is why, today I thought of a gift for all of you here in the square, a surprise, a present: I will give you a little pocket-size book that contains a few prayers, for different moments throughout the day and for different situations in life. It's this. Some volunteers will distribute them. Take one each and carry it with you always as an aid to living the whole day with God. And so that we don't forget that message that you wrote on that sign which is so very beautiful: "Joy is at home in Jesus". Once more: "Joy is at home in Jesus". Well done!

To all of you I cordially wish a good Sunday and a good lunch. Don't forget, please pray for me. Good bye! And much joy!

A new dawn from the outskirts

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Father!". God works in mysterious ways. But what was important there was the family! And this was not a waste! They were great saints: Mary, the most holy woman, immaculate, and Joseph, a most righteous man.... The family.

We are certainly moved by the story of how the adolescent Jesus followed the religious calendar of the community and the social duties; in knowing how, as a young worker, He worked with Joseph; and then how He attended the reading of the Scriptures, in praying the Psalms and in so many other customs of daily life. The Gospels, in their sobriety, make no reference to Jesus' adolescence and leave this task to our loving meditation. Art, literature, music have taken this journey through imagination. It is certainly not difficult to imagine how much mothers could learn from Mary's care for that Son! And how much fathers could glean from the example of Joseph, a righteous man, who dedicated his life to supporting and protecting the Child and his wife – his family – in difficult times. Not to mention how much children could be encouraged by the adolescent Jesus to understand the necessity and beauty of cultivating their most profound vocation and of dreaming great dreams! In those 30 years, Jesus cultivated his vocation, for which the Father had sent him. And in that time, Jesus never be-



came discouraged, but increased in courage in order to carry his mission forward.

Each Christian family can first of all – as Mary and Joseph did – welcome Jesus, listen to Him, speak with Him, guard Him, protect Him, grow with Him; and in this way improve the world. Let us make room in our heart and in our day for the Lord. As Mary and Joseph also did, and it was not easy: how many difficulties they had to overcome! They were not a superficial family, they were not an unreal family. The family of Nazareth urges us to rediscover the vocation and mission of the family, of every family. And, what happened in those 30 years in Nazareth, can thus happen to us too: in seeking to make love and not hate normal, making mutual help commonplace, not indifference or enmity. It is no coincidence, then, that "Nazareth" means "She who keeps", as Mary, who – as the Gospel states – "kept

all these things in her heart" (cf. Lk 2:19, 51). Since then, each time there is a family that keeps this mystery, even if it were on the periphery of the world, the mystery of the Son of God, the mystery of Jesus who comes to save us, the mystery is at work. He comes to save the world. And this is the great mission of the family: to make room for Jesus who is coming, to welcome Jesus in the family, in each member: children, husband, wife, grandparents.... Jesus is there. Welcome him there, in order that He grow spiritually in the family. May the Lord grant us this grace in these last days of Advent. Thank you.

SPECIAL GREETINGS

Now, a moment of silence and then, with the Our Father, I would like to pray together with you for the victims of the inhumane acts of terrorism which took place in recent days in Australia, Pakistan and Yemen. May the Lord welcome the deceased into his peace, comfort the family members, and convert the hearts of the violent, who do not even stop before children. Let us sing the Our Father, asking for this grace.

I urge everyone to make a greater commitment to prayer and with good works, in order that the birth of Jesus may fill hearts with the true joy that He alone can give.

Pope Francis at the Roman parish of San Giuseppe all'Aurelio

Recipe for the Christmas spirit

Pray, give thanks to God and think of others

In the afternoon of Gaudete Sunday, 14 December, the Holy Father made a parish visit in the Diocese of Rome, celebrating Holy Mass at the Parish of San Giuseppe all'Aurelio and meeting with parishioners. The following is a translation of the Pope's homily, which was delivered in Italian.

On this Sunday, the Church, looks forward to the joy of Christmas, and that is why it is called "Gaudete Sunday". In this season, a time of preparation for Christmas, we wear dark vestments, but today they are pink for the blossoming of Christmas joy. And the joy of Christmas is a special joy; but it is a joy that isn't just for the day of Christmas, it is for the entire life of a Christian. It is a serene and tranquil joy, a joy that forever accompanies the Christian. Even in difficult moments, in moments of difficulty, this joy becomes peace. When he is a true Christian, the Christian never loses his peace, even in suffering. That peace is a gift from the Lord. Christian joy is a gift from the Lord. "Ah, Father, we'll have a nice big luncheon, everybody will be happy". This is lovely, a nice luncheon is good; but this isn't the Christian joy we are talking about today. Christian joy is something else. It brings us together to celebrate, it's true. Thus the Church wants you to understand what Christian joy is.

The Apostle St Paul says to the Thessalonians: "Brothers, rejoice always". And how can I rejoice? He says: "pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances". We find our Christian joy in prayer, it comes from prayer and from giving thanks to God: "Thank you, Lord, for so many beautiful things!". But there are those who don't know how to give thanks to God; they are always looking for something to lament about. I knew a sister – far from here! – this sister was a good woman, she worked... but her life was about lamenting, complaining about so many things that happened.... You see, in the convent they called her "Sr Lamenta". But a Christian cannot live like this, always looking for something to complain about: "That person has something I don't have.... Did you see what just happened?...". This is not Christian! And it is harmful to find Christians with embittered faces, with a face wry with bitterness, not in peace.



Never, never was there a saint with a mournful face, never! Saints always have joy in their faces. Or at least, amid suffering, a face of peace. The greatest suffering, the martyrdom of Jesus: He always had peace in his face and was concerned about others: his mother, John, the thief... his concern was for others.

To have this Christian joy, first, is prayer; second, to give thanks. And what do I do to give thanks? Reflect on your life and think of the many good things that life has given you: so many. "But, Father, it's true, but I have also received so many bad things!" – "Yes, it's true, it happens to us all. But think of the good things" – "I have a Christian family, Christian parents, thank God I have a job, my family is not suffering of hunger, we are all healthy...". I don't know, so many things, and give thanks to the Lord for this. This ac-

customs us to joy. Pray, give thanks....

And then, the First Reading suggests another dimension that will help us to have joy. It is to bring others the Good News: We are Christians. "Christian" comes from "Christ", and "Christ" means "anointed". And we too are "anointed". The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because the Lord consecrated me with unction. We are anointed: Christians mean "anointed ones". And why are we anointed? To do what? "He sent me to bring the good news" to whom? "To the poor, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor" (cf. Is 61:1-2). This is the vocation of Christ and the vocation of Christians as well. To go to others, to those in need,

whether their needs be material or spiritual.... Many people who suffer anxiety because of family problems.... To bring peace there, to bring the unction of Jesus, the oil of Jesus which does so much good and consoles souls.

Therefore, in order to have this joy in preparation for Christmas, first, pray: "Lord, let me live this Christmas with true joy". Not with the joy of consumerism that leads me to 24 December with anxiety, because "ah, I'm missing this, I'm missing that...". No, this is not the joy of God. Prayer. Second: give thanks to the Lord for the good things he has given us. Third, think of how we can go to others, to those in difficulty and with problems – let us think of the sick, of so many problems – to bring a little unction, peace, joy. This is the joy of the Christian. Agreed? We have 15 days left, a little less: 13 days. In these days, let us pray. But do not forget: let us pray, asking for the joy of Christmas. Let us give thanks to God for the good things that he has given us, above all the faith. This is a wonderful grace. Third, let us think where I can go to bring a little relief, a little peace, to those who suffer. Pray, give thanks and help others. And like this we will arrive at the Birth of the Anointed One, the Christ, as ones anointed in grace, prayer and acts of grace and help towards others.

May Our Lady accompany us on this path towards Christmas. And let there be joy, joy!

Four unforgettable hours

MAURIZIO FONTANA

Memories of the afternoon Pope Francis spent with the parishioners of San Giuseppe all'Aurelio will surely remain with them. The key word of the day was *joy*, and there was plenty to go round on Sunday, 14 December.

The parish youth, children and their families were the first to greet him, welcoming him with a spirited song. Pope Francis was made to feel right at home, immediately immersing himself in the embrace of the crowd, trying to shake as many hands and caress as many little heads as possible, before going up onto the small dais to chat with the children and Sunday School kids.

On behalf of all the youth preparing for Confirmation, a girl assured him of their love and asked for his paternal blessing. A boy asked about the Pope's favourite soccer team, and another asked about his First

Communion. He reminisced with them, recalling that this year marked the 70th anniversary of his First Communion. "A long time, eh? I made it on 8 October 1944. Were any of you born?", to which he received a resounding "Nooo!".

After his session with the children, he met with a group of the Roma Community, along with some of the guests in a family assistance shelter. He voiced his best wishes for them, that "there may always be peace in [their] families; that there may be work, and there may be joy", reminding them to never lose hope in difficult times, for the Lord "always awaits us, always".

And this joy was awaited outside by so many people from the balconies and windows of neighbouring buildings. Pope Francis greeted them from afar as he walked in the garden, while the traffic even stopped momentarily, as drivers noticed the Pope giving a blessing on the other side of the gate.

In the chapel, he then met with people suffering from illnesses, interacting with each of them. He thanked them for their "testimony



of patience, of love of God, of hope in the Lord", and explained that "the Church without the sick would not move forward: You are the strength in the Church". Then, looking up at a balcony, he blessed a group of medical students: "May the Lord bless your hands" in order that they should become good doctors.

Before donning pink vestments to celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent, he spent a bit of time with members of the Giusseppinian Order and then with the most beautiful joy of new life, with approximately 60 newly baptized babies and their families.



Pope Francis' audience with TV2000 broadcasting network

How to communicate

With words that are free, open and capable of reaching the person

Reawakening words; opening not closing; speaking to the integral person. These were the three tasks of the communicator that Pope Francis indicated on Monday morning, 15 December, as he received in audience in the Paul VI Hall the management, journalists and staff of the TV2000 Broadcasting Network. The following is a translation of the Holy Father's address, which was given in Italian.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Good morning. I apologize for the delay, but there were many, many audiences. One audience, I say of half an hour, but then 40 minutes passed, another was the same, and then you pay for it. [Laughs] Another thing: Your Excellency spoke of two motivations, two motives for requesting this audience: you, it is true. But there is a third that you did not say. I think – and this is a personal opinion – that you are a little jealous because I received Corallo and not you [They laugh]. There's a little jealousy there, is there not?

I welcome you and I thank you for your warm reception. I thank the President of the Communication and Culture Foundation and the Director for the greetings they addressed to me. And I greet Lucio, who is in hospital.

You work for the Italian Church's TV, and this is precisely why you are called to carry out your service with greater responsibility. In this regard, I would like to share with you three



thoughts which I have especially at heart about the role of the communicator.

First. The Catholic media has a very challenging mission with regard to social communication: to strive to safeguard it from everything that seeks to twist and bend it to other purposes. Communication has often been subject to propaganda, to the ideologies, to political agenda or to economic and technological control. In the first place what would be good for communication is *parrhesia*, that is, the courage to speak to one's face, to speak honestly and freely. If we are truly convinced of what we have to say, the words come. If, instead, we are concerned about tactical aspects – tactical manoeuvring? – our speech will be artificial, and barely communicative, insipid, contrived. And this does not communicate anything. Freedom also includes ready-made fashions,

clichés, prepackaged formulas, which in the end obscure the capacity to communicate. Re-ignite words: Re-ignite words. Because, every word has in itself a spark of fire, of life. Reawaken that spark, that it may shine. Reawaken words: this is the communicator's first task.

Second. Communication should avoid "fillers" and "closures". It "fills" when it tends to saturate our perception with excessive slogans that, rather than setting our thoughts in motion, quells them. It "closes" when, rather than pursuing the long path of comprehension, it prefers the short cut of presenting individuals as if they were able to resolve all problems, or on the contrary as scapegoats on whom to load all responsibility. To reach a solution immediately without making an effort to represent the complexities of real life, is a frequent expedient mistake in communication that is in-

creasingly fast-paced and allows little room for reflection.

To open and not to close: this is the second task of the communicator, who will be more productive the more he lets himself be led by the action of the Holy Spirit, the only one capable of building unity and harmony.

Third. *To speak to the integral person:* this is the third task of the communicator. Avoiding those things, which, as I have already said, are the sins of the media: misinformation, slander and defamation. These three are the sins of the media. Misinformation, in particular, prompts one to tell only half the facts, and this leads to the incapacity to judge reality accurately. Authentic communication is not concerned with "making an effect": alternating between catastrophic alarmism and comforting disengagement, two extremes. We see these continually proposed in today's communication, and this is not a good service that the media can offer the public. It is important to speak to the whole person: to the mind and the heart, so that each may be able to see beyond the immediate, beyond a present that risk's being rapid and fearful. Of these three sins – misinformation, slander and defamation – slander seems to be the most insidious, but in the communications media, the most insidious is misinformation, because it leads one to make mistakes, to err; it leads one to believe in just a partial truth.

To reawaken words, to open and not to close, to speak to the integral person brings about this *culture of encounter*, which is so necessary today in an increasingly plural context. Conflicts get us nowhere. Build a culture of encounter. This is a fine task for you. This requires you to be willing not only to give, but also to receive from others.

I know that you are in a phase of rethinking and reorganizing your professional work at the service of the Church. I thank you very much for your work, I thank you for accepting this work. I encourage you in it and I wish you much success. I also know that you have an ongoing relationship with the Vatican Television Center – this is very important to me – which allows you to present the Magisterium and the Pope's activities to Italy. I thank you for what you do with expertise and love of the Gospel. And I thank you for your honest efforts, professional honesty and and rectitude, which you want to permeate your work. It is a path of honesty, that you want to follow.

I entrust you to the protection of Our Lady and of St Gabriel the Archangel, the great communicator: he was the most important communicator: he communicated the great news! And meanwhile, I ask you to continue praying for me, as I need it, and I wish you a Holy and Happy Christmas. And now let us pray to Our Lady, that she bless us. Hail Mary,...

Members of the Commission for the Protection of Minors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

psychotherapist with children and adults with intellectual disabilities including those who have been sexually abused, and is a life peer in the House of Lords.

Bill Kilgallon is Director of the National Office for Professional Standards of the Catholic Church in New Zealand where he has lived for the last four years. Prior to that he had a long career in social work and health services in the U.K.

Sr Kayula Gertrude LESA, RSC, is a Development Professional, trainer and author on child protection, human trafficking, refugee rights and the right to information. She served as a member of the African Forum for Church Social Teaching (AFCAST).

Sr Hermenegild Makoro, CPS, is a member of the Missionary Sisters of the Precious Blood in the Diocese of Mathatha in South Africa. She works as a high school teacher and for several years in the diocese as a trainer in pastoral work. After serving as an Associate Secretary General of the Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference for six years, Sr Hermenegild was appointed

as the Secretary General of the SACBC in 2012.

Kathleen McCormack, AM, is a social welfare worker who served as Director of Welfare of CatholicCare in the Diocese of Wollongong for 29 years and held leadership roles in Family Services, Child Protection, Out Of Home Care and Aging and Disability Services.

Dr Claudio Papale is a canon lawyer and a civil lawyer, professor of canon law at the Pontifical Urban University, and an official of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

Peter Saunders was abused throughout his childhood in Wimbledon, South West London. Later in life, after earning a Business Studies degree, Peter discovered that he was one of millions who had suffered such abuse and who could not find any appropriate support. So he set up NAPAC, the National Association for People Abused in Childhood, for supporting all survivors and for developing greater resources for responding to child abuse.

Hon. Hanna Suchocka is a professor of constitutional law and specialist in human rights at the University of Poznan, and was formerly

Prime Minister of the Republic of Poland and Ambassador of Poland to the Holy See.

Dr Krysten Winter-Green is a New Zealander with post-graduate degrees in Theology, Human Development, Social Work, Religion and Pastoral Psychology. She has served in dioceses around the world with homeless persons and those living with AIDS. Krysten's concentration in the areas of child abuse include forensics, assessment and treatment of priest/clergy offenders.

Rev. Dr Humberto Miguel Yáñez, SJ, is Director of the Department of Moral Theology at the Pontifical Gregorian University, professor of moral theology at the Gregorian and the Pontifical Urban University, and former Director of the Center of Research and Social Action in Argentina.

Rev. Dr. Hans Zollner, SJ, is President of the Centre for Child Protection of the Pontifical Gregorian University and Director and Professor of the Institute of Psychology. He was Chair of the organizing committee for the Symposium "Towards Healing and Renewal" on sexual abuse of minors (February 2012).

At Mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe the Pope ponders the message of the 'Magnificat'

In God's style

And asks for the grace that Latin America's future be shaped by the poor and the humble

The Pope called for "new models of development" for Latin America, in the hope that the future of the continent "may be forged by the poor and by those who suffer, by the meek, by those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, by the merciful, by the pure in heart, by the peacemakers, by those who are persecuted

for the sake of Christ's name". In the homily for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, celebrated on Friday afternoon, 12 December in the Vatican Basilica, the Pontiff proposed afresh the message of the 'Magnificat', in which "God takes pleasure in overturning ideologies and worldly hierarchies".

"Let all the peoples praise thee, O Lord / Be gracious to us and bless us / and make thy face to shine upon us, / that thy way may be known upon earth, / thy saving power among all nations. / Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, / for thou dost judge the people with equity / and guide the nations upon earth" (cf. Ps 67[66]).

The prayer of the Psalmist, of supplication, of forgiveness and of blessing of the peoples and of nations and, at the same time, of joyous praise, helps to express the spiritual meaning of this celebration. The peoples and nations of our great Latin American homeland, with gratitude and joy, commemorate the Feast of their Patroness, Our Lady of Guadalupe, whose devotion spans from Alaska to Patagonia. Thus from the Archangel Gabriel and St Elizabeth to us, we raise our filial prayer: "Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you..." (cf. Lk 1:28).

On this Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, let us first of all gratefully remember her visit and maternal closeness; let us sing her *Magnificat* with Her; and let us entrust the life of our peoples and the continental mission of the Church to her. When she appeared to St Juan Diego on the Hill of Tepeyac, she presented herself as the "ever perfect Holy Virgin Mary, Mother of the true God" (*Nican Mopohua*); and so made a new "visitation". She also hastened attentively to embrace the

new American peoples, at their dramatic birth. It was as though a "great portent appeared in heaven, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet" (Rev 12:1), taking upon herself the cultural and religious symbolism of the indigenous peoples, she proclaimed and gave her Son to all these new peoples lacerated by their mixed origin.

So many jumped for joy and hope at her visit and at the gift of her Son, and the perfect disciple of the Lord became the "great missionary who brought the Gospel to our Americas" (cf. *Aparecida Document*, n. 269). The Son of Mary Most Holy, Immaculate Conception, has thus revealed Himself from the beginning of the history of the new peoples as "the most true God, giver of life", the Good News of the filial dignity of all the inhabitants of the Americas. Now, no one is only a servant, but we all are children of one and the same Father, brothers among us and servants in the Servant.

The Holy Mother of God visited these peoples and has wished to remain with them. She mysteriously left her sacred image imprinted on the *tilma* [cloak] of her messenger so we would feel her constant presence, thereby becoming a symbol of Mary's covenant with these peoples, to whom she imparts her soul and tenderness. Through her intercession, the Christian faith began to grow into the most precious treasure

of the soul of the American peoples, whose pearl of great value is Jesus Christ: a patrimony that has been passed on and is manifest still today in the baptism of multitudes of people, in the faith, in hope and charity of many, in the preciousness of popular piety and also in the American ethos which is shown in the awareness of human dignity, in the passion for justice, in solidarity with the poorest and the suffering, in the hope, at times, against all hope.

Today, from here we can continue to praise God for the wonders He has worked in the life of the Latin American peoples. God, in his way, "has hidden these things from the wise and revealed them to the lowly and humble, to the lowly in heart" (cf. Mt

11:25). In the wonders that the Lord has fulfilled in Mary, She recognizes her Son's manner and mode of conduct in salvation history. Overturning worldly judgments, destroying at all costs the idols of power, wealth and success, denouncing self-sufficiency, arrogance and secular messianism which distance people from God, the Marian Canticle professes that God takes pleasure in overturning ideologies and worldly hierarchies. He lifts up the humble, comes to the aid of the poor and the lowly, fills with goodness, with blessings and hope those who trust in his mercy from generation to generation, while He puts down from their thrones the wealthy, the powerful and the overbearing.

The *Magnificat* thus introduces us to the Beatitudes, the primordial

We praise God for the wonders He has worked in the life of the Latin American peoples. He has hidden these things from the wise and revealed them to the lowly in heart

synthesis and law of the Gospel message. In light of the *Magnificat*, let us feel compelled today to ask for a grace, a wholly Christian grace, that the future of Latin America be forged by the poor and by those who suffer, by the meek, by those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, by the merciful, by the pure in heart, by the peacemakers, by those who are persecuted for the sake of Christ's name, "for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (cf. Mt 5:1-11).

May the grace be forged by those who today, are relegated to the category of slaves, of objects to be exploit or simply be rejected, by the idolatrous system of the throwaway culture.

And we make this request because Latin America is the "continent of hope"! For we expect from it new models of development, which link Christian tradition to civil progress, justice and equity to reconciliation, scientific and technological development to human wisdom, fruitful suffering to hopeful joy. This hope can be protected only by great amounts of truth and love, the foundations of all reality, revolutionary engines of an authentic new life.



We place these realities and these hopes on the altar as a gift pleasing to God. Imploring his forgiveness and trusting in his mercy, we celebrate the sacrifice and Paschal victory of Our Lord Jesus Christ. He is the one Lord, the "liberator" from all our slavery and misery derived from sin. He is the historical cornerstone and was the great rejected One. He calls us to live the true life, a more human life,

to live together as children and brothers, with the doors already open to "a new heaven and a new earth" (Rev 21:1). Let us implore the Most Holy Virgin Mary, as Our Lady of Guadalupe – Mother of God, the Queen and My Lady, "my maiden, my little one", as St Juan Diego called her, and with all the loving names by which we turn to Her in popular piety – let us pray that she continue to accompany, help and protect our peoples. And may she lead by the hand all the children who go on pilgrimage to those lands to meet her Son, Jesus Christ, Our Lord, present in the Church, in his sacramental nature, especially in the Eucharist, present in the treasure of his Word and in his teaching, present in the holy and faithful People of God, present in those who are suffering and in the lowly in heart. And should we be frightened by such a bold plan or should worldly pusillanimity threaten us, may She return to speak to our heart and enable us to hear her voice, that of Mother, of "Good Mother", of "Great Mother": Why are you afraid? Am I not here, I, who am your Mother?"



Pope Francis again denounces the hardships of Christians in the Middle East

Fleeing the inhumanity

Pope Francis returned to denouncing the "difficult situation" in the Middle East. In an audience on 12 December in the Clementine Hall, His Beatitude Ignace Youssif III Younan, Patriarch of Antioch for Syrians, along with bishops and faithful of the Syro-Antiochene community, were received by Pope Francis' who called for strengthening efforts to meet the needs of Christians compelled to flee in order to "take shelter from an inhumanity which is throwing entire populations into the streets, leaving them without means of subsistence". The following is a translation of the Holy Father's address which was given in Italian.

Your Beatitude,
Your Excellencies, Reverend Fathers,
Dear Brothers and Sisters!

I cordially greet you and I thank you for your visit. Through you, I can make my greeting reach your communities throughout the world, and express my encouragement particularly to those from Iraq and Syria, who are experiencing times of great suffering and fear in the face of violence. I accompany these sentiments of solidarity and compassion with remembrance in prayer.

On this occasion of your gathering in Rome, you have asked me for the opportunity to celebrate a Synod outside the patriarchal territory. I was pleased to agree to facilitate your meeting, designed to recognize the compelling needs of your Church and to respond to the spiritual expectations of the faithful. In particular, you are undertaking a journey of reform for the Divine Liturgy, in service to the Word of God, that He should allow a renewed impetus of devotion. This



work has required an intense and in-depth examination of Tradition and much discernment, knowing how sensitive the assembly of faithful is to the great gifts of the Word and of the Eucharist.

The difficult situation in the Middle East has provoked and con-

tinues to provoke in our Church displacement of the faithful toward the Eparchies of the diaspora, and this places new pastoral exigencies before you. The challenges, on the one hand, to remain faithful to one's origins; on the other, to integrate into new cultural contexts, working in service to the *salus animarum* and to the common good.

This movement of the faithful toward countries considered safer impoverishes the Christian presence in the Middle East, the land of the prophets, of the first preachers of the Gospel, of martyrs and of so many saints, cradle of the hermits and of monasticism. All this requires you to reflect on the situation of your Eparchies which are in need of zealous Pastors, as well as of courageous faithful, capable of witnessing to the Gospel in discussion at times difficult, with people of different ethnicities and religions.

So many have fled to take shelter from an inhumanity which is throwing entire populations into the streets, leaving them without means of subsistence. You are trying to coordinate your efforts with other Churches, to respond to the humanitarian needs both of those who remain in their homeland and of those who have sought refuge in other countries.

Now, returning to your sees, you are reinvigorated by this experience of communion felt at the Tombs of the Apostles Peter and Paul; a communion which today finds a special expression here, in raising to the Lord together with Peter's Successor a prayer of gratitude and supplication.

I exhort you, dear Brothers, to persevere in your pastoral commitment and in the ministry of hope in service to the venerable Syro-Catholic Church. With affection, I greet the faithful who are accompanying you, in whom I see the different communities through their representatives. I invite you to take to all the expression of my closeness and of my prayer to the Lord.

While I entrust each one of your communities to the protection of the Mother of God, of St Ignatius of Antioch and of St Ephrem, I wholeheartedly impart to you, to your priests, to your men and women religious, and to all the faithful the Apostolic Blessing, the pledge of peace and consolation from our all Merciful, One and Triune God.

Italian Union of the Blind and the Visually Impaired

Lucy's secret

St Lucy, patroness of the blind, was at the centre of the Pope's address to the National Council of the Italian Union of the Blind and Visually Impaired, whom he received in audience on the Saint's Feast Day, Saturday, 13 December, in the Clementine Hall. The following is a translation of the Holy Father's address which was given in Italian.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I welcome you and thank you for this meeting. I thank the President, Dr Mario Barbuto, for his words introducing this meeting.

He referred to St Lucy as the patroness of those without sight. This was unexpected, since your association is non-confessional; yet you proposed that our meeting take place today, confirming that this tradition retains a certain significance for you.

I would thus like to mention several human values that the example of St Lucy offers us. I underline: human values. Lucy lived them in an exemplary fashion thanks to her faith in Christ, but they can be shared by all.

First of all, Lucy reminds us of a value which seems to me very important for you too: *courage*. She was a young defenceless woman, however she faced torture and a violent death with great courage, a courage that came to her from the Risen Christ, with whom she was united, and from the Holy Spirit, who dwelt within her.

We all need courage to face the trials of life. People who are blind and visually impaired are in special need of this, so as not to close within themselves or assume the attitude of a victim. On the contrary, they must open themselves to reality, to others and to society in order to learn to understand and appreci-

ate the abilities that the Lord has placed in each one of us, truly in everyone, without exception! This, however, takes courage, strength of spirit. Therefore, another value that St Lucy brings to mind is the fact that she was not alone, but she belonged to a community, she was a member of a body of which Christ is the Head, a stone in a building which has

Christ as its foundation. This aspect is also reflected in human terms. You are an association, and this is a value! An association is not the sum of individuals, it is much more. Today there is great need to experience the associative aspect with joy and commitment, because this moment of history is "at a low ebb", and it's not felt strongly. Be a group, work in solidarity, meet together, share your experiences, share your resources... this is all part of the civic heritage of a people. Often people who live with disadvantages or disabilities can say from their experience to everyone: we are not "monads", we are not meant to be isolated but to form relationships together, to complete each other, help each other, stand together and support each other. The presence of disabled people prompts everyone to form a community or rather, to be a community, that we accept one another with our limitations. Because everyone has abilities, but everyone has limitations too!

Lastly, Lucy tells us that life is made to be given. She lived this out in the supreme form of martyrdom, but the value of the *gift of self* is universal; it is the secret to true happiness. Man does not become completely fulfilled by having or by



doing. One is fulfilled by loving, i.e. by giving of oneself. And this can also be understood as the secret of the name "Lucy": a person is "full of light" to the extent that he or she is a gift to others. In reality, every person is a gift, he or she is a precious gift!

Dear friends, living according to these values today can also bring about misunderstanding; it's tiring to go against the current, but this is not surprising. Testimony always requires paying in the person. Modern societies that focus chiefly on the rights of the "individual" risk forgetting the importance of the community and that of the free gift of self to others. Thus there is still a need to fight, relying on the example and intercession of St Lucy! I hope you do so with courage and with the joy of doing it together.

Happy Christmas to you and all your members!

Before leaving, the Pope said: "Thank you very much for your visit and please pray for me. I will be praying for you. Thanks for your testimony and go forth, go forth everyone together, with solidarity, as brothers and sisters. Life is beautiful when many of us join together. May the Lord bless you, pray for me. Thanks".

Audience with a delegation of The Salvation Army

The door to ecumenism

Common faith in Jesus Christ "will become evermore the firm foundation of friendship and cooperation between us". Pope Francis expressed this wish during his audience with a delegation of The Salvation Army, on Friday morning, 12 December. Their meeting was an occasion for the Pope to recall his first ecumenical experience as a boy with his grandmother. The following is a translation of the Holy Father's address which was given in Italian.

Dear Friends,

I extend a warm welcome to you, the leadership of The Salvation Army, well-known to me for its evangelizing and charitable mission. Your visit is the happy outcome of more frequent and fruitful contacts in recent years between The Salvation Army and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, including a series of theological conversations aimed at fostering a

"I said to my grandmother: 'Who are they? Nuns?'. And my grandmother said: 'No, they are Protestants, but they are good'"

better understanding of one another, mutual respect and regular collaboration. I thank you again for this book of conversations. I earnestly hope that Catholics and Salvationists will continue to offer a common witness to Christ and to the Gospel in a world so much in need of experiencing God's mercy. It needs it!

Catholics and Salvationists, together with other Christians, recognize that those in need have a special place in God's heart, so much so that the Lord Jesus Christ himself became poor for our sake (cf. 2 Cor 8:9). As a result, Catholics and Salvationists often meet in the same peripheries of society. It is my hope that our shared faith in Jesus Christ the Saviour, the one mediator between God and man (cf. 1 Tim 2:5), will become evermore the firm foundation of friendship and cooperation between us.

"The Church which 'goes forth' is a community of missionary disciples who take the first step, who are involved and supportive, who bear fruit and rejoice. An evangelizing community knows that the Lord has taken the initiative; he has

loved us first (cf. 1 Jn 4:19), and therefore we can move forward, boldly take the initiative, go out to others, seek those who have fallen away, stand at the crossroads, and welcome the outcast. Such a community has an endless desire to show mercy, the fruit of its own experience of the power of the Father's infinite mercy" (Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*, 24).

I pray that in today's world all of Christ's disciples will make their contribution with the same conviction and dynamism that The Salvation Army demonstrates in its devoted and highly appreciated service. The differences between Catholics and Salvationists regarding theological and ecclesiological questions need not impede the witness of our shared love of God and love of neighbour, a love which is capable of inspiring a concerted commitment to restoring the dignity of those who live on the margins of society.

I need a translator... [he said, departing from his prepared remarks]. And now I would like to tell you an anecdote, and I would also like to thank you. When I was four years old – it was 1940, none of you were born yet! – I went out with my grandmother. In that time, it was thought that all Protestants went to hell. On the other side of the sidewalk there were two women of The Salvation Army, with that hat that you all have.... Have you worn one? And I remember like it was yesterday, I said to my grandmother: "Who are they? Nuns?". And my grandmother said: "No, they are Protestants, but they are good". Therefore, because of your good witness, my grandmother opened the door to ecumenism to me. The first ecumenical preaching I ever heard was in front of you. Thank you very much.

Dear friends, I pray to God for the work of The Salvation Army. May many people in difficulty continue to rely on your efforts, which enable Christ's light to shine in the darkest recesses of their lives. May you and your fellow Salvationists be filled with the Holy Spirit's gifts of wisdom, understanding, fortitude and peace, and so witness to the Lord's Kingdom in our suffering world. And I ask that you also pray for me. I need it. Thank you.



To the European Meeting on Youth Ministry

A need to rediscover the Gospel

On Thursday, 11 December, 20 years since it was first held in Rome, the Fourth European Meeting on Youth Ministry, sponsored by the Pontifical Council for the Laity, opened at the International Pontifical College Maria Mater Ecclesiae. The following is a translation of the Pope's message written in Italian to participants, who came from 32 countries.



To Venerable Brother
Cardinal STANISŁAW RYLKO
President of the Pontifical
Council for the Laity

I address my cordial greeting to you, to the Bishops, to the national leaders and to the young people gathered these days in Rome for the Fourth European Meeting on Youth Ministry, sponsored by the Pontifical Council for the Laity in cooperation with the Council of European Bishops' Conferences on the theme: *A young Church witnessing to the joy of the Gospel*.

After the three meetings during the 90s, you have resumed "walking together through the streets of Europe". Along the way, I invite you to recognize that, as we are talking and discussing together, Jesus himself draws near and walks with us (cf. Lk 24:15). Like the disciples in Emmaus, let us allow Him to open our eyes in order to recognize Him, helping us find in Him the meaning of this difficult but exciting piece of history that is being given to us to live together.

You, who work in the field of youth ministry, are doing valuable work for the Church. Young people need this service: adults and mature peers in the faith who accompany them on their journey, helping them to find the path that leads to Christ. Much more than promoting a series of activities for young people, this ministry consists in walking *with* them, accompanying them personally in the complex and sometimes difficult situations in which they are immersed.

Youth ministry is called to gather the questions of young people today, and starting from them, to bring a true and honest dialogue in order to bring Christ into their life. In this sense, a true dialogue can be made by those who have a *personal relationship* with the Lord Jesus, which overflows into the relationship with brothers and sisters.

This is the reason you have come together, to create a European "network" of acquaintances and friendships, thanks to which the continent's youth ministry leaders may share experiences attained "in the field" and the questions that stem from them. We are well aware that

there is much to do. I ask you to never tire of proclaiming the Gospel, through your life and your word: today's Europe needs to rediscover it!

I would like to therefore encourage you to consider the present reality of European young people through the gaze of Christ. May He teach us to see not only challenges and problems, but to recognize the many seeds of love and of hope scattered on the soil of this continent, which has given to the Church a great number of men and women saints, and many of these are young people! Let us not forget that we have been assigned the task of sowing, but it is God who gives growth to the seeds we scatter (cf. 1 Cor 3:7).

As you sow the Word of the Lord in this vast field that is the European youth, you have the opportunity to account for the hope that is in you, with gentleness and reverence (cf. 1 Pet 3:15). You can help young people to realize that faith is not compared to reason, and thus accompany them to become joyous leaders of evangelization to their peers.

Lastly, dear friends, in this year which at the same time draws attention to the family and to consecrated life, youth ministry is called to propose to young people a journey of vocational discernment, in order to prepare oneself to follow Jesus on the path of conjugal and familial life or on that of special consecration to the service of the Kingdom of God.

I pray to the Lord, through the intercession of the Holy Virgin, in order that the work of these days may bear a wealth of fruit for your undertaking in youth ministry and, even before, for your journey of holiness, for it is holiness that enables the Church to grow and opens hearts to welcome the Gospel. I ask you to please pray for me and I bless you with affection.

From the Vatican, 11 December 2014

Franciscus

Morning Mass at the Domus Sanctae Marthae

Thursday, 11 December

God's lullaby

God, out of his love for us, is like a mother who tenderly sings us lullabies and isn't afraid to even act "foolish". Francis thus called attention to the "temptation to commodify grace", affirming that: "If we had the courage to open our heart to God's tenderness, how much spiritual freedom we would have!". To have this experience, the Pope recommended we open the Bible and read the passage from the Prophet Isaiah read during Mass at Santa Marta on Thursday: Chapter 41, verses 13-20.



Savaai Chinnawong, "Mother and child" (2010)

"The Prophet Isaiah speaks of salvation, of how God saves his people, and returns to that image, to that reality that is precisely God's closeness to his people", the Pontiff began. After all, "God saves by drawing near; He doesn't save from a distance: He draws near and walks with his people". This is the salvation of God, Pope Francis explained. Similarly "in the Book of Deuteronomy, He said clearly to the people: 'tell me, what nation has a God as near to it as you?' None!".

Thus, "it's precisely God's nearness to those his people that makes salvation". It is a "nearness which advances, progresses up to taking on our humanity". And "in this verse there is something that might perhaps make us smile a bit, but it's wonderful", Francis explained. His nearness is so great "that God appears here as a mother, like a mother chatting with her child: a mother when she sings a lullaby to her child, using a childlike voice and making herself little like the child and speaking with a childlike tone, to the point of acting foolish". The Scripture reads in part: "Fear not, you worm Jacob". And how often does a mother say such things to a child while caressing him? The Scripture continues: "Behold, I will make of you a threshing sledge, new...". In other words, Pope Francis said, "I'll make you big...!". And like this, the mother "caresses him, and brings him closer to her".

And God does this too. This is God's tenderness. "He is so close to us that He expresses himself with

this tenderness, the tenderness of a mother". It's the same "even when the child doesn't want his mother and moves away, cries", as Jesus, seeing Jerusalem from the mountain, "cried, because his people had distanced themselves". God, however, "appears with a mother's approach: closeness".

Francis affirmed that "this is the grace of God". Indeed, he said, "when we speak of grace, we are speaking of this nearness". In other words, "when one says: I am in a state of grace, I am close to the Lord or I allow the Lord to draw near me: that is grace!". However, "often times, in order to be certain, we want to control this grace, as if a child were to say to his mother: be good, be quiet now, I know you love me". And "the mother continues to say those things, which are funny, but it's love, the love that is always expressed this way". Does the child make his mother stop? "No! He lets himself be loved, because he's a child. Similarly, when Jesus speaks of the kingdom of heaven, He is like a child allowing himself to be loved by God". And "this is grace!".

Francis then highlighted that in history and also in life, we often "have the temptation to commodify grace", meaning to change "this grace which is the closeness, the nearness of God's heart" into "a commodity or something controllable". Because "we want to control grace". Therefore, "when we speak of grace, we are tempted to say: I have so much grace, yes, I am in grace! What does that mean, that you are close to the Lord? No, I also have a clean soul, I'm in grace!". What happens though, is that "this most beautiful truth of God's closeness slips into spiritual bookkeeping: 'No, I'll do this because this will give me 300 days of grace...'. With this type of reasoning, grace is reduced to "a commodity".

Historically, the Pope explained, "God's closeness to his people was betrayed, through this selfish attitude of wanting to control this grace, to commodify it". Francis gave the examples of "the parties in the time of Jesus". He first drew on the example of the Pharisees, who believed that "grace lay precisely in making law, following law and when there was doubt, to make another in order to clarify that law". But in so doing, "they ended up with 300, 400 commandments". However, when a mother caresses her child, she doesn't do this: it's freely given". The Pharisees, on the contrary, took what God had freely given and "carved out a path of holiness that enslaved them". This is why "Jesus reproached them: 'You who place such a burden on the shoulders of the people...', too many laws!". As a result, they rendered "God's grace, this nearness, commodified".

Then there were the Sadducees, the Pope continued, who believed that "the grace of God was to 'coexist politically, the people with the occupiers, and to make political pacts'", arguing that "we're fine, the

people are carrying on, let's go this way... This is a grace, we are in God's grace since we are able to go on...". But Jesus reproached them for this too.

There were also the Essenes, who "were good, truly exceptional, but they were so fearful, they took no risks and they went into the monastery to pray". And thus "that grace which leads forward, that nearness of God became closure as monks in a monastery, but not with the grace of God".

From their song, however, "the zealots thought that God's grace was precisely that war of liberation, the freedom fighters of Israel". This was "also another way of commodifying grace". However, the Pope indicated, "God's grace is something else: it's nearness, it's tenderness". He then proposed a rule that's always useful: "if, in your relationship with the Lord, you don't feel that He loves you with tenderness", this means that "you are still missing something, you still don't understand what grace is, you still haven't received the grace that is this closeness".

Francis then shared one of his experiences in the field, recalling when, many years ago, a woman approached him and said: "Father, I have asked a question because I don't know whether or not I have to make confession". He continued, recounting the woman's words: "My husband and I went to our friends' wedding and there was a Mass, and we said: is it okay, this Mass, Saturday evening? Does it pass? Is it valid for Sunday? You know, Father, that the Readings weren't Sunday's, they were for the wedding and I don't know if this was valid or if I mortally sinned because I didn't go to another Mass on Sunday". In asking this question, Pope Francis recalled, "that woman was suffering". And so "I said to that woman: 'the Lord loves you so much: you went, you received communion, you were with Jesus... Yes, so be calm, the Lord is not a merchant, the Lord loves, He is near'".

Francis then spoke of St Paul, who "reacted forcibly against this spirituality of the law". The law read, "I'm righteous if I do this, this, this. If I don't do this, I'm not righteous". Instead, however, "you are righteous because God has come close to you, because God caresses you, because God says these beautiful things to you with tenderness: this is our justice, this nearness of God, this tenderness, this love". And "our God is so good" that He runs the "risk of seeming foolish to us". Indeed, the Pope affirmed, "if we had the courage to open our heart to this tenderness of God, how much spiritual freedom we would have! How much!". He then concluded with some practical advice: "Today, if you have a little time at home, pick up the Bible: Isaiah, Chapter 41, from verse 13 to 20, seven verses. Read it!", he said, "in order to enter more deeply into the experience of 'this tenderness of God', of 'this God who sings to each one of us a lullaby, like a mother'".

Monday, 15 December

Darkness of the heart

"I ask the Lord for the grace that our heart may be simple, bright with the truth He gives us, and this way we can be kind, forgiving, understanding with others, big-hearted with people, merciful". This was Pope Francis' concluding prayer at morning Mass on Monday. "Never condemn", he said. "If you want to condemn, condemn yourself. Never limp with both legs, as Elijah says, trying to take advantage of situations". On the contrary, we must ask "the Lord for grace, that He grant us this inner light, that He convince us that He alone is the rock", and not those things we treat as important. We must ask "that He accompany us on the way, that He expand our heart, in order that we can relate to the problems of many people, and that He grant us the grace to feel ourselves as sinners".

The source of the Holy Father's remarks was the day's Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew (21:23-27), wherein Jesus takes issue with those who look at people's spontaneous faith with formalism and norms which are often unhelpful. The Pontiff introduced his reflection by recalling that when Jesus entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and "the children sang: 'Hosanna to the Son of David'", some of the "doctors of the law wanted to silence them". But Jesus said: "They cannot be silenced; if they don't cry out, the rocks will cry out!". The Lord then "healed many people" and when He was hungry, He went to a fig tree that had no fruit, and He cursed it: "May no one ever eat fruit from you again". Afterwards the tree withered away, and when his disciples noted this miracle, Jesus replied: "If you have faith, you will do the same and more!".

In essence, Francis said, Jesus "preached about faith. Then He returned to the temple, healed many people, many sick, and cast out those who were doing business, selling, changing money". And this is when, witnessing these things, "the chief priests, the doctors of the law took courage and approached Him", asking: "By what authority are you doing these things? We are here and command in the temple". Thus, Jesus answered "with inner zeal, with great acuity", in order to reach "the heart of these people". These were people "who had an insecure heart, a heart which adapted somewhat to circumstances, a heart which, according to the moment, went to one side or the other".

It might be considered "a diplomatic heart", but to the Pontiff this definition is inaccurate, "because diplomacy is a very noble profession, a profession which brings people together, a profession for making peace"; while "these people weren't doing this". Theirs was instead "a hypocritical heart". To them, "the truth didn't matter". They pursued their own interests "according to how the wind was blowing". In other words, "they were weather vanes, all of them". They had "an incon-



sistent heart, and negotiated everything: inner freedom, faith, homeland. To them what mattered in situations was a good outcome; they were *situationalists*, men who adapted to the trends: 'the wind is coming from there, let's go there'. This was their heart: they took advantage of situations".

What's described in the Gospel scene, Pope Francis explained, is one of these situations where they tried to take advantage. "They saw a weakness at that moment" or perhaps they imagined it, and decided "this is the time", and thus came the question: "Where is your authority?". Evidently "they felt fairly strong". But once again, Jesus caught them off guard. He "didn't argue with them" but reassured them, saying "yes, yes, I will tell you, but first tell me this", and He asked them about John the Baptist. Thus Jesus answered a question with a question, "and this weakened them" to the point that his interlocutors "didn't know where to turn".

And here Pope Francis linked his discussion to the Collect prayer from the opening of Mass, which asked the Lord to "cast light on the darkness of our hearts". In effect, the people that the Gospel spoke of "had such darkness in their heart". Of course, "they observed the law: on the Sabbath they didn't walk more than 100 metres and they never went to the table without washing their hands and performing ablutions"; they were "very law-abiding, very firm in their ways". However, the Pope urged, "this is true only in appearance. They were strong, but outwardly. They were cast in plaster. The heart was very weak, they didn't know what they believed in. And this is why their life was, the outward portion, completely regulated; but their heart went from one side to the other: a weak heart and flesh of plaster, strong, hard".

Jesus, on the contrary, "teaches us that Christians must have a strong, steadfast heart, which grows upon the rock that is Christ", and which moves with prudence. Indeed, the Pontiff continued, "you don't negotiate with the heart, you don't negotiate with the rock. The rock is Christ, it isn't negotiated! This is the drama of the hypocrisy of these people. And Jesus never negotiated his heart as the Son of the Father, but He was open with people, looking for ways to help". The others, rather, said: "You can't do this; our discipline, our doctrine says that you can't do this". And they asked Him: "Why are your disciples eating grain in the field and walking on the Sabbath? You can't do this". In other words, "they were rigid in their dis-

cipline" and believed: "The discipline is not to be touched, it's sacred".

Francis then added a personal recollection, linked to his childhood, "when Pope Pius XII freed us from that very heavy cross of the Eucharistic fast. You couldn't even drink a drop of water" – not even while brushing your teeth. The Bishop of Rome confided that "as a child, I went to confess that I had taken Communion, because I believed that a drop of water had gone inside". Therefore, when Pope Pacelli "changed the discipline – 'Ah, heresy! He touched the discipline of the Church!' – so many Pharisees were scandalized". Because Pius XII did what Jesus had done: "he saw the needs of the people: 'The poor people, with such zeal!'. These priests who were saying three Masses, the last one at one o'clock, after midday, fasting. And these Pharisees were like this – 'our discipline' – rigid in the flesh, but as Jesus says, 'decayed in the heart', weak until decayed. Darkness in the heart".

And here lies "the tragedy of these people" whom Jesus denounced: "Hypocrites, you go where the wind blows, to take advantage!". In fact, they "were always trying to benefit from something". Pope Francis warned that this can also happen in our life: "Sometimes, when I've seen a Christian man or woman like this, with a weak heart, not firm, not steadfast on the rock, and with with so much outward rigidity, I have asked the Lord: throw down a banana peel in front of him, so he takes a good slip, is ashamed of being a sinner and thus encounters You, who are the Saviour". After all, "so many times a sin can shame us" and allow us to "encounter the Lord, who forgives us".

"The Bible says: 'the heart of man is a thing of mystery'", the Pontiff continued, "who can understand it?". And this is why, he concluded, we have asked today, "Lord, cast light on the darkness of our hearts; that our hearts may be steadfast in faith". Just like those of the simple people in the Gospel scene: people who "didn't make a mistake, because the doctors of the law knew they couldn't say: 'No, John's Baptism doesn't come from heaven!', because the people knew, they had that sense of faith, which came from heaven".

Tuesday, 16 December

They shall be first

The basic condition for walking the "path of salvation" is a "contrite heart", one that is capable of recog-

nizing its own sins. Thus, the Lord's "judgment" will not be one to frighten, but to offer hope. For this reason, the two Readings that Pope Francis reflected on during Mass at Santa Marta on Tuesday, have the very "structure of a judgment".

The Pope first referred to the passage from the Book of the Prophet Zephaniah (3:1-2, 9-13), which begins with a threat: "Woe to the city, rebellious and polluted", and then a judgment: "to the tyrannical city", the city that "hears no voice, accepts no correction; In the Lord she has not trusted, to her God she has not drawn near". Those people are sentenced: the "sentence" is expressed in the term "woe". For the others, there is instead a promise: "I will change and purify the lips of the peoples", the prophet writes. "From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia", those who pray to me "will bring me offerings. On that day you need not be ashamed of all your deeds, your rebellious actions against me".

Who was Zephaniah talking about? He was speaking about those who drew near "to the Lord because the Lord had forgiven", the Pope explained. These people were "the saved ones"; the others were "the proud, who didn't hear the voice of the Lord, who didn't accept correction, didn't trust in the Lord".

To the penitent, who were capable of recognizing: "Yes, we are sinners", Francis highlighted, the Lord reserved forgiveness and addressed "this word, which is one of those hope-filled [words] of the Old Testament: 'I will leave as a remnant in your midst a people humble and lowly, who shall take refuge in the name of the Lord'".

Here the Pope identified "the three characteristics of the faithful People of God: humility, poverty and trust in the Lord". And this is "the path of salvation". The others, however, "heard no voice, accepted no correction, and did not trust in the Lord", and therefore "they cannot receive salvation": they are "closed" to salvation, the Holy Father explained.

The same thing happens today: "When we see the holy People of God, who are humble, who have their treasure in the faith in the Lord, in the trust in the Lord; the humble, poor people who confide in the Lord", here we meet "the saved ones", for "this is the path" that the Church must take.

A similar dynamic is found in the day's Reading from the Gospel of Matthew (21:28-32), in which Jesus also proposes "to the chief priests, to the elders, the elders, of the people", to the entire "network" of people who waged war, a "judgment" to reflect upon. He presented them the case of the two sons whom the father asks to go to work in the vineyard. One answers: "I won't go to the field. I don't want to". But then he goes. Meanwhile the other says: "Yes, sir", but then thinks: "The old man has no strength, I'll do what I want, he can't punish me". And therefore, "he doesn't go, he doesn't obey".

Jesus asks his interlocutors: "Which of the two did his father's will?". Was it "the first, the one who said 'no'", the rebellious one who later "thought of his father" and de-

cidated to obey, or was it the second? At this point Jesus offers his judgment: "Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the Kingdom of God before you". They "will be the first". And He explains why: "When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him'. You didn't listen to John: the baptism of penitence.... The tax collectors and prostitutes, however, believed. You, on the contrary, saw these things but then you didn't repent a bit".

What "did these people do" to deserve this judgment? "They didn't listen", the Pope explained, "to the Lord's voice, they didn't accept correction, they didn't trust in the Lord". One could ask: "But Father, what a scandal that Jesus said this, that the tax collectors, who betrayed the homeland because they collected taxes to pay the Romans". Will they really "go first to the Kingdom of Heaven?". And the same for "the prostitutes, who are throw-away women"? And finally, "Lord, have you gone mad? We are pure, we are Catholics, we partake in communion every day, we go to Mass". And yet, Francis underscored, they "will go first if your heart is not a contrite heart". And "if you have not listened to the Lord, haven't accepted correction, haven't trusted in Him", then yours is not a contrite heart.

The Lord, the Pontiff continued, doesn't want these "hypocrites who were scandalized" by what "Jesus said about the tax collectors and about the prostitutes, but then secretly went to them, whether to unleash their passions or to do business". They considered themselves "pure", but in reality, "the Lord doesn't want them".

Today's liturgy makes us think about this judgment which is "a judgment that gives us hope when we look at our sins". Indeed, all of us, "we are sinners". Every one of us is well aware of our list of sins; however, Francis said, each one of us can say: "Lord, I offer you my sins, the only thing that we can offer You".

In order to better understand this, the Pontiff recalled the "life of a saint who was very generous" and offered everything to the Lord: "The Lord asked him for something and he did it". The saint always listened and always followed the Lord's will. Yet the Lord once said to him: "You still haven't given me one thing". And he, "who was so good", answered: "But, Lord, what haven't I given You? I've given you my life, I work for the poor, I work for the catechesis, I work here, I work there...". The Lord pressed on: "You haven't given me one thing". And the saint repeated, "What Lord?". And the Lord concluded, "Your sins".

And this was the lesson the Pope wanted to highlight: that, when we are able to say: "Lord, these are my sins, they aren't this man's or that woman's.... They're mine. You take them. This way I'll be saved". When we are able to do this, then "we will be that beautiful people – 'the humble and poor people' – who trust in the name of the Lord".

The Pope asks for support and guarantees to defend rights of the family

Courageous strategy

More attention to women's employment

In a message sent to the festival taking place in Riva del Garda, Italy, on the theme "The Ecosystem Life and Work. Women's Employment and Fertility, Prosperity and Economic Growth", Pope Francis invokes "an extraordinary and courageous policy to promote the family", recalling that "the country's economic recovery can also begin here". "The scourge of unemployment", he said, "young people, should also be considered and resolved in this perspective". The Pontiff also highlighted the need for "support and guarantees" aimed at protecting the rights of the family, and called attention to women's "incomparable contribution to the life and future of society". The following is a translation of the message.



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On the occasion of the *Festival of the Family* scheduled in Riva del Garda on the theme "The Ecosystem Life and Work. Women's Employment and Fertility, Prosperity and Economic Growth", I would like to greet and express my appreciation to the organizers, the relators and to all the participants for their commitment to promoting the family. In these days, as citizens, as Christians, as families and associations of families, coming from different profes-

sions and backgrounds, you sharing your experiences, concerns and plans. I wish you a successful meeting!

The theme being addressed, which continues and concludes a series of reflections on other aspects that you have discussed in previous sessions, is very important. You aim to provide points for reflection and operational paths in order that the family may play an increasingly active role in the social, cultural and political contexts of the country. Indeed, you are well aware of the irreplaceable and fundamental position that the family holds, both in civil society and in the ecclesial community. The future of humanity passes through the family, and for this reason it necessary to allow it to play its proper role. However, it does not suffice to re-emphasize the importance of the family and affirm its rights: it is necessary to consider in a practical way how the duties of the family and those of society can be articulated, especially with re-

spect to the relationship between professional and family life.

The family has its own mission, at the service of its members, of its own development, of life; the family has rights and thus needs support and guarantees that enable it to exercise them. On the other hand, the family also has duties to society; in other words, the family must offer its cooperation in service to the community. This is a privileged sphere in which to practice harmonious solidarity and subsidiarity, that is to say synergy between public and private, between business and family. Precisely because of the commitment and responsibility which having and educating children requires, families need appropriate assistance from public bodies and from businesses, from the standpoint of mutual cooperation. The troubling demographic trend requires, an extraordinary and courageous policy to promote the family by all the interested parties. The country's economic recovery can also begin here. The scourge of unemployment, especially of young people, should also be considered and resolved in this perspective. The shortage of employment disheartens the person, who feels worthless in his own eyes, and impoverishes society, which lacks the contribution of a viable and willing work force.

I am thinking of the development of family policies, of all that concerns the legal and social status of families in general and the assistance that must be offered to those who are materially and morally disadvantaged. In particular, attention must be given to women's employment. Many women feel the need to be better recognized with respect to their rights, to the value of the tasks they normally carry out in the various sectors of social and professional life, and with respect to their aspirations within the family and within receiving society. Some of them are weary and nearly crushed by the volume of duties and tasks, without sufficient help and understanding. Provision must be made to ensure that no woman, due to economic need, not be forced into a job that is too hard with hours that are overly burdensome, on top of all adds to all her responsibilities as homemaker and educator of the children. But above all, it must be considered that the woman's commitments, on all levels of family life, also constitute an incomparable contribution to the life and future of society.

Dear friends, I hope that the *Festival of the Family* bears the hoped-for fruit and, while I assure you of my remembrance in prayer, I willingly impart the Apostolic Blessing, in support of every proposal and



Carolyn Repka, "Family" (2012)

project for good in support of family institutions, which has always been and continues to be the living cell of society.

From the Vatican, 2 December 2014

Francis

To Nobel Peace Laureates

An abundant harvest of peace for the world

On Thursday, 11 December, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Secretary of State, sent a message to the 14th World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates, which was held in Rome from 12-14 December, on behalf of Pope Francis. The following is the original text of the message.

His Holiness Pope Francis was pleased to be informed that the 14th World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates will take place in Rome from 12 to 14 December 2014, and he sends cordial greetings to all gathered for this occasion. "In the heart of every man and woman is the desire for a full life, including that irrepressible longing for fraternity which draws us to fellowship with others and enables us to see them not as enemies or rivals but as brothers and sisters to be accepted and embraced" (*Message for the 2014 World Day of Peace*). His Holiness is deeply grateful for the commitment of the Summit participants to promoting peace and fraternity among peoples, and for their efforts in finding solutions to the conflicts of our day. As this meeting honours the memory of Nelson Mandela, whose legacy of non-violence and reconciliation continues to inspire the world, Pope Francis prays that all present may be renewed and encouraged in their urgent work, and that their labours may bear an abundant harvest of peace for the world. With the assurance of his prayers for their deliberations, His Holiness willingly invokes divine blessings upon all gathered for the Summit meeting.

Audience with the Prime Minister of Italy

On Saturday morning, 13 December, the Holy Father received H.E. Mr Matteo Renzi, Prime Minister of the Italian Republic, on an official visit. Following the audience, Mr Renzi met with Secretary of State, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, accompanied by Archbishop Dominique Mamberti, Secretary for Relations with States.



The discussions took place in a serene and cordial atmosphere. Attention focused on, among other issues, the current context of persistent difficulties of an economic and social nature, with negative consequences especially in relation to youth employment. In addition, the importance of education to promote the future of new generations was emphasized. Various themes relating to international politics were then considered, and the Parties shared their serious concerns for the gradual worsening of

conflicts in the Middle East. With regard to the term of the Italian Presidency of the European Union, the Parties affirmed the importance of the themes mentioned by the Holy Father during his recent address to the European Parliament in Strasbourg. These were held to be fundamental to the harmonious development of European peoples. Finally, the Parties renewed their commitment to continuing their joint cooperation to resolve various issues of a bilateral nature.

INDEX 2014

*All numbers preceding citations indicate the issue and page number, respectively

Papal Documents

- 09/05 Apostolic Letter issued *Motu Proprio Fidelis Dispensator et Prudens* establishing a new structure to coordinate the economic and administrative affairs of the Holy See and Vatican City State (24 Feb.)
- 28/03 Apostolic Letter issued *Motu Proprio* on the Transferral of the Ordinary Section of the Administration of the Patrimony of the Apostolic See to the Secretariat for the Economy (8 July)
- 46/03 Rescript on the establishment of a board in the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith for appeals regarding the most serious crimes (3 Nov.)
- 46/04 Rescript on the resignation of diocesan bishops and officials by papal appointment (3 Nov.)
- 49/17 Apostolic Letter for the Year of Consecrated Life (21 Nov.)

Papal Messages

- 01/13 Telegram on the death of Card. Ricardo María Carles Gordó (17 Dec. 2013)
- 02/13 To Fra' José Narlaly, Minister General of the Order of the Most Holy Trinity and of Captives (17 Dec. 2013)
- 02/13 To the 13th Interecclesial Meeting of the Basic Ecclesial Communities in Brazil (17 Dec. 2013)
- 01/08 *Urbi et Orbi* Christmas Message (25 Dec. 2013)
- 07/08 Lenten Message 2014 (26 Dec. 2013)
- 03/05 Letter to Cardinals-elect of the Consistory on 22 February (12 Jan. 2014)
- 04/05 To Prof. Klaus Schwab for the opening of the 44th World Economic Forum, 22-25 January (17 Jan.)
- 05/04 To Card. Gianfranco Ravasi at the 18th Public Session of the Pontifical Academies (28 Jan.)
- 09/16 Letter to families (2 Feb.)
- 10/13 Letter to Card. Antonio Cañizares Llovera on the 50th anniversary of the promulgation of *Sacrosanctum Concilium* (18 Feb.)
- 10/16 To Bishop Carrasco de Paula for the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Pontifical Academy for Life (19 Feb.)
- 10/04 Decree appointing Card. George Pell as Prefect of the Secretariat for the Economy (24 Feb.)
- 10/04 Decree appointing Msgr Alfred Xuereb as Prelate Secretary General of the Secretariat for the Economy (24 Feb.)
- 11/13 Message for the Lenten Brotherhood Campaign in Brazil (25 Feb.)
- 11/05 Message for the Conference at the Lateran on "The lay Christian's mission in the City" (7 Mar.)
- 12/04 Telegram on the death of Card. José da Cruz Policarpo (12 Mar.)
- 13/07 Telegram on the death of Patriarch Ignatius Zakka I Iwas (21 Mar.)
- 15/15 Letter to Card. Lorenzo Baldisseri raising the undersecretary of the Synod to the dignity of bishop (1 Apr.)
- 15/06 Telegram to the newly-elected Patriarch of Antioch and All the East (2 Apr.)
- 16/04 Telegram on the death of Card. Emmanuel III Delly (9 Apr.)
- 16/12 To President and members of the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Representatives of the *Mesa de Unidad Democrática* and chancellors of UNASUR on the first meeting of the Government and the Opposition in Venezuela (10 Apr.)



- 21/14 To Card. Agostino Vallini, Vicar of Rome, for the 50th anniversary of his priestly ordination and 25th anniversary of episcopal ordination (13 Apr.)
- 17/06 *Urbi et Orbi* Easter Blessing (20 Apr.)
- 18/06 To "L'Eco di Bergamo" for John XXIII's canonization (25 Apr.)
- 20/03 To His Holiness Tawadros II, Pope of Alexandria and Patriarch of the See of St Mark (5 May)
- 20/04 Telegram on the death of Card. Marco Cè (12 May)
- 23/10 For the 102th session of the International Labour Organization Conference (22 May)
- 24/11 Letter to the 19th International Congress of the International Association of Penal Law and the Third Congress of the Latin American Association of Penal Law and Criminology (30 May)
- 23/04 Telegram on the death of Card. Simon Duraisamy Lourdasamy (2 June)
- 24/04 Telegram on the death of Card. Bernard Agré (10 June)
- 27/03 To the President of the Third Review Conference of the Convention on Anti-personnel Mines and their destruction (23 June)
- 28/12 Letter to Archbishop Francesco Montenegro of Agrigento on the anniversary of the Pope's visit to Lampedusa (23 June)
- 29/03 To Archbishop Christophe Pierre for the Conference in Mexico City on child migration (11 July)
- 30/02 Telegram on the plane crash in Taiwan (24 July)
- 31/04 Telegram on the death of Card. Francesco Marchisano (27 July)
- 32/08 To the Knights of Columbus on the 132nd Supreme Convention, 5-7 August (28 July)
- 32/02 To the first Latin American Congress on the Pastoral Care of the Family, 4-9 August (6 Aug.)
- 32/04 Telegram on the death of Card. Edward Bede Clancy (3 Aug.)
- 34/02 Letter to Mr Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General, about the situation in Northern Iraq (9 Aug.)
- 34/02 Telegram to families of the victims of air accident in Tehran (11 Aug.)
- 35/04 Telegram on the death of Card. Edmund Casimir Szoka (20 Aug.)
- 35/09 For the 35th Meeting of Friendship among Peoples in Rimini (24 Aug.)
- 37/04 To the Sant'Egidio International Peace Meeting, 7-9 September (26 Aug.)
- 37/03 Telegram on the murder of three Xaverian missionary sisters in Burundi (8 Sept.)
- 39/16 For the Feast of Our Lady of Charity of Cobre (8 Sept.)
- 43/13 For the fifth centenary of the birth of St Teresa of Ávila (15 Oct.)
- 44/06 Letter to young people on unemployment (16 Oct.)
- 46/10 To French seminarians on pilgrimage to Lourdes (24 Oct.)
- 46/06 To the Prime Minister of Australia for the G20 Summit (6 Nov.)
- 50/19 To Card. Gianfranco Ravasi for the 19th Public Session of the Pontifical Academies (20 Nov.)
- 48/09 Telegram on the death of Card. Fiorenzo Angelini (22 Nov.)
- 50/16 To Card. Lluís Martínez Sistach for the International Pastoral Congress on the World's Big Cities (25 Nov.)
- 49/24 To consecrated persons for the opening of the Year of Consecrated Life (30 Nov.)
- 51/12 For the Festival on women's employment, Riva del Garda (2 Dec.)
- 50/07 To Santa Marta Group's second meeting on human trafficking (6 Dec.)
- 50/05 To Mr Sebastian Kurz for the Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons (7 Dec.)
- 50/04 Telegram on the death of Card. Jorge María Mejía (10 Dec.)
- 51/12 To Nobel Peace Laureates in Rome 12-14 Dec. (11 Dec.)

World Day Messages

- 02/15 22nd World Day of the Sick, 11 February 2014 (6 Dec. 2013)
- 04/16 50th World Day of Prayer for Vocations, 11 May (15 Jan. 2014)
- 06/08 29th World Youth Day 2014 (21 Jan.)
- 05/08 48th World Communications Day, 1 June (24 Jan.)
- 38/12 World Mission Sunday, 19 October (8 June)

- 43/12 World Food Day (16 Oct.)
 44/16 World Day of Migrants and Refugees, 18 January 2015 (3 Sept.)
 50/10 48th World Day of Peace, 1 January 2015 (8 Dec.)

Video Messages

- 18/06 To the people of Poland in memory of John Paul II (24 Apr.)
 19/19 To Argentine youth (26 Apr.)
 25/10 For the opening of the World Cup (12 June)
 29/05 To inpatients at Gemelli Polyclinic (13 July)
 30/10 On the anniversary of the attack against Jews in Buenos Aires, 18 July 1994 (18 July)
 34/23 To Association of Catholic Guides and Scouts in Italy (10 Aug.)
 36/04 To participants and fans at the Match for Peace (1 Sept.)
 37/07 Q&A with students of *Scholae Occurrentes* (4 Sept.)
 42/21 For the 50th anniversary of the founding of Loppiano International Centre (4 Oct.)
 50/15 For the opening of the Festival of the Social Doctrine, Verona (20 Nov.)
 49/16 To consecrated people on the vigil of the opening of the Year of Consecrated Life (29 Nov.)
 50/05 To Christians in Iraq (5 Dec.)
 50/06 Lighting the Gubbio Christmas tree (7 Dec.)

Papal interviews

- 11/06 To *Corriere della Sera* (Ferruccio de Bortoli)
 15/10 With young people from Belgium (31 Mar.)
 27/10 To *Il Messaggero* (Franca Giansoldati)
 35/11 To Argentine radio *Vigen del Carmen* (8 July)

Angelus/Regina Caeli

- 01/07 A home for every family (22 Dec. 2013)
 01/10 Freedom for believers (26 Dec. 2013)
 01/11 With refugees and exiles (29 Dec. 2013)
 01/16 Peace at home (1 Jan. 2014)
 02/05 To the Holy Land in the footsteps of Paul VI, 24-26 May (5 Jan.)
 02/09 Like the flower of the almond tree (6 Jan.)
 03/05 Sign of the universality of the Church – announcement of new Cardinals (12 Jan.)
 04/07 Welcome migrants and protect them from human trafficking (19 Jan.)
 05/05 Openness to all nations (26 Jan.)
 06/05 What if there were no sisters (2 Feb.)
 07/05 A shining lamp (9 Feb.)
 08/16 Words can kill (16 Feb.)
 09/13 Servants not masters (23 Feb.)
 10/05 Peace in Ukraine (2 Mar.)
 11/01 Hunger for God (9 Mar.)
 12/07 The Gospel in your pocket (16 Mar.)
 13/05 Love and prejudice (23 Mar.)
 14/05 Those who do not wish to see the light (30 Mar.)
 15/08 The Word in your pocket (6 Apr.)
 16/16 To Korea for an encounter with the youth of Asia (13 Apr.)
 17/06 Something to experience together (21 Apr.)

- 18/09 A celebration of faith – canonization of John XXIII and John Paul II (27 Apr.)
 19/05 Peace in Ukraine (4 May)
 20/05 Priests need bothering (11 May)
 21/06 How to face problems (18 May)
 22/08 In my name for peace: *Holy Land* (25 May)
 23/08 A place in heaven (1 June)
 24/05 The Church astounds (8 June)
 25/07 Reconciliation and justice (15 June)
 26/05 Against every form of torture (22 June)
 27/09 Dialogue prevents conflict (29 June)
 28/06 The burden of indifference (6 July)
 29/05 Prayer for peace is never in vain (13 July)
 30/03 The problem of evil (20 July)
 31/03 It is time to stop! (27 July)
 32/12 The needs of the poor (3 Aug.)
 34/23 In the boat that is the Church (10 Aug.)
 34/10 For the victims of the sinking of the Sewol ferry: *Korea* (15 Aug.)
 35/05 The stones of the Church (24 Aug.)
 36/05 Wine or water? (31 Aug.)
 37/05 How to correct your brother (7 Sept.)
 38/07 Think of those being persecuted and killed (14 Sept.)
 39/08 'No' to the idolatry of money: *Albania* (21 Sept.)
 40/09 Praying for the Synod (28 Sept.)
 41/05 A Bible for every family (5 Oct.)
 42/05 No one is excluded (12 Oct.)
 43/09 With Mary's help (19 Oct.)
 44/05 Love is the measure of faith (26 Oct.)
 45/09 Last to the world but first to God (1 Nov.)
 45/11 Not the last word (2 Nov.)
 46/05 Build bridges not walls (9 Nov.)
 47/05 Say 'no' to conflict (16 Nov.)
 48/10 For the common good (23 Nov.)
 50/06 Let yourselves be comforted (7 Dec.)
 50/20 Salvation is not bought (8 Dec.)
 51/04 Where joy is at home (14 Dec.)

General Audiences

- 10/03 A time of purification and renewal – *Ash Wednesday* (5 Mar.)
 12/01 The mission of a guardian – *St Joseph* (19 Mar.)
 16/05 A humble victory – *Lord's Passion* (16 Apr.)
 17/01 The path to Jesus – *Resurrection of Jesus* (23 Apr.)
 22/03 The desire to walk together – *Holy Land* (28 May)
 34/01 Between memory and hope – *Korea* (20 Aug.)
 39/20 The courage of a people (24 Sept.)
 40/03 *Prior to Audience*: To sick and other groups (1 Oct.)
 47/01 Unacceptable violence (19 Nov.)
 49/03 The fruit of dialogue (3 Dec.)

Series on the Sacraments

- 02/01 Baptism I (8 Jan.)
 03/03 Baptism II (15 Jan.)
 04/03 Christian Unity (22 Jan.)
 05/01 Confirmation (29 Jan.)
 06/01 The Eucharist I (5 Feb.)
 07/03 The Eucharist II (12 Feb.)
 08/03 Confession (19 Feb.)
 09/03 Anointing of the Sick (26 Feb.)
 13/01 Holy Orders (26 Mar.)
 14/01 Marriage (2 Apr.)

Series on the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit

- 15/03 Wisdom (9 Apr.)
 18/03 Understanding (30 Apr.)
 19/01 Counsel (7 May)
 20/01 Fortitude (14 May)
 21/03 Knowledge (21 May)
 23/03 Piety (4 June)
 24/03 Fear of the Lord (11 June)

Series on the Church

- 25/01 A people who bless (18 June)
 26/01 The first and last name of a Christian (25 June)
 32/03 Learning the Beatitudes (6 Aug.)
 35/01 Less gossip in the parish (27 Aug.)
 36/01 Like a good mother (3 Sept.)
 37/01 In the school of mercy (10 Sept.)
 38/01 Catholic and Apostolic (17 Sept.)
 40/01 Capacity to love (1 Oct.)
 41/03 Let us not give in to division (8 Oct.)
 42/03 In the tent of God (15 Oct.)
 43/03 One single body (22 Oct.)
 44/03 If a Christian is a cause of scandal (29 Oct.)
 45/03 United in service (5 Nov.)
 46/01 Listening to the people (12 Nov.)
 48/03 This is the goal (26 Nov.)

Series on the family

- 50/03 The truth about the Synod (10 Dec.)
 51/01 A new dawn from the periphery (17 Dec.)

Homilies

- 01/09 Christmas Eve Mass (24 Dec. 2013)
 01/03 *Tē Deum* and First Vespers of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (31 Dec. 2013)
 01/01 Mass for 47th World Day of Peace (1 Jan. 2014)
 02/07 Mass offered in thanksgiving for the canonization of Peter Faber (3 Jan.)
 02/08 Solemnity of the Epiphany (6 Jan.)
 03/12 Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord – 32 infants baptized (12 Jan.)
 04/06 *Parish visit*: Mass at the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Castro Pretorio, Rome (19 Jan.)
 04/06 Mass with the General Inspectorate for Public Security at the Vatican (20 Jan.)
 06/03 Mass for the Presentation of the Lord and Day for Consecrated Life (2 Feb.)
 08/16 *Parish visit*: Mass at St Thomas the Apostle, Rome (16 Feb.)
 09/09 Mass with newly-created Cardinals (23 Feb.)
 10/01 Mass on Ash Wednesday (5 Mar.)
 12/06 *Parish visit*: Mass at Santa Maria dell'Orazione, Rome (16 Mar.)
 14/15 Mass to parliamentarians and representatives of the Italian Government (27 Mar.)
 14/07 Mass for the celebration of penitence (28 Mar.)
 15/09 *Parish visit*: Mass at San Gregorio Magno, Rome (6 Apr.)
 16/16 Palm Sunday Mass (13 Apr.)
 16/01 Chrism Mass (17 Apr.)
 17/11 Mass of the Lord's Supper at the Don Gnocchi Foundation (17 Apr.)
 17/07 Easter Vigil (19 Apr.)
 18/14 Mass of thanksgiving for the canonization of St José de Anchieta (24 Apr.)
 18/08 Canonization Mass for John XXIII and John Paul II (27 Apr.)
 19/05 Mass of thanksgiving for the canonization of John Paul II (4 May)
 20/05 Mass for the ordination of 13 priests (11 May)
 22/05 Mass at Al-Hussein Youth City: *Holy Land* (24 May)

- 22/08 Mass outside the Basilica of the Nativity: *Holy Land* (25 May)
 22/18 Mass with the Holy Ordinaries in the Upper Room: *Holy Land* (26 May)
 23/07 Mass for the episcopal ordination of Msgr Fabio Fabene, Undersecretary of the Synod of Bishops (30 May)
 24/05 Solemnity of Pentecost (8 June)
 26/16 Mass on *Corpus Christi* (19 June)
 26/09 Mass at Marina di Sibari: *Calabria* (21 June)
 27/05 Prepared homily for Pope's visit to Gemelli Polyclinic (27 June)
 27/08 Mass for the Solemnity of Peter and Paul and conferral of pallium on 24 Archbishops (29 June)
 28/06 Mass in Campobasso (5 July)
 28/05 Mass for six victims of sexual abuse perpetrated by members of the clergy (7 July)
 31/05 Mass in Caserta (26 July)
 32/05 Homily at Vespers with altar servers (5 Aug.)
 34/10 Solemnity of the Assumption: *Korea* (15 Aug.)
 34/12 Mass for the Beatification of Paul Yun Ji-chung and his 123 companions: *Korea* (16 Aug.)
 34/17 Mass for the conclusion of the Sixth Asian Youth Day: *Korea* (17 Aug.)
 34/18 Mass in the Cathedral of Seoul: *Korea* (18 Aug.)
 38/05 Mass in Redipuglia (13 Sept.)
 38/06 Mass for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross and marriage of 20 couples (14 Sept.)
 39/08 Mass in Albania (21 Sept.)
 40/04 Mass for the reconstitution of the Society of Jesus (27 Sept.)
 40/09 Mass for the Day for the Elderly (28 Sept.)
 41/05 Mass for the Opening of the Synod (5 Oct.)
 42/05 Mass in thanksgiving for the canonization of St François de Laval and Marie de l'Incarnation (12 Oct.)
 43/08 Beatification of Paul VI (19 Oct.)
 45/08 Solemnity of All Saints (1 Nov.)
 45/11 Mass in suffrage for deceased prelates in the last year (3 Nov.)
 48/10 Solemnity of Christ the King and the canonization of six saints: Giovanni Antonio Farina, Kuriakose Elias Chavara of the Holy Family, Ludovico da Casoria, Nicola da Longobardi, Euphrasia Eluvathingal of the Sacred Heart and Amato Ronconi (23 Nov.)
 49/07 Mass in Istanbul: *Turkey* (29 Nov.)
 51/07 Mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe (12 Dec.)
 51/05 *Parish visit*: Mass at San Giuseppe all'Aurelio, Rome (14 Dec.)

Mass in *Domus Sanctae Marthae*

- 01/14 God's surname (17 Dec. 2013)
 01/14 When man tries to save himself (19 Dec. 2013)
 01/14 Mystery doesn't seek publicity (20 Dec. 2013)
 01/15 Awaiting the birth (23 Dec. 2013)
 02/12 If our heart is like the local market (7 Jan. 2014)
 03/10 Love is not a soap opera (9 Jan.)
 03/10 The parrot's creed (10 Jan.)
 03/11 What a priest should be (11 Jan.)
 03/11 God's love is an art (13 Jan.)
 04/12 Four models (14 Jan.)
 04/12 An examination of conscience (16 Jan.)
 04/12 *Così fan tutti* (17 Jan.)
 04/13 The God of surprises (20 Jan.)
 04/13 God chooses the little ones (21 Jan.)

- 05/14 Hearts free of envy and jealousy (23 Jan.)
 05/14 How to create dialogue (24 Jan.)
 05/15 When priests don't make news (27 Jan.)
 05/15 The prayer of praise (28 Jan.)
 06/12 No dichotomy between Christ and the Church (30 Jan.)
 06/12 The martyrs of our sins (31 Jan.)
 06/13 When faced with darkness (3 Feb.)
 06/13 When God cries (4 Feb.)
 07/14 What we leave to others (6 Feb.)
 07/14 Return to the first Galilee (7 Feb.)
 07/15 At Mass without a watch (10 Feb.)
 08/12 The king and the woman (13 Feb.)
 08/12 Moving forward beyond difficulties (14 Feb.)
 08/13 Holy patience (17 Feb.)
 08/13 Resist temptation (18 Feb.)
 09/14 But who do you say that I am? (20 Feb.)
 09/14 Faith is not casuistry (21 Feb.)
 09/15 Returning home (24 Feb.)
 09/15 Those who make merry through war (25 Feb.)
 10/14 The scandal of inconsistency (27 Feb.)
 10/14 When a love fails (28 Feb.)
 10/14 Sisters and priests free from idolatry (3 Mar.)
 10/15 Martyrdom is not just a thing of the past (4 Mar.)
 11/14 The Christian way (6 Mar.)
 11/14 The spirit of hypocrisy (7 Mar.)
 12/11 Mercy and judgement (17 Mar.)
 12/11 Christians without masks (18 Mar.)
 13/14 The nameless man (20 Mar.)
 13/14 The imprisoned word (21 Mar.)
 13/15 Marginalized and therefore saved (24 Mar.)
 13/15 Salvation is a gift (25 Mar.)
 14/14 Coming home (28 Mar.)
 14/14 Not existential tourists (31 Mar.)
 14/14 Beyond formalities (1 Apr.)
 15/12 A friend to pray with (3 Apr.)
 15/12 Where it is forbidden to pray (4 Apr.)
 15/13 Forgiveness in a caress (7 Apr.)
 15/14 Misery and glory (8 Apr.)
 16/14 The dictatorship of uniformity (10 Apr.)
 16/14 The devil exists (11 Apr.)
 17/05 No fear of joy (24 Apr.)
 19/16 The Christian community in three brushstrokes (29 Apr.)
 19/16 Even today people are killed in the name of God (2 May)
 19/17 Why do I follow Jesus? (5 May)
 19/17 Bearing witness to Christ (6 May)

- 20/12 No bureaucracy in the sacristy! (8 May)
 20/12 We must decrease that he might increase (9 May)
 20/13 We are all ostiaries (12 May)
 20/13 Those who open the doors (13 May)
 21/12 Amid memory and hope (15 May)
 21/12 Three doors (16 May)
 21/12 Moving and steady (19 May)
 21/13 Like children in the presence of a gift (20 May)
 23/12 Jesus' work (22 May)
 23/13 From sadness to joy (30 May)
 23/13 Three loves for one wedding (2 June)
 23/14 The good lawyer (3 June)
 24/12 A house not for rent (5 June)
 24/12 You never forget your first love (6 June)
 24/13 The Christian identity card (9 June)
 25/12 When hate kills (12 June)
 25/12 A still small voice (13 June)
 25/13 When the poor end up paying (16 June)
 25/13 Sinners with white gloves (17 June)
 26/12 Treasure hunt (20 June)
 26/12 No one can judge (23 June)
 26/13 Christians who can humble themselves (24 June)
 27/12 Speakers without authority (26 June)
 27/12 God's lullaby (27 June)
 27/13 Martyred with white gloves (30 June)
 32/11 Mass with Jesuit students (2 Aug.)
 36/10 The Gospel in your pocket (1 Sept.)
 36/10 Old women and the theologian (2 Sept.)
 37/14 Why boast about sins (4 Sept.)
 37/14 New wine, new wineskins (5 Sept.)
 37/14 Small and holy (8 Sept.)
 37/15 On Jesus' list (9 Sept.)
 38/10 Foolish Christians (11 Sept.)
 38/10 Mending holes in the fabric of the Church (12 Sept.)
 38/11 Three women (15 Sept.)
 38/11 When God visits (16 Sept.)
 39/18 The scent of a sinner (18 Sept.)
 39/18 Fear of resurrection (19 Sept.)
 39/19 Two conditions (23 Sept.)
 40/12 Like peeling an onion (25 Sept.)
 40/12 True identity (26 Sept.)
 40/13 Angels and demons (29 Sept.)
 40/13 Prayers in the darkness (29 Sept.)
 41/17 We all have an angel (2 Oct.)
 41/17 Salvation our way (3 Oct.)
 41/18 Lest we forget (7 Oct.)
 42/18 He always gives more (9 Oct.)
 42/18 The heart on guard (10 Oct.)
 42/19 The God of surprises (13 Oct.)
 42/19 Appearance and truth (14 Oct.)
 43/14 Like burning incense (16 Oct.)
 43/14 Where Heaven begins (17 Oct.)
 43/14 Waiting with hope (21 Oct.)
 44/14 An infinite horizon (23 Oct.)
 44/14 Stones and bricks (24 Oct.)
 44/14 Christians in a gray area (27 Oct.)
 44/15 Catholic, but not too Catholic (28 Oct.)
 45/12 A beautiful struggle (30 Oct.)
 45/12 The law and the flesh (31 Oct.)
 45/13 What is a bishop's joy? (3 Nov.)
 45/13 God's gift is free (4 Nov.)
 46/12 God always goes the distance (6 Nov.)
 46/12 Two coats of paint (7 Nov.)
 46/13 Sinful Christians (10 Nov.)
 46/13 Don't be lazy (11 Nov.)
 47/12 In the Kingdom of God with 50 cents in their pocket (13 Nov.)
 47/12 Children's Day (14 Nov.)
 47/13 Christ in the face of the outcast (17 Nov.)
 47/13 Am I alive inside? (18 Nov.)
 48/16 The fear of surprise (20 Nov.)



At Redipuglia, Italy (13 September)

48/16 Those who scandalize the people (21 Nov.)
 48/17 Where the light comes from (24 Nov.)
 49/15 Depression or hope? (27 Nov.)
 49/15 Only the humble understand (2 Dec.)
 50/18 Founded on rock (4 Dec.)
 50/18 Going out to give life (9 Dec.)
 51/10 God's lullaby (11 Dec.)
 51/10 Darkness of the heart (15 Dec.)
 51/11 They shall be first (16 Dec.)

Special Audiences

Roman Curia

01/06 Traditional exchange of Christmas greeting (21 Dec. 2013)

Heads of State

05/02 President of France (24 Jan.)
 10/02 Prime Minister of Romania (1 Mar.)
 12/02 President of Argentina (17 Mar.)
 13/11 President of Nigeria (22 Mar.)
 13/01 President of the United States of America (27 Mar.)
 14/02 President of Greece (28 Mar.)
 14/01 Queen of England (3 Apr.)
 15/02 Prime Minister of Italy (4 Apr.)
 15/02 King of Jordan (7 Apr.)
 17/02 Prime Minister of Albania (24 Apr.)
 18/04 President of the Republic of Poland (26 Apr.)
 18/04 King and Queen of Belgium (26 Apr.)
 18/04 Prime Minister of Ukraine (26 Apr.)
 18/02 King and Queen of Spain (28 Apr.)
 19/02 President of Angola (2 May)
 25/04 Prime Minister of Japan (6 June)
 24/02 President of Mexico (7 June)
 25/02 President of the Dominican Republic (13 June)
 27/02 King and Queen of Spain (30 June)
 36/02 Grand Duchess of Luxembourg (1 Sept.)
 37/02 Former President of the State of Israel (4 Sept.)
 39/06 President of Armenia (19 Sept.)
 39/15 President of Latvia (20 Sept.)
 39/17 President of Argentina (20 Sept.)
 40/02 President of Malta (29 Sept.)
 42/02 President of Sri Lanka (3 Oct.)
 43/02 President of the Korea (17 Oct.)
 43/02 Prime Minister of Vietnam (18 Oct.)
 44/02 Prime Minister of Grenada (23 Oct.)
 44/04 President of Uganda (27 Oct.)
 45/02 President of the European Parliament (30 Oct.)
 46/10 President of Ghana (10 Nov.)
 50/17 President of Austria (13 Nov.)
 50/17 President of Peru (14 Nov.)
 47/15 President of Senegal (18 Nov.)
 48/02 President of Egypt (24 Nov.)
 50/07 President of Mozambique (4 Dec.)
 51/12 Prime Minister of Italy (13 Dec.)

Ambassadors

01/10 To Italian Diplomatic Personnel (20 Dec. 2013)
 03/06 To Diplomatic Corps accredited to the Holy See (13 Jan. 2014)
 21/05 To seven new Ambassadors accredited to the Holy See (15 May)

— Presentation of Letters of Credence

01/02 Korea (16 Dec. 2013)
 01/02 Ghana (20 Dec. 2013)

02/02 Cuba (23 Dec. 2013)
 04/02 Côte d'Ivoire (9 Jan. 2014)
 07/02 Arab Republic of Egypt (6 Feb.)
 16/02 Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (10 Apr.)
 21/04 Switzerland (15 May)
 21/04 Liberia (15 May)
 21/04 Ethiopia (15 May)
 21/04 Sudan (15 May)
 21/04 Jamaica (15 May)
 21/04 South Africa (15 May)
 21/04 India (15 May)
 25/02 Chile (16 June)
 37/02 Georgia (6 Sept.)
 37/02 Germany (8 Sept.)
 40/02 Panama (25 Sept.)
 45/02 Belgium (31 Oct.)
 46/02 Ireland (11 Nov.)
 47/02 Turkey (17 Nov.)
 49/02 Costa Rica (1 Dec.)
 51/02 Canada (15 Dec.)

"Ad limina" visits

06/07 Austria (30 Jan.)
 07/07 Poland (7 Feb.)
 08/05 Bulgaria (13 Feb.)
 08/07 Czech Republic (14 Feb.)
 10/06 Spain (3 Mar.)
 12/05 East Timor (17 Mar.)
 13/04 Guinea (24 Mar.)
 14/11 Madagascar (28 Mar.)
 15/07 Rwanda (3 Apr.)
 15/05 Tanzania (7 Apr.)
 19/15 Botswana, South Africa and Swaziland (25 Apr.)
 19/07 Sri Lanka (3 May)
 20/15 Burundi (5 May)
 20/07 Ethiopia and Eritrea (9 May)
 21/07 Mexico (19 May)
 23/05 Zimbabwe (2 June)
 37/06 Cameroon (6 Sept.)
 38/09 Democratic Republic of Congo (12 Sept.)
 40/15 Côte d'Ivoire (18 Sept.)
 41/19 Ghana (23 Sept.)
 42/22 Chad (2 Oct.)
 46/07 Malawi (6 Nov.)
 47/15 Senegal, Mauritania, Cape Verde and Guinea-Bissau (10 Nov.)
 47/04 Zambia (17 Nov.)

Other Audiences

01/15 To the youth of Catholic Action (20 Dec. 2013)
 01/07 To patients of Rome's pediatric hospital Bambino Gesù (21 Dec. 2013)
 03/08 To Gentlemen of the Papal Household (10 Jan. 2014)
 03/12 To Pontifical Gestatorial Chair Bearers (10 Jan.)
 04/14 To members of the Pontifical Antechamber (16 Jan.)
 04/11 To personnel of the Apostolic Floreria (17 Jan.)
 04/11 To Italy's radio-television network — RAI (18 Jan.)
 06/11 To members of the Italian Women's Centre (25 Jan.)
 05/03 To trustees of the University of Notre Dame (30 Jan.)
 06/05 To members of the Neocatechumenal Way (1 Feb.)
 07/05 To Sri Lankan community in Italy (8 Feb.)
 08/08 To engaged couples (14 Feb.)

10/07 To bishop friends of the Focolare Movement (27 Feb.)
 10/07 To Italian Federation of Spiritual Exercises (3 Mar.)
 11/08 To the priests of the diocese of Rome (6 Mar.)
 12/12 At the conclusion of the spiritual exercises in Ariccia (14 Mar.)
 13/07 To employees of Terni steel works (20 Mar.)
 13/16 To the *Libera* Association (21 Mar.)
 13/06 To members of the Corallo Association (22 Mar.)
 14/13 To Apostolic Penitentiary (28 Mar.)
 14/06 To Apostolic Movement for the Blind and the Little Mission for the Deaf and Mute (29 Mar.)
 14/04 To General Chapter of the Society of St John Bosco — Salesians (31 Mar.)
 15/06 To an association of the municipal leaders of Italy (5 Apr.)
 15/04 To WVD organizing committee in Rio de Janeiro (7 Apr.)
 15/01 To conference on human trafficking (10 Apr.)
 16/13 To Pontifical Gregorian University, Pontifical Biblical Institute and Pontifical Oriental Institute (10 Apr.)
 16/07 To International Catholic Child Bureau (11 Apr.)
 16/07 To Italian Pro-Life Movement (11 Apr.)
 16/11 To Italian Society of Surgical Oncology (12 Apr.)
 16/12 To Pontifical Committee for Historical Sciences (12 Apr.)
 16/06 To Pontifical Leonine College Seminary in Anagni (14 Apr.)
 17/09 At the end of the *Via Crucis* (18 Apr.)
 19/14 To members of The Papal Foundation (2 May)
 19/14 To Fiorentina and Napoli football players (2 May)
 19/08 To Italian Catholic Action (3 May)
 19/20 Address for the swearing-in of new Swiss Guards (5 May)
 20/10 To members of the Pontifical Mission Societies (9 May)
 20/11 To UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (9 May)
 20/06 To members of the *Centesimus Annus* — *Pro Pontifice* Foundation (10 May)
 20/16 To Italian students and teachers (10 May)
 21/15 To General Assembly of the Italian Conference of Secular Institutes (10 May)
 20/08 Q&A with seminarians of the Pontifical Colleges and residences of Rome — Part 1 (12 May)
 21/11 Q&A with seminarians of the Pontifical Colleges and residences of Rome — Part 11 (12 May)
 21/06 To members of the Apostolate of the Suffering and the Silent Workers of the Cross (17 May)
 23/07 To members of Catholic charities engaged in Syria (30 May)
 23/16 To children from the outskirts of Naples and Rome (31 May)
 23/16 Words at the Lourdes Grotto at the end of the Month of May (31 May)
 23/08 To the 37th National Convocation of the Renewal in the Holy Spirit (1 June)
 23/09 Dialogue with priests, youth, families and the sick after meeting with the Charismatic Renewal (1 June)

- 25/11 To the Carabinieri Corps on their bicentenary (6 June)
- 24/15 To participants in a pilgrimage on foot from Macerata to Loreto (7 June)
- 24/16 To boys and girls from the Italian Sports Centre (7 June)
- 25/11 To Misericordie of Italy and the Fratres groups (14 June)
- 25/08 To the Sant'Egidio Community (15 June)
- 25/05 To the pastoral convention of the Diocese of Rome (16 June)
- 26/11 To High Council of the Judiciary (17 June)
- 26/07 To International Drug Enforcement Conference (20 June)
- 26/07 To conference on "International Religious Freedom and the Global Clash of Values" (20 June)
- 26/03 To Vatican Observatory summer school (26 June)
- 27/06 To a group of young people from Rome in search of their vocation (28 June)
- 29/09 To a group of economists (12 July)
- 32/05 To altar servers (5 Aug.)
- 36/04 To participants in the Interreligious Match for Peace (1 Sept.)
- 37/07 To *Scholae Occurrentes* meeting (4 Sept.)
- 38/08 To Italian Biblical Institute (12 Sept.)
- 39/03 To newly-ordained bishops (18 Sept.)
- 39/17 To Bishops of *Propaganda Fide* (20 Sept.)
- 40/11 To Focolare Movement (26 Sept.)
- 41/16 To Gendarmerie Corps (27 Sept.)
- 40/08 For the Day for the Elderly (28 Sept.)
- 40/05 To United Bible Societies (29 Sept.)
- 41/20 To Patriarch Mar Dinkha IV (2 Oct.)
- 42/17 To athletes of the Italian Paralympic Committee (4 Oct.)
- 43/10 To Italian Catholic universities – FUCI (14 Oct.)
- 43/04 To Ordinary Public Consistory (20 Oct)
- 44/08 To the International Association of Criminal Law (23 Oct.)
- 44/10 To members of the *Oriente Lumen* Foundation (24 Oct.)
- 45/04 To participants of the world Meeting of Popular Movements (28 Oct.)
- 45/07 To members of the Catholic Fraternity of the Charismatic Renewal (31 Oct.)
- 46/11 To the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (8 Nov.)
- 46/15 To Ecumenical Conference of Bishops friends of the Focolare Movement (7 Nov.)
- 47/10 To Italian Conference of Major Superiors (7 Nov.)
- 47/11 To Italian Catholic Scout Movement for Adults (8 Nov.)
- 47/10 To 19th World Congress of Accountants (14 Nov.)
- 47/06 To members of the Association of Italian Catholic doctors (15 Nov.)
- 48/15 To Second International Conference on Nutrition at the FAO (20 Nov.)
- 48/15 To FAO personnel (20 Nov.)
- 48/19 To third World Congress of Ecclesial Movements and New Communities (22 Nov.)
- 49/21 To National Missionary Conference of the Church in Italy (22 Nov.)
- 48/11 To Indian faithful in Rome for the canonization (24 Nov.)
- 49/22 To Pauline Family on the centenary of their founding (27 Nov.)
- 50/16 To International Pastoral Congress on the World's Big Cities (27 Nov.)
- 50/13 To Federation of Christian Organizations for International Volunteer Service (4 Dec.)
- 50/20 Prayer for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (8 Dec.)
- 51/09 To delegation of The Salvation Army (12 Dec.)
- 51/08 To National Council of the Italian Union of the Blind and Visually Impaired (13 Dec.)
- 51/06 To management, journalists and staff of the TV2000 (15 Dec.)
- Papal News*
- 01/07 Crib in St Peter's Square presented to the Pope (23 Dec. 2013)
- 01/08 Pope Francis and Benedict XVI exchange Christmas greetings (27 Dec. 2013)
- 01/02 Delegation from Syria presents message from President Assad explaining the Syrian Government's position (28 Dec. 2013)
- 01/11 Pope's prayer for the family (29 Dec. 2013)
- 01/03 Pope prays privately at the Basilica of St Mary Major (1 Jan 2014)
- 02/04 Pope announces pilgrimage to the Holy Land 24 to 26 May
- 17/12 Prayer intentions for 2015 (3 Jan.)
- 03/09 Pope meets Hon. Ms Ileana Argentin and offers encouragement to all who work with the disabled (11 Jan.)
- 03/03 Celebrating Msgr Georg Ratzinger's 90th birthday (15 Jan.)
- 04/01 Pope joins in spirit the 41st March for Life in Washington, DC (22 Jan.)
- 04/05 Pope presented with the lambs on the Feast of St Agnes (21 Jan.)
- 07/16 International media remembers 11 February 2013
- 07/16 CTV interviews Archbishop Gänswein on Benedict and Francis
- 08/03 Pope welcomes prison inmates at Santa Marta (19 Feb.)
- 10/10 Pope meets Jews, Muslims and Catholics from Argentina, on return from pilgrimage to the Holy Land (27 Feb.)
- 10/16 Book of letters to Pope Francis from the parish of St Francis of Assisi, Sardinia
- 10/16 Italian publishing house launches magazine dedicated to the Pope (5 Mar.)
- 11/03 Pope in Ariccia – Spiritual Exercises of the Roman Curia, 9-14 March
- 12/12 Motto and logo chosen for Pope Francis' visit to the Holy Land in May
- 12/12 Pope interviewed by an Argentinian radio station in Buenos Aires (13 Mar.)
- 12/03 Pope attends two meetings on the Feast of St Joseph (19 Mar.)
- 12/03 A day of penance to take place 28-29 March
- 13/05 Pope receives Delegation from the Apostoliki diakonia (24 Mar)
- 14/02 Pope presides at meeting with Heads of Dicastries of the Roman Curia (1 Apr.)
- 15/03 Pope to celebrate Holy Thursday Mass with the disabled
- 15/03 Pope to visit Calabria on 21 June and Molise on 5 July
- 15/12 Pope Francis meets Queen Elizabeth II (3 Apr.)
- 15/08 Francis' gives pocket-size Gospels at Sunday Angelus (6 Apr.)
- 16/04 Pope expresses condolences to victims of the fire in Valparaíso, Chile (12 Apr.)
- 16/15 Pope expresses best wishes to the Jews on Passover
- 17/03 Pope Francis' best wishes to Benedict XVI on his birthday (16 Apr.)
- 19/02 Pope receives Delegation from the Islamic Centre of the Argentine Republic (2 May)
- 19/12 Pope visits Pontifical Ecclesiastical Academy in Rome (2 May)
- 19/02 Pope receives members of the executive committee of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men of the United States (5 May)
- 19/02 Pope visits the offices of the Secretariat of State (6 May)
- 19/03 Pope to visit Gemelli Polyclinic
- 20/02 To the conference on the family held in Manila, 13-16 May
- 21/02 Pope's visit to the Shrine of Divine Love postponed (15 May)
- 21/16 Muslims and Jewish leaders to join Pope in the Holy Land
- 22/02 Before departing for the Holy Land the Pope prays to Our Lady *Salus populi Romani* (23 May)
- 22/18 Pope prays to Our Lady *Salus populi Romani* on his return from the Holy Land (27 May)
- 25/03 Summer schedule for General Audience and Mass at the *Domus Sanctae Marthae*
- 25/06 Pope receives members of the *Populorum Progressio* Foundation (13 June)
- 26/02 Pope welcomes Grand Master of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta (20 June)
- 27/06 Pope to Dutch youth festival (25 June)
- 30/02 Pope asks for prayers for the many victims of the downing of Malaysian Airlines flight in Ukraine (17 July)
- 30/10 Pope calls Israeli and Palestinian Presidents (18 July)
- 31/02 Pope expresses condolences for the victims of plane crash in Mali (24 July)
- 30/01 Pope meets Sudanese Christian woman who was condemned for her faith (24 July)
- 31/12 Pope visits Vatican cafeteria (25 July)
- 31/12 Requiem Mass in memory of a mother (25 July)
- 30/12 For the 50th anniversary of the St Pantaleon Shrine in Argentina (27 July)
- 30/01 Pope sends message for Day for Life in U.K. and Ireland, 27 July
- 31/11 Pope sends message to National Congress on Pastoral Ministry in Social Communications, Brazil (27 July)
- 31/02 Pope to visit Sri Lanka and the Philippines from 12 to 19 January 2015 (29 July)
- 31/02 Pope visits Vatican clinic (30 July)
- 31/11 Pope to have lunch with 20 young Asians in Korea on 15 August
- 32/11 Schedule for Pope's visit to Albania, 21 September
- 32/11 Memorial Mass for St Ignatius of Loyola at the Jesuits' General Curia (31 July)
- 32/11 Logo for Pope's visit to Sri Lanka 2015
- 32/10 Pope to address fourth international scouts' gathering (3 Aug.)
- 32/10 Anniversary of Paul VI's death (6 Aug.)
- 35/11 To members of the Work of Nazareth (20 Aug.)

- 39/02 Pope establishes new commission to reform matrimonial process in canon law (27 Aug.)
- 39/17 Pope receives Secretary General of the Council of Europe (20 Sept.)
- 39/04 Pope's best wishes for the feast of Rosh Ha-Shanah (22 Sept.)
- 40/01 Pope sends telegram on the opening of the UN General Assembly (24 Sept.)
- 40/16 Logo for the Pope's visit to the Philippines 2015
- 41/18 Pope sends video message to support a *Caritas internationalis* campaign on hunger (Oct.)
- 41/02 Pope meets survivors of the tragedy new Lampedusa, Sicily (3 Oct.)
- 42/08 Pope addresses annual meeting of Catholic Charities in the United States, 5-7 October
- 42/06 Pope to visit Strasbourg on 25 November 2014
- 43/02 Pope to visit Turkey from 28 to 30 November (21 Oct.)
- 43/03 Pope meets with Bayern Monaco football team (22 Oct.)
- 44/02 Pope meets World Union of Catholic Teachers (24 Oct.)
- 44/07 Pope meets the Schoenstatt Movement (25 Oct.)
- 45/06 Pope to celebrate Mass for Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe in St Peter's on 12 December
- 46/15 Pope meets President of the association of the Grandmothers of the Plaza de Mayo (5 Nov.)
- 46/03 Pope receives Catholic-Muslim delegation (12 Nov.)
- 47/05 Pope to youth symposium on human trafficking (16 Nov.)
- 47/04 Schedule announced for the Pope's visit to Sri Lanka and the Philippines: 12-19 January 2015 (14 Nov.)
- 51/03 Announcement of Consistory on 14-15 February (11 Dec.)
- 51/01 Pope expresses his congratulations for the decision taken by the U.S. and Cuba to establish diplomatic relations (17 Dec.)

Pastoral Visits

Holy Land: 24-26 May

- 13/03 Schedule
- 22/04 Welcome ceremony – Jordan (24 May)
- 22/04 King Abjullah II's greeting at the welcoming ceremony (24 May)
- 22/05 Mass at Al-Hussein Youth City – Amman: *Homily* (24 May)
- 22/06 Pope's inscription in the book of honour
- 22/06 Meeting with young refugees and disabled children in Bethany (24 May)
- 22/07 Meeting with Authorities – Bethlehem (25 May)
- 22/07 Palestinian President's greeting (25 May)
- 22/07 Pope prays at the border of Israel and Palestine (25 May)
- 22/08 Mass outside the Basilica of the Nativity: *Homily* (25 May)
- 22/08 Pope invites Presidents of Palestine and Israel to an encounter of prayer in the Vatican (25 May)
- 22/09 Lunch with suffering families (25 May)
- 22/09 With children of the Dheisheh refugee camp (25 May)

- 22/10 Welcome ceremony – Tel Aviv (25 May)
- 22/10 President Shimon Peres' greeting at the welcome ceremony (25 May)
- 22/10 Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's greeting (25 May)
- 22/11 Pope Francis and Patriarch Bartholomew sign common declaration (25 May)
- 22/12 Ecumenical celebration commemorating the historic meeting between Paul VI and Athenagoras – Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre (25 May)
- 22/13 Patriarch Bartholomew at the Ecumenical celebration (25 May)
- 22/14 Visit to the Grand Mufti (26 May)
- 22/15 Pope at Yad Vashem (26 May)
- 22/15 Before the Western Wall and Mount Herzl (26 May)
- 22/16 Meeting with Chief Rabbis of Israel (26 May)
- 22/16 400 US Rabbis and leading Jewish figures welcome the Pope to Israel
- 22/16 Pope Francis with President Peres
- 22/17 Meeting with President Peres (26 May)
- 22/17 Meeting with priests and religious at the Church of Nations (26 May)
- 22/18 Mass with the Holy Land Ordinaries in the Upper Room: *Homily* (26 May)
- 22/19 Interview on return flight (26 May)

Korea: 15-18 August

- 18/03 Logo for the Pope's visit
- 26/05 Schedule
- 34/07 Video message to the Korean people before his journey (11 Aug.)
- 34/08 Welcome ceremony, Seoul (14 Aug.)
- 34/09 To Bishops of Korea (14 Aug.)
- 34/10 Mass on the Feast of the Assumption, Daejeon: *Homily* (15 Aug.)
- 34/10 Prayer for the victims of the sinking of the Sewol ferry: *Angelus* (15 Aug.)
- 34/11 To young people at the Shrine of Solmoe (15 Aug.)
- 34/12 Mass for the Beatification of Paul Yun Ji-chung and his 123 companions: *Homily* (16 Aug.)
- 34/13 To religious community in Kkottongnae (16 Aug.)
- 34/15 To members of the Lay Apostolate at the Spirituality Center (16 Aug.)
- 34/10 Pope baptizes a father of a young victim of the Sewol tragedy (17 Aug.)
- 34/12 First generation of martyrs – Paul Ji-chung and his 123 companions
- 34/16 To the Bishops of Asia at the Shrine of Haemi (17 Aug.)
- 34/17 Mass for the conclusion of the Sixth Asian Youth Day: *Homily* (17 Aug.)
- 34/18 Mass in the Cathedral of Seoul: *Homily* (18 Aug.)
- 34/18 Meeting with religious leaders (18 Aug.)
- 34/04 Interview on return flight (18 Aug.)

Albania: 21 September

- 38/03 Schedule
- 39/07 To political and civil authorities
- 39/07 Pope donates only missal ever written in Albanian
- 39/07 Greeting by the President of Republic
- 39/08 Mass in Mother Teresa Square: *Homily*
- 39/08 'No' to the idolatry of money: *Angelus*
- 39/09 To leaders of other religions and other Christian denominations
- 39/10 Vespers in the Cathedral of Tirana

- 39/12 Testimony of Albanian priest and nun who survived persecution
- 39/13 To children of the Bethany Centre
- 39/13 Interview on return flight

Strasbourg: 25 November

- 48/04 To European Parliament
- 48/07 To Council of Europe
- 48/03 Interview on return flight

Turkey: 28-30 November

- 49/05 To political authorities in Ankara (28 Nov.)
- 49/06 To the President of the Diyanet, Ankara (28 Nov.)
- 49/07 Mass at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Istanbul: *Homily* (29 Nov.)
- 49/08 At the Ecumenical Prayer Service at the Phanar (29 Nov.)
- 49/09 Pope at the Divine Liturgy at the Church of St George, Istanbul (30 Nov.)
- 49/09 Bartholomew I's address at the end of the Divine Liturgy (30 Nov.)
- 49/11 Common Declaration signed by Pope Francis and Patriarch Bartholomew (30 Nov.)
- 49/11 To refugees at the Salesian Youth Oratory in Istanbul (30 Nov.)
- 49/12 To journalists during return flight (30 Nov.)

Visits in Italy

Cassano all'Jonio, Calabria: 21 June

- 26/08 To the Penitentiary of Castrovillari
- 26/08 To priests of the Diocese
- 26/09 Mass at Marina di Sibari: *Homily*

Molise: 5 July

- 28/06 Mass in Campobasso: *Homily*
- 28/07 To employees at the University of Molise
- 28/08 To young people at the Shrine of Castelpetroso
- 28/09 To inmates in Isernia
- 28/09 Address to the people of Isernia inaugurating the Celestine Jubilee Year

Caserta: 26 and 28 July

- 31/05 Mass at Piazza Carlo III: *Homily* (26 July)
- 31/06 Address to clergy (26 July)
- 31/09 To Pentecostal community (28 July)

Redipuglia: 13 September

- 38/05 Mass for centenary of World War I: *Homily*

Roman Curia

Secretariat of State

- 01/11 Message on behalf of the Pope sent to the participants in the 36th annual Taizé Community in Strasbourg (28 Dec. 2013)
- 03/09 Archbishop Pietro Parolin meets U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry (14 Jan. 2014)
- 05/06 Archbishop Dominique Mamberti at the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the Holy See and the USA (23 Jan.)
- 18/04 Card. Parolin on 40 years of diplomatic relations with Australia
- 26/10 Archbishop Angelo Becciu receives journalism award (21 June)

- 29/03 Card. Parolin celebrates Mass for migrants at the Shrine of Guadalupe (15 July)
- 36/11 Card. Parolin to members of the Catholic Legislator's Network for their yearly meeting, 28-31 August
- 40/06 Card. Parolin addresses UN on human rights in New York (29 Sept.)
- 42/07 Card. Parolin to Apostolic Nuncios in countries of the Middle East (4 Oct.)
- 43/05 Card. Parolin at the Ordinary Public Consistory (20 Oct.)
- 44/11 Card. Parolin on human dignity at the University of Notre Dame Global Gateway in Rome (24 Oct.)
- 48/14 Archbishop Mamberti on the 40th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Australia and the Holy See and centenary of the Apostolic Delegation (24 Nov.)
- 50/09 Card. Parolin on the centenary of diplomatic relations between UK and the Holy See (3 Dec.)

College of Cardinals

- 08/04 Pope to Extraordinary Consistory on Pastoral Care of the Family (20 Feb.)
- 09/06 Card. Kasper's report at the start of the Extraordinary Consistory (20 Feb.)
- 09/06 Extraordinary Consistory: appeal for peace in Ukraine (21 Feb.)
- 09/01 List of 19 new Cardinals for Ordinary Public Consistory (22 Feb.)
- 09/08 Pope to 19 new Cardinals (22 Feb.)
- 09/08 Titles and deaneries assigned to the new Cardinals

Council of Cardinals

- 08/04 Pope meets with the Council (17-19 Feb.)
- 18/03 Council convenes (28-30 Apr.)
- 27/03 Council convenes (1-4 July)
- 28/01 Council convenes (5 July)
- 38/02 Council convenes (15-17 Sept.)

Secretariat for the Economy

- 09/05 Pope establishes the Secretariat (24 Feb.)
- 11/02 Pope names members of the Council for the Economy (8 Mar.)
- 13/02 Msgr Brian Ferme appointed Secretary of the Council (22 Mar.)
- 19/04 Pope to members of the Council for the Economy (2 May)
- 28/02 Press conference presenting the new economic framework for the Holy See (9 July)
- 29/09 Card. George Pell meets with heads of Dicasteries
- 36/11 Card. Pell speaks to *Avvenire* on the new economic framework for the Vatican (26 Aug.)
- 37/13 Council meets (4 Sept.)
- 46/02 Manual illustrating financial policies distributed to Vatican offices

Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith

- 06/06 Pope to Plenary Assembly (31 Jan.)
- 19/09 Prefect Card. Müller to the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (30 Apr.)
- 24/06 Publication of approved rites for Personal Ordinariates (Msgr Steven J. Lopes)
- 39/16 Card. Müller and Bishop Fellay, Superior General of the Society of St Pius X, meet (23 Sept.)

— "The Complementarity of Man and Woman" Conference: 17-19 November

- 47/07 The richness of love between man and woman (Gerhard Müller)
- 47/07 Marriage and the family (Jonathan Sacks)
- 47/08 Pope addresses meeting (17 Nov.)
- 47/08 Perfect unity of Yin and Yang (Tsui-Ying Sheng)
- 47/09 What God has joined together (Johann Christoph Arnold)

Congregation for the Eastern Churches

- 03/09 To Orthodox students studying in Rome (11 Jan.)
- 11/15 Letter for the Collection for the Holy Land (7 Mar.)
- 11/15 Additional information on the Collection
- 25/07 Note on churches and schools in Iraq open to refugees
- 27/04 Pope to ROACO members (26 June)
- 30/03 Prefect Card. Leonardo Sandri appeals for peace in the Middle East (20 July)
- 37/04 Prefect Card. Sandri on the situation in Syria and Iraq

Congregation for the Causes of Saints

- 01/13 Promulgation of Decrees (9 Dec. 2013)
- 06/02 Promulgation of Decrees (27 Jan. 2014)
- 07/06 Promulgation of Decrees (7 Feb.)
- 15/04 Promulgation of Decrees (3 Apr.)
- 17/02 Promulgation of Decrees (15 Apr.)
- 18/14 Fr Giuseppe Girotti beatified in Alba, Italy (26 Apr.)
- 20/02 Promulgation of Decrees (9 May)
- 23/02 Ordinary Public Consistory to be celebrated on 12 June for the vote on several Causes of Canonization (30 May)
- 25/04 Promulgation of Decrees (12 June)
- 29/02 Promulgation of Decrees (8 July)
- 39/14 Promulgation of Decrees (17 Sept.)
- 41/04 Beatification Sr Miriam Teresa Demjanovich in Newark, USA (4 Oct.)
- 43/04 Pope holds an Ordinary Public Consistory for the canonization of Bl. Joseph Vaz and Bl. Maria Cristina of the Immaculate Conception and to inform about the current situation of Christians in Iraq (20 Oct.)
- 44/06 Mother Assunta Marchetti beatified in Brazil (25 Oct.)
- 46/05 Promulgation of Decrees (7 Nov.)
- 50/02 Promulgation of Decrees (6 Dec.)

Congregation for Bishops

- 10/08 Pope's address to bishops outlining the mission of the episcopate (27 Feb.)

— Pontifical Commission for Latin America

- 10/10 Pope's consigned address to the Plenary Assembly (28 Feb.)
- 10/11 Pope to Plenary Assembly (28 Feb.)

Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples

- 34/03 Card. Filoni, Pope's Personal Envoy in Iraq, among the persecuted people

Congregation for the Clergy

- 42/21 Pope to Plenary Assembly (3 Oct.)

Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life

- 11/04 Pope's message to Prefect Card. João Braz de Aviz for the symposium of the dicastery for religious (8 Mar.)

- 42/04 Logo for the Year of Consecrated Life presented
- 43/11 Events organized in Rome and around the world for the Year of Consecrated Life
- 49/23 Pope to Plenary Assembly (27 Nov.)
- 51/03 Results presented of Apostolic Visitation of women religious in the U.S. (16 Dec.)

Congregation for Catholic Education

- 08/05 Pope to Plenary Assembly (13 Feb.)

Pontifical Council for the Laity

- 30/02 World Congress of Ecclesial Movements and New Communities to be held in November
- 51/09 Pope to Fourth European Meeting on Youth Ministry (11 Dec.)

Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity

- 04/01 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (Card. Kurt Koch)
- 04/03 Dialogue with the Eastern Orthodox Churches (Fr Gabriel Quicke)
- 05/10 On relations with the Anglican Communion and World Methodist Council (Fr Anthony Curren)
- 07/11 The World Council of Churches and the Baptist World Alliance (Fr Gregory J. Fairbanks)
- 10/06 Card. Walter Kasper receives Deutscher Kulturpreis in Munich (14 Feb.)
- 48/20 Pope's Letter to Plenary Assembly (20 Nov.)
- 48/20 Pope meets participants of the Plenary Assembly (20 Nov.)

— Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews

- 06/15 With Francis' friendship (Fr Norbert Hofmann)

Pontifical Council for the Family

- 09/16 On the Papal Letter to families (Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia)
- 13/09 The icon of communion (Carl A. Anderson)
- 13/09 Preparing for the Synods on the family at the John Paul II Institute (20-21 Mar.)
- 23/15 President Archbishop Paglia addresses UN conference on the International Year of the Family (15 May)
- 38/06 Preparations underway for the Synod and the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia 2015 (16 Sept.)

— Eighth World Meeting of Families 2015

- 13/08 Press conference on the preparations (Archbishop V. Paglia)
- 13/08 A moment of grace (Archbishop Charles J. Chaput)
- 13/08 Logo of the meeting
- 31/12 John Paul II and Gianna Beretta Molla named patrons of the Meeting
- 50/03 Papal Letter to President Archbishop V. Paglia on the preparations for the Meeting (9 Dec.)

Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace

- 25/09 Pope to conference: "Investing for the Poor" (16 June)
- 42/23 Pope to Plenary Assembly (2 Oct.)
- 34/24 Theme for World Day of Peace 2015 announced

Pontifical Council 'Cor Unum'

- 05/06 Card. Sarah visits territories affected by typhoon in the Philippines (26-31 Jan.)
 34/02 Efforts of Catholic charities in Iraq
 45/02 Mission in Syria (28-31 Oct.)

Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People

- 24/15 Pope to World Meeting of Episcopal Promoters and National Directors of the Pastoral Care of Gypsies (5 June)
 29/11 Message for the World Tourism Day to be held on 27 September
 48/13 Pope to participants of the Seventh World Congress (21 Nov.)

Pontifical Council for Health Care Workers

- 13/04 Pope to Plenary Assembly (24 Mar.)



With Bartholomew in the Holy Land (25 May)

- 48/09 Pope to participants in the 29th International Conference dedicated to autism (22 Nov.)

Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue

- 19/13 Message for the Feast of Vesakh
 20/02 Joint appeal for peace signed at the end of a meeting with the Royal Institute for Interfaith Studies held in Amman (14 May)
 21/08 Pope's Message to President Card. Jean-Louis Tauran for the 50th anniversary of its founding (19 May)
 21/08 The Church protects the world through mercy – the Council's 50th anniversary (Miguel Ángel Ayuso Guixot)
 21/09 A witness to peace and love – Council's 50th anniversary (Card. Tauran)
 30/11 Message for the end of Ramadan (24 June)
 34/21 Condemnation of jihadists violence in Iraq
 43/15 For the Hindu feast of Deepavali (23 Oct.)
 46/09 Message to Sikhs on Feast of Prakash Diwas (6 Nov.)

Pontifical Council for Social Communications

- 28/12 President Archbishop Celli presents updated app to the Pope (7 July)
 40/11 Theme of World Communications Day 2015 announced

Pontifical Council for Promoting the New Evangelization

- 39/06 To participants in the meeting on *Evangelii Gaudium* (19 Sept.)

Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors

- 13/02 Members appointed
 19/04 The Commission meets for the first time (1-3 May)
 51/03 New members of the Commission named (17 Dec.)

Apostolic Penitentiary

- 49/18 Decree of Indulgences (23 Nov.)

Tribunal of the Roman Rota

- 05/07 Pope to members of the Tribunal (24 Jan.)
 45/01 Pope to participants in a course on marriage (5 Nov.)

Pontifical Academy of Sciences

- 44/04 Pope for the unveiling of a bust of Benedict XVI (27 Oct.)

International Theological Commission

- 27/01 Introduction to *Sensus Fidei* document (Fr Serge-Thomas Bonino, OP)
 27/14 First two chapters of *Sensus Fidei* document (Sr Sara Butler, MSBT)
 27/15 Chapters 3 and 4 of the *Sensus Fidei* document (Fr Paul McPartlan)
 39/05 Commission's new five-year term
 39/05 Five women appointed (Giulia Galeotti)
 50/07 Pope to Commission for the start of their new term (5 Dec.)

International Eucharistic Congresses

- 40/16 Pope to participants in the Pontifical Committee for the Congresses (27 Sept.)
 40/16 Looking forward to Cebu in 2016

IOR – Institute for Works of Religion

- 03/03 Pope reestablishes the Commission of Cardinals to oversee the Institute (15 Jan.)
 10/02 Card. Santos Abril y Castelló appointed president of the Commission of Cardinals overseeing the IOR (4 Mar.)
 15/15 Holy Father approves proposition on the future of the IOR
 18/02 Supervisory Commission of Cardinals meet to draw up new guidelines (28 Apr.)
 28/04 2013 financial statement released
 38/02 New members of the Superintendence appointed

AIF – Financial Intelligence Authority

- 21/05 Annual report presented for 2013
 24/02 Memoranda of Understanding signed with six countries
 26/04 Memorandum of Understanding signed with Unidad de Información Financiera of Argentina (24 June)
 27/02 Agreement signed with US Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Holy See

- 03/07 Diplomatic relations with 180 States
 04/02 Agreement signed with the Republic of Cameroon (13 Jan.)
 06/04 Concluding Observation on the reviewed Reports of the Holy See and five States

- Parties on the Rights of the Child (16 Jan.)
 06/02 Additional Protocol with Malta signed (27 Jan.)
 07/12 Bilateral Commission with the State of Palestine holds Plenary Session (6 Feb.)
 07/06 Exchange of instruments of ratification with Hungary (10 Feb.)
 07/06 Bilateral Permanent Working Commission with the State of Israel issue communiqué (11 Feb.)
 07/06 UN report on sexual abuse and the Holy See
 10/02 Exchange of instruments of ratification with Burundi (28 Feb.)
 15/07 Exchange of instruments of ratification with Cape Verde (3 Apr.)
 27/04 Accord signed with the Republic of Serbia (27 June)
 42/02 Fifth meeting of the Vietnam-Holy See Joint Working Group (10-11 Sept.)
 47/03 Pope's record visits to Strasbourg and Turkey

Vatican News

- 01/10 The Vatican and the Church of England to play cricket match in September 2014
 01/16 More than 11 million followers for @Pontifex
 02/14 New website for *L'Osservatore Romano*
 02/16 An unpublished note by Giovanni Battista Montini on Christmas 1963
 03/08 Millions visit the Vatican Museums
 05/07 Nearly 400 cases decided in 2013 by the Roman Rota
 10/06 Msgr Markus Heinz appointed temporary chaplain of the Swiss Guards
 11/16 Pontifical Villas open to the public
 12/04 Religious leasers sign Agreement in the Vatican establishing Global Freedom Network against human slavery (17 Mar.)
 12/09 Document found in the Vatican Secret Archives on Raphael
 14/13 Bishop Franz-Peter Tebartz-van Elst of Limburg, Germany, resigns (26 Mar.)
 17/03 *L'Osservatore Romano* sends greetings to the Pope on the Feast of St George
 20/01 Paul VI to be beatified on 9 October
 26/14 Prof. Carriquiry Lecour at the annual *Dignitatis Humanae* conference at the Vatican
 26/15 Two biblical scholars to be honoured with the Ratzinger Prize (17 June)
 27/04 Conclusion of the first stage in the canonical trial against former Apostolic Nuncio Josef Wesolowski (27 June)
 28/05 Victims of sexual abuse by members of the clergy meet the Pope (6 July)
 29/01 Pope to visit Caserta on 26 July
 29/04 Dinner for the poor held in the Vatican Gardens (7 July)
 29/10 Students graduate from the Vatican School of Paleography, Diplomacy and Archive Administration
 29/12 Website launched for the Pope's visit to Korea
 31/11 Swiss Guards' pilgrimage to Poland (4 to 13 July)
 35/05 Marian statue of Our Lady of Charity of Cobre, Cuba, placed in the Vatican Gardens (28 Aug.)
 35/09 Case of former Nuncio Józef Wesolowski (25 Aug.)
 36/11 New chaplain for the Swiss Guard begins service (1 Sept.)

- 38/04 Sistine Choir to perform in Macao, Hong Kong and Taipei
 38/04 *L'Osservatore Romano* readers to use QR code for link to videos of the Pope
 39/14 Former Nuncio Józef Wesolowski under house arrest (24 Sept.)
 41/01 Consistory on the Middle East set for 20 October (7 Oct.)
 45/06 Fr Lombardi receives honorary degree in Social Communications Science (14 Nov.)
 45/16 Carlo Di Cicco, Deputy Editor of *L'Osservatore Romano*, retires (31 Oct.)
 45/16 Fifth anniversary of the Constitution *Anglicanorum coetibus* (4 Nov.)
 46/16 CD collection of music from the Conclave
 47/02 New Deputy Editor of *L'Osservatore Romano* appointed (21 Nov.)
 49/24 Ratzinger Prize 2014 awarded to Prof. Anne-Maire Pelletier and Prof. Msgr Waldemar Chrostowski (22 Nov.)
 50/15 Swiss Guard uniform celebrates 100 years (22 Nov.)
 50/14 Vatican's Promoter of Justice meets with attorney from the Dominican Republic to discuss Archbishop Wesolowski (2 Dec.)

Interventions

- 03/02 Archbishop Silvano M. Tomasi at the Convention on the Rights of the Child (13-31 Jan.)
 04/04 Archbishop Tomasi at the International Conference on Syria (22 Jan.)
 13/11 Archbishop Tomasi at the 25th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council on the right to food (10 Mar.)
 13/13 Archbishop Tomasi at the 25th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council on violence against children (13 Mar.)
 25/14 Archbishop Tomasi at the 26th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council on Guiding Principles on business and human rights (11 June)
 26/13 Archbishop Tomasi at the 26th Session of the Human Rights Council on the human rights of migrants (13 June)
 26/14 Archbishop Tomasi at the 26th Session of the Human Rights Council on independent expert on human rights and international solidarity (13 June)
 27/13 Archbishop Tomasi at the 26th Session of the Human Rights Council on the family (24 June)
 29/09 Bishop Mario Toso on UNCTAD's 50th anniversary (17 June)
 30/10 Archbishop Tomasi on the situation in the Gaza Strip (23 July)
 36/02 Archbishop Tomasi at the 22nd Session of the Human Rights Council on the situation in Iraq (1 Sept.)
 40/14 Archbishop Tomasi at the 24th Ordinary Council on Human Rights on the elderly (13 Sept.)
 42/06 Archbishop Tomasi at the 2014 International Dialogue for Migration (8 Oct.)
 44/12 Archbishop Bernardito Aua on the situation in the Middle East (21 Oct.)
 50/08 Archbishop Mamberti at the 21st Ministerial Council of OSCE (4 Dec.)

Biographies

- 09/04 Card. George Pell
 34/12 Bl. Paul Yun Ji-chung and his 123 companions

- 43/09 Bl. Paul VI
 45/15 Venerable Zacharias of St Theresa (Fr Augustine Mulloor, OCD)
 48/02 Mr Giuseppe Fiorentino
 48/12 St Giovanni Antonio Farina
 48/12 St Kuriakose Elias Chavara
 48/12 St Ludovico da Casoria
 48/12 St Nicola da Longobardi
 48/12 St Euphrasia Eluvathingal
 48/12 St Amato Ronconi

Cardinals created in 22 February Consistory

- 09/07 Card. Pietro Parolin
 09/07 Card. Lorenzo Baldisseri
 09/07 Card. Gerhard Ludwig Müller
 09/07 Card. Beniamino Stella
 09/10 Card. Vincent Gerard Nichols
 09/10 Card. Leopoldo José Brenes Solórzano
 09/10 Card. Gérald Cyprien Lacroix
 09/10 Card. Jean-Pierre Kutwa
 09/10 Card. Orani João Tempesta
 09/11 Card. Gualtiero Bassetti
 09/11 Card. Mario Aurelio Poli
 09/11 Card. Andrew Yeom Soo-jung
 09/11 Card. Ricardo Ezzati Andrello
 09/12 Card. Philippe Nakellentuba Ouédraogo
 09/12 Card. Orlando B. Quevedo
 09/12 Card. Chibly Langlois
 09/12 Card. Loris Francesco Capovilla
 09/12 Card. Fernando Sebastián Aguilar
 09/13 Card. Kelvin Edward Felix

Obituaries

- 02/02 Bishop Paul Liu Jinghe (11 Dec. 2013)
 01/13 Card. Ricardo María Carles Gordó (17 Dec. 2013)
 07/15 Ms Sigrid Spath – contributor to *L'Osservatore Romano* (2 Feb.)
 12/04 Card. José da Cruz Policarpo (12 Mar.)
 14/12 Bishop Joseph Fan Zhongliang (16 Mar.)
 16/04 Card. Emmanuel III Delly (9 Apr.)
 20/15 Benedetto Nardacci of Vatican Radio (20 Apr.)
 20/04 Card. Marco Cè (12 May)
 23/04 Card. Simon Duraisamy Lourdasamy (2 June)
 24/04 Card. Bernard Agré (9 June)
 28/10 Metropolitan Primate Vladimir of Kiev (5 July)
 31/04 Card. Francesco Marchisano (27 July)
 32/04 Card. Edward Bede Clancy (3 Aug.)
 35/04 Card. Edmund Casimir Szoka (20 Aug.)
 39/16 Archbishop Joseph Wu Shizhen (25 Aug.)
 42/04 Bishop John Chrysostom Lan Shi (21 Sept.)
 42/04 Bishop John Baptist Wang Jin (23 Sept.)
 45/14 Msgr Fabijan Veraja (29 Oct.)
 48/09 Card. Fiorenzo Angelini (21 Nov.)
 50/04 Card. Jorge María Mejía (9 Dec.)

Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs

- 04/15 Pope to Finnish Ecumenical Delegation for the Feast of St Henry (17 Jan.)
 05/16 Mass for the conclusion of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (25 Jan.)
 07/01 Pope to American Jewish Committee (13 Feb.)
 10/10 Patriarch Bartholomaios awaits Pope Francis
 11/05 Pope to General Secretary of the World Council of Churches – WCC (7 Mar.)
 19/06 Patriarch Bartholomew addresses former students of Joseph Ratzinger (1-4 May)
 19/03 Pope welcomes His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of the Armenian Apostolic Church (8 May)

- 20/03 Anniversary of Shehuda IV's visit to the Vatican (10 May)
 21/01 Patriarch Bartholomew on the Pope's visit to the Holy Land
 24/14 Bishop Munib A. Younan, President of Lutheran World Federation, on the Pope's visit to the Holy Land (28 May)
 23/01 Pope to Aram I, Catholicos of Cilicia of the Armenians (5 June)
 24/07 Address by President Shimon Peres at the encounter of prayer for peace in the Holy Land, in the Vatican (8 June)
 24/07 Address by President Mahmoud Abbas, at the encounter of prayer for peace in the Holy Land, in the Vatican (8 June)
 24/08 Pope's invocation for peace in the Holy Land with the Israeli and Palestinian Presidents, in the Vatican (8 June)
 24/08 Jewish, Christian and Muslim pray for peace in the Holy Land, held in the Vatican Gardens (8 June)
 25/03 WCC and Karekin II appeal for peace and justice in Syria and Iraq (11-12 June)
 25/16 Pope receives His Grace Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury (16 June)
 25/16 Archbishop Welby's address to the Holy Father (16 June)
 27/07 Pope to a delegation of the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople for the Solemnity of Sts Peter and Paul (28 June)
 27/07 Patriarch Bartholomew's letter to the Holy Father for the Solemnity of Sts Peter and Paul (24 June)
 41/19 A Day of prayer for Muslim, Jews and Catholics (4 Oct.)
 44/01 Pope to members of the Old Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Union of Utrecht (30 Oct.)
 46/09 Pope to World Evangelical Alliance (6 Nov.)
 47/12 Bartholomew I on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Pro Oriente Foundation (4 Nov.)
 49/04 To World Religious Leaders at the signing of the joint declaration against modern slavery (2 Dec.)
 49/04 Text of the joint declaration against modern slavery (2 Dec.)
 49/03 Pope greets Summit of Christian and Muslim Leaders (3 Dec.)
 51/08 Pope to H.B. Ignace Youssif III Younan, and faithful of the Syro-Antiochene community (12 Dec.)

Feature Articles

- 01/04 The story of a vocation – an unpublished text on the Salesian Father Enrique Pozzoli who baptized the Pope on Christmas Day (Jorge Mario Bergoglio)
 01/05 The model of paternal love at Christmas (Msgr Philip Whitmore)
 02/04 Christian Churches are part of the Middle East (Nigel M. Baker)
 02/06 Be true prophets, not just pretenders (Fr Antonio Spadaro, SJ)
 02/16 Precursors on the trails of truth – the story of the Magi (Benedict XVI)
 02/07 The gentle and loving nature of Peter Faber (Fr Marc Lindeijer, SJ)
 03/04 Japanese catacombs in Taketa (Christian Martini Grimaldi)
 03/04 Threats to religious freedom (Sayeeda Warsi)
 04/08 450th anniversary of the closing session of the Council of Trent (Card. Walter Brandmüller)
 04/09 Excerpts from "Trent: What happened at the Council" (Fr John W. O'Malley, SJ)
 04/15 On the 36th anniversary of Taizé (Bro. Alois)
 05/04 Thomas and the experience of God (Fr Inos Biffi)
 05/09 Through the looking glass of an iPhone (Brett T. Robinson)

- 05/11 New Syro-Malabar Eparchy in Melbourne (Card. George Alencherry)
- 05/12 Tolkien's "The Lord of the Rings" – Fundamentally Catholic (Anglican Archbishop David Moxon)
- 06/04 Feast day of Josephine Bakhita (Mariapia Bonanate)
- 08/06 The Pope's radical call to the new evangelization (Card. Raymond L. Burke)
- 08/11 Alice von Hildebrand's life story with philosopher Dietrick von Hildebrand (Cristiana Dobner)
- 08/14 100 years after the First World War (Ulla Gudmundson)
- 08/15 Machaerus Castle where St John the Baptist was imprisoned and beheaded (Győző Vörös)
- 10/12 On the translation of liturgical texts (Card. George Pell)
- 11/05 Laity in the Church in Korea (C.M. Grimaldi)
- 11/16 Restoration of the colonnade in St Peter's Square completed (Antonio Paolucci)
- 12/08 Meditation to cardinals at the opening of the Conclave on 12 March 2013 (Card. Prosper Grech, OSA)
- 12/10 The Eucharist and self-knowledge in *Paradiso* of the *Divine Comedy* (Christian Moevs)
- 16/08 Meditations for the Way of the Cross (Archbishop Giancarlo M. Gregantini)
- 17/04 Easter in Great Britain (David Cameron)
- 17/08 Homily during the Lord's Passion (Fr Raniero Cantalamessa, OFM)
- 17/10 The Gospel of John reveals the way to live (Jean Vanier)
- 18/04 On British Prime Minister's Easter message (Anglican Archbishop Justin Welby)
- 20/11 Latin in the age of Twitter (Valerio Massimo Manfredi)
- 25/10 Tribute to Card. Lourdasamy (Card. George Alencherry)
- 25/15 New forensic research on the body of St Anthony of Padua (Ugo Sartorio)
- 26/03 Galaxies in the Vatican Observatory (Bro. Guy Consolmagno, SJ)
- 26/06 To faithfully proclaim the Gospel of Marriage (Archbishop Samuel J. Aquila)
- 26/15 Michael McGivney and American Catholicism (Douglas Brinkley and Julie M. Fenster)
- 27/16 Haemi Castle, a place of Christian persecution (C.M. Grimaldi)
- 29/08 Pope Francis and the prayer for the Middle East (Omar Abboud)
- 29/12 Fra Angelico's *Crucifixion* restored in St Mark's convent (Cristina Acidini)
- 30/05 Assisted Dying Bill under consideration in British Parliament (Ferdinando Cancelli)
- 30/05 Euthanasia in Canada (Fr Thomas Rosica, CSB)
- 30/08 Suggestions for the Church regarding global economic system (Muhammad Yunus)
- 31/10 Pope tweets about domestic workers and caregivers and speaks about the humble women in his heart (Mario Ponzi)
- 32/09 The journey of no return on the centenary of WWI (Archbishop Diarmuid Martin)
- 35/01 Remembering John Paul I's election (Archbishop Vincenzo Bertolone)
- 35/10 Priestly vocations continue to grow throughout the world (Vittorio Formenti and Enrico Nenna)
- 36/09 Admiring Flannery O'Connor (Elena Buia Rutt)
- 36/12 A Muslim metaphor which speaks to all Christians (Alberto Fabio Ambrosio)
- 36/12 *The Book of the East* by French youth sent to the Pope, who expresses his appreciation (Nicola Gori)
- 37/16 A fresh look at Michelangelo's *Pietà* (Luc Templier)
- 37/16 John XXIII's globe restored (Marcello Filotei)
- 40/10 Birthplace of Pope's grandmother discovered (Giuseppe Decarli)
- 42/16 Karol Wojtyła and the meaning of being human (Msgr J. Brian Bransfield)
- 42/20 Moral formation as the foundation in Catholic education (Sr Barbara Chyrowicz)
- 42/24 On intellectual signs (Fr Sebastian Walshe, O.PRAEM)
- 43/16 The earthly garden of religious art (Francesca Boschetti)
- 43/16 Exhibition on Paul VI and the artists (Antonio Paolucci)
- 44/07 Youth torch relay marathon of Schoenstatt Movement (Fr David Musgrave)
- 44/13 Excerpts from *Pope Francis: A Guide to God's Time* – Liturgical time in the Vatican (Cindy Wooden)
- 45/10 Remembering death through art (Christopher E. Longhurst)
- 46/08 Remembering Kristallnacht (Rabbi Abraham Skorka)
- 46/06 On G20 Summit in Brisbane (Tony Abbott)
- 46/15 Alicia Oliveira dies (Silvina Pérez)
- 49/02 Reestablishment of Diplomatic relations between UK and the Holy See (Nigel M. Baker)
- 50/14 Opening of the Year of Consecrated Life (Fr Michael Gilmary, MMA)

Canonization of John XXIII and John Paul II

- 14/03 Preparing for the joint canonization
- 14/08 The Africa of Roncalli and Wojtyła (Patrick Tor Alumuku)
- 14/09 Men who loved God's Chosen People (Fr T. Rosica, CSB)
- 15/16 Roncalli and Wojtyła in Asia (Fr James Channan)
- 17/05 Photographs and footage in the Vatican
- 17/05 A multimedia museum open in Wadowice, Poland (9 Apr.)
- 18/12 John Paul II's homily honouring John XXIII, 4 May 1981
- 18/16 Excerpts from John Paul II's homily at the Beatification of John XXIII, 3 Sept. 2000
- 18/16 Excerpts from Benedict XVI's homily at the Beatification of John Paul II, 1 May 2012
- 18/05 Card. Joseph Ratzinger recalls his interaction with John Paul II
- 18/07 Biography of Bl. Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli
- 18/07 Biography of Bl. Karol Wojtyła
- 18/07 Saturday night celebrations in Rome (26 Apr.)
- 18/09 An event that belongs to us all
- 18/10 Masses of thanksgiving (28 Apr.)
- 18/11 What was John XXIII really like – a look through his journals (Ezio Bolis)
- 18/15 John Paul II a consistent man – Archbishop Bergoglio on the late Pontiff

'Women Church World'

- 04/10 Cook and theologian (Lucetta Scaraffia)
- 04/10 Interview with Sr Rita Mboshu Kongo from the Capranica College (Gilbert Tsogli)
- 06/10 Interview with Sr Alessandra Fumagalli, director of a hospital in Jordan (Manuela Borraccino)
- 14/10 We the prisoners of Sierra Leone (Sr Teresa Bello, XMM)
- 19/10 Redeeming relationships (Sr Sara Butler, MSBT)

- 29/06 Explanation of the monastic veil (Sr Anna Maria Canopi, OSB)
- 29/06 Kippot and wigs in the Jewish tradition (Anna Foa)
- 29/07 The return of the veil among young Muslims (Ritanna Armeni)
- 30/01 The choice of solitude (R. Armeni)
- 30/06 A conversation with hermitess Antonella Lumini (Lucetta Scaraffia)
- 30/07 The breath of prayer (Catherine de Hueck Doherty)
- 32/06 Interview with first woman Assistant General Secretary of French Bishops' Conference (Marie-Lucile Kuracki)
- 32/07 Sr Frances Cabrini's lesson on money (L. Scaraffia)
- 32/07 The story of Sr Rachele, head of Columbus Clinic in Milan (R. Armeni)
- 34/24 Fighting for the rights of Korean women (C.M. Grimaldi)



Visit to Korea (16 August)

- 35/06 The story of Columba Kan Wan Suk Kwon a Korean martyr (C.M. Grimaldi)
- 35/06 From Kyung-sook Shin's writings
- 35/07 The choir girls who sang at Asian Youth Day (C.M. Grimaldi)
- 36/06 The presence of women in ecclesiastical tribunals (Agnese Camilli)
- 36/07 Card. Müller, Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, on women (L. Scaraffia)

Historic Articles

- 07/01 The signing of the Lateran Treaty – 11 February
- 07/04 The diplomatic corps accredited to the Holy See
- 27/04 Homily by Paul VI at Gemelli Polyclinic on 17 June 1976
- 27/05 50 years of Gemelli Polyclinic – a dream come true
- 27/05 John Paul II called the Gemelli Polyclinic the "Third Vatican"
- 36/03 Centenary of Benedict XV's election (3 Sept.)
- 38/08 Paul VI's address to the Biblical Institute, 25 September 1970

News

- 02/03 Twenty two pastoral care workers killed in 2013
- 02/04 Extraordinary General Chapter of the Legionaries of Christ (8 Jan. 2014)
- 02/15 National Migration Week in the U.S. (5-11 Jan)
- 03/09 Exhibition on Baptism at the Museum of Biblical Art in New York
- 04/07 Archbishop of Los Angeles on immigration in the U.S. (14 Jan.)
- 05/03 Card. Tauran and Maria Voce receive honorary degree from the University of Notre Dame (27 Jan.)
- 06/03 Archbishop Joseph Kurtz visits the Philippines hit by violent typhoon (2-7 Feb.)
- 06/04 U.S. dedicates day of prayer for victims of human trafficking (8 Feb.)
- 07/10 Card. Luis Antonio G. Tagles' address on "Mission in Asia: telling the story of Jesus" at the Asian Mission Congress of 2006, Thailand
- 10/12 In 10 years the number of Catholics doubled in Iceland (23 Feb.)
- 10/05 Card. Capovilla receives biretta and ring (1 Mar.)
- 13/05 Archbishop Giancarlo Maria Bregantini to write Via Crucis meditations
- 13/12 Religious discrimination in the prisons of India
- 13/13 Online collection to restore St Francis' home in Rome
- 13/13 *Evangelii Gaudium* a best seller in Korea
- 13/13 Museum of Biblical Art on industry of devotional sculptures in alabaster
- 15/06 Patriarch Bartholomew on peace in the Balkans, 6-9 March
- 14/13 Fr Ángel Fernández Artime elected rector major of the Salesians (25 Mar.)
- 14/04 Jesuit Refugee Service Syria awarded the 2014 Pax Christi International Peace Award (31 Mar.)
- 14/05 Archbishop Cyril Aphrem Karim elected new Patriarch of Antioch and All the East (31 Mar.)
- 15/11 Exhibition in Rome recalling the history of the Holy See and Cuba (2 Apr.)
- 16/03 Pocket-size Gospels given to prison inmates in Rome (16 Apr.)
- 16/04 Catholics in Cameroon under threat
- 16/13 First monastery for men opens in Thailand
- 16/15 30th anniversary of the prologue of WYD
- 16/15 Christians in Jerusalem hold palm procession
- 16/15 Holy Week in Cuba
- 17/02 "Pagine ebraiche" International edition launch *A Taste of the Italian Jewish World*
- 17/04 Patriarch Twal celebrates Mass in the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem
- 17/04 Bishop of Bossangoa freed
- 17/04 Easter message of the Archbishop of Yangon, Myanmar
- 17/04 Christian churches of the East and West celebrating Easter on the same date
- 18/14 New CD from Consistory held by Pope Francis on 22 February
- 19/06 Nine days of prayer in preparation for Pope Francis' visit to the Holy Land
- 19/12 Catholic population in South Korea growing
- 20/07 Patriarch Bartholomew to Orthodox youth (2 May)
- 20/03 Israeli Parliament holds tribute to John XXIII (14 May)
- 21/03 Christian woman sentenced to death in Sudan
- 21/03 Church in Croatia calls for aid to help flood victims
- 22/16 Meeting entitled "Women of Faith for Peace" in Jerusalem demonstrated their commitment to peace (Apr.)
- 25/04 Polish priests and nuns named "Righteous among the Nations"
- 26/14 Meriam Ibrahim set free in Sudan
- 27/16 First Catholic Bible translated into Thai
- 28/04 Appeal by heads of the Chaldean Church to help Christian community in Iraq
- 28/10 Inmates in Calabria on "religious strike"
- 28/12 Logo for WYD in Krakow presented
- 29/01 British religious leaders against the Assisted Dying Bill
- 30/11 Aboriginal Sunday celebrated in Australia (6 July)
- 29/04 Archbishop José Luis Escobar Alas of San Salvador asks for respect of migrant children (13 July)
- 29/10 First woman appointed rector of the Pontifical University Antonianum
- 29/10 The Church of England votes in favour of women bishops (14 July)
- 29/10 Rev. Olav Fykse Tveit appointed for another five-year term as General Secretary of the World Council of Churches
- 29/10 Annual gathering of the Baptist World Alliance in Turkey (6-12 July)
- 30/04 Christians forced to leave Iraq
- 30/04 UN Secretary General calls situation about Christians in Mosul a crime against humanity (20 July)
- 30/11 Catholic University to be built in Vietnam
- 30/12 Film by Pasolini remastered in the Vatican
- 31/03 Appeal for Christians in Iraq by Patriarch Louis Raphaël I Sako of Babylon for Chaldeans (24 July)
- 31/04 Children's desire for peace among Israeli Catholics
- 31/11 A display of works on the Garden of Eden at the Museum of of Biblical Art, New York
- 31/11 U.S. Bishops on behalf of fleeing young migrants (24 July)
- 32/09 Commemorating 100 years WWI
- 32/10 Ninety-one children released from the Burmese Army
- 35/04 Thirty churches reopen in the Philippines after Typhoon Yolanda
- 35/04 King of Bahrain donates land to build a cathedral
- 35/04 Mass of suffrage for James Wright Foley, U.S. journalist killed in Iraq (24 Aug.)
- 35/08 Card. Justin Rigali's homily commemorating the founding of the City of St Louis in 1764 (24 Aug.)
- 35/12 Website launched for Papal visit to the Philippines
- 36/05 Bishop Antoine Audo of Alep for Chaldeans describes the difficult situation in Syria to Vatican Radio
- 37/06 Three new Auxiliary Bishops ordained in Hong Kong (30 Aug.)
- 37/13 WCC asks for UN mandate on freedom of religion or belief (1 Sept.)
- 43/03 The Church celebrates for the first time the liturgical memorial of St John Paul II, 22 October
- 43/15 World Meeting of Popular Movements announced
- 44/05 Excerpts taken from *Deus Caritas Est*
- 44/10 Churches destroyed in Maiduguri, Nigeria (7 Oct.)
- 45/06 First Bible translated into modern Persian
- 45/16 Patriarch Bartholomew I on the Pope's visit to the Phanar
- 46/03 Two Pakistani Christians burnt alive (4 Nov.)
- 48/18 A Christian is the new governor of Jakarta (19 Nov.)
- 50/14 First Catholic radio station in Pakistan (22 Nov.)

Interviews

- 06/16 With Rabbi Abraham Skorka on his relationship to Pope Francis (Silvia Guidi)
- 14/16 With Card. Stanislaw Dziwisz on the anniversary of John Paul II's death (Nicola Gori)
- 19/13 With Card. Jean-Louis Tauran, President of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, on Vesakh
- 21/16 With Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I in anticipation of the Pope's visit to the Holy Land (Mario Ponzi)
- 34/07 With Card. Pietro Parolin on the Pope's visit to Korea (Alessandro Di Bussolo, 11 Aug.)
- 34/03 With Card. Fernando Filoni on his return as Personal Envoy in Iraq (21 Aug.)
- 34/20 With Bishop Lazzaro You Heung-sik of Daejeon, before the Pope's visit to Korea (M. Ponzi)
- 35/12 With Card. Luis Antonio G. Tagle as the Philippines look forward to the Pope's visit, 17 August (M. Ponzi)
- 36/08 With Fr Jorge H. Zanni, Argentine priest serving in Gaza's only parish (N. Gori)
- 42/07 With Card. Pietro Parolin, Secretary of State, on the situation in the Middle East (10 Oct.)
- 46/16 With Antonio Paolucci, Director of Vatican Museums, on the Sistine Chapel (Marcello Filotei)

Episcopal Conferences

- 07/13 Final Statement of the Plenary Assembly of the Catholics Bishops' Conference of India (Fr Joseph Chinnayyan)
- 07/08 The WCC and Swiss Bishops' Conference on the anti-mass immigration referendum (9 Feb.)
- 08/10 Pastoral letter of the Bishops of India (Card. Oswald Gracias)
- 14/04 U.S. bishops make a pilgrimage to the Mexican border (1 Apr.)
- 22/21 Pope to General Assembly of the Italian Episcopal Conference (19 May)
- 25/04 U.S. Bishops hold General Assembly (11-13 June)
- 29/03 U.S. Bishops renew appeal for immigration reform at national migration conference (7-10 July)
- 34/21 CECI makes an appeal to stop violence in Iraq (Fr Joseph Chinnayyan)
- 41/20 Pope to Plenary Assembly of the European Bishops' Conferences (3 Oct.)
- 49/21 Pope to Italian Episcopal Conference (8 Nov.)

Conferences/Seminars

- 02/14 Archbishop Dominique Mamberti speaks of religious freedom at a conference on

- Christianity and Freedom: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives, Georgetown University of Washington, D.C.
- 23/11 Card. Gerhard Müller's address on ecclesiality of the Catechism at St Patrick's College (17 May)
- 23/06 Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, Apostolic Nuncio in the United States, addresses Catholic educators at Fordham University (28 May)
- 24/01 The Jesuit tradition – Conference in London, 19-20 June
- 24/06 A lesson from Cardinal Newman – Conference at Fairfield University, USA, 9-12 June (Card. K. Koch)
- 24/10 An end to sexual violence in conflict – London Summit (Nigel M. Baker)
- 24/14 Discovering planets similar to Earth – Conference organized by the Vatican Observatory and the University of Arizona (Pavel Gabor)
- 28/11 Archbishop Diarmuid Martin on sexual abuse at the Pontifical Irish College (7 July)
- 36/09 Imagination according to John Henry Newman (Enrico Reggiani)

Synod of Bishops

13th Ordinary Council

- 21/14 Council meets to discuss first draft of the *Instrumentum laboris* (13-14 May)

Extraordinary General Assembly on the Family

- 26/06 *Instrumentum Laboris* presented (26 June)
- 19/18 *Fides-foedus*: Faith and the Sacrament of Marriage – a series of colloquia in preparation for the Synod
- 37/01 A day of prayer to be held on 28 September in preparation for the Synod
- 37/08 Card. Lorenzo Baldisseri, Secretary General, on Synod participants
- 37/08 List of Synod Fathers participating in the Synod
- 41/04 Pope at Prayer vigil (4 Oct.)
- 41/05 Mass for the Opening of the Synod: *Homily* (5 Oct.)
- 41/06 Pope addresses Synod Fathers at the opening of the First General Congregation (6 Oct.)

- 41/06 First General Congregation (6 Oct.)
- 41/07 Report of the Card. L. Baldisseri (6 Oct.)
- 41/10 *Relatio ante disceptationem* by Card. Péter Erdő (6 Oct.)
- 41/14 Second and Third General Congregations (6-7 Oct.)
- 41/14 Testimony presented by auditors from Australia and the Philippines (6 Oct.)
- 41/15 Fourth General Congregation (7 Oct.)
- 41/15 Testimony presented by auditors from USA (7 Oct.)
- 41/16 Fifth General Congregation (8 Oct.)
- 42/09 Sixth and Seventh General Congregations (8-9 Oct.)
- 42/09 Testimonies presented by Retrouvaille and Equipe Notre Dame (8 Oct.)
- 42/10 Eighth and Ninth General Congregation (9-10 Oct.)
- 42/10 Message from the Synod Fathers for peace in Iraq, Syria and the Middle East (10 Oct.)
- 42/11 10th General Congregation (10 Oct.)
- 42/11 Interview with Card. L. Baldisseri (11 Oct.)
- 42/12 *Relatio post disceptationem* by Card. Péter Erdő (13 Oct.)
- 42/12 11th General Congregation
- 42/01 *Circuli Minori* presented (16 Oct.)
- 43/06 Message from the Synod Fathers (18 Oct.)
- 43/07 15th General Congregation and the *Relatio synodi* (18 Oct.)
- 43/07 Pope's words at the concluding celebrations during the 15th Gen. Congregation (18 Oct.)
- 50/02 Ecclesial bodies to receive *Lineamenta* (9 Dec.)

Editorials

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Giovanni Maria Vian

- 01/06 The model of St Joseph – the Pope's Christmas greetings
- 02/05 Like the slice of a plough – Holy Land
- 03/01 Papal politics – Diplomatic Corps
- 09/01 The way of Christ – Ordinary Public Consistory
- 11/01 A great joy – first anniversary of Pontificate
- 13/16 Listening to the names – Pope meets the Libera Association

- 18/01 Saints – Canonization of John XXIII and John Paul II
- 18/08 A programmatic canonization
- 22/01 As on the day of Pentecost – Holy Land
- 22/05 Like 50 years ago – Holy Land
- 22/09 A possible future – Holy Land
- 24/01 As the sun sets – encounter of prayer for peace in the Holy Land held in the Vatican
- 28/01 The gaze of Jesus – victims of sexual abuse
- 32/01 More than an Encyclical – 50th anniversary of Paul VI's *Ecclesiam Suam*
- 34/01 The Gospel of heart – Korea
- 38/05 In the shadow of Cain – Redipuglia
- 39/01 Witness and fraternity – Albania
- 39/03 The ring and the people – newly-ordained bishops
- 40/08 Between generations – Day for the Elderly
- 41/01 The good wine of the family – Opening Mass of the Synod
- 43/01 The dominion of God – beatification of Paul VI
- 47/01 "Black Week" fifty year later
- 48/01 To meet the needs – Strasbourg
- 49/01 The logic of encounter – Turkey
- 49/05 A dialogue of friendship – Turkey
- 50/01 An abominable phenomenon – World Day of Peace

Journalists at L'Osservatore Romano

- 12/06 Greeting the Pope from the roof – Parish of Santa Maria dell'Orazione in Rome (Gianluca Biccini)
- 15/09 A Father listening to the challenges and hopes of his children – Parish of San Gregorio Magno (G. Biccini)
- 22/12 The Pope and the Patriarch – Holy Land (Mario Ponzi)
- 26/08 No more suffering children – Cassano all'Jonio (M. Ponzi)
- 26/10 A day with the people – Cassano all'Jonio (M. Ponzi)
- 28/07 With a view to the future – Campobasso (Gaetano Vallini)
- 39/02 Lord Christopher Patten on revising Vatican media (Mary Nolan)
- 39/10 With tears in his eyes – Albania (G. Vallini)
- 43/08 Beatification of Paul VI (M. Ponzi)
- 49/08 A journey of friends – Turkey (G. Vallini)
- 51/05 Four unforgettable hours – Parish of San Giuseppe all'Aurelio (M. Fontana)

Book reviews

- 30/12 The courage of the Brigettes (John McCarthy, KCSG)



We at the English Edition of *L'Osservatore Romano* send our very best wishes to all our readers around the world. May you have a very holy, happy Christmas and a blessed New Year.

Anna Morghen, Mary Nolan, Elizabeth Simari, Beth Madeline and Philippa Wooldridge

"Adoration by the Shepherds"
Giorgione (1505-1510)