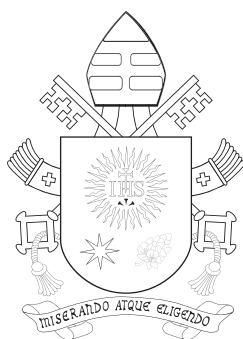


# ACTA APOSTOLICAE SEDIS



COMMENTARIUM OFFICIALE

# Index huius fasciculi

(An. CXV, Supplementum - 5 Ianuarii 2023)

Mensile - Tariffa R.O.C. - Poste Italiane S.p.A. - Spedizione Abbonamento Postale D.L. 353/2003

(Conv. in L. 27/02/2004) art. 1 comma 1 - DCB Roma

Benedicti XVI, PP. Emeriti, obitus . . . . .	2
Expositio . . . . .	5
Depositio et Missa exsequialis . . . . .	5
Tumulatio . . . . .	13
Benedicti XVI, PP. Emeriti, Testamentum . . . . .	15
Legationes quae exsequiis interfuerunt . . . . .	17
Quaerelae testimonia Papae Francisco missa:	
I. A moderatoribus Ecclesiarum et Communitatum Ecclesialium . . . . .	23
II. Ab Hebraeis consociationibus . . . . .	39
III. Ab aliarum Religionum orbis terrarum moderatoribus. . . . .	40
IV. A Nationum moderatoribus. . . . .	47

LIBRERIA EDITRICE VATICANA

00120 CITTÀ DEL VATICANO

Tel. 06.698.45768 - 06.698.45780 – e-mail: riviste.lev@spc.va



PAPA FRANCESCO

**COMUNICARE**

**20 GIORNALISTI IN DIALOGO CON IL PONTEFICE**

*Collana «Magistero di Papa Francesco»*

*Pagine 188*

**€ 17,00**

Vengono qui raccolti i 10 Messaggi di papa Francesco per la Giornata Mondiale delle Comunicazioni Sociali, commentati da alcuni dei più autorevoli giornalisti e comunicatori italiani, tra i quali Aldo Cazzullo, Maurizio Molinari, Agnese Pini, Luciano Fontana, Marco Damilano, Andrea Tornielli, Gianni Riotta, Andrea Monda, Marco Girardo.

---

# ACTA APOSTOLICAE SEDIS

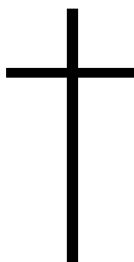
---

COMMENTARIUM OFFICIALE

---

*Directio:* Palazzo Apostolico – Città del Vaticano – *Administratio:* Libreria Editrice Vaticana

---



**SUMMUS PONTIFEX EMERITUS**

**BENEDICTUS XVI**

**Die 31 m. DECEMBRIS hora 9.34**

**SANCTISSIME OBDOORMIVIT IN DOMINO**

---

**VIVIT IN CHRISTO**

## OBITUS

Die XXXI mensis Decembris, sabbato, Papa Emeritus Benedictus mortuus est hora 9.34 in Monasterio *Mater Ecclesiae* in Vaticano, ubi commoratus est postquam pontificatui renuntiaverat.

Postremis diebus valetudo eius in deterius mutavit ob ingravescentem aetatem. Mane feriae IV diei XXVIII mensis Decembris, Summus Pontifex Franciscus se illuc contulerat ut eum inviseret, postquam in Audientia Generali in Aula Pauli VI omnes invitaverat ad orandum sequentibus verbis:

«Vorrei chiedere a tutti voi una preghiera speciale, per il Papa Emerito Benedetto, che nel silenzio sta sostenendo la Chiesa. Ricordarlo — è molto ammalato — chiedendo al Signore che lo consoli, e lo sostenga in questa testimonianza di amore alla Chiesa, fino alla fine».

Vespere ipsius diei Pontifex Emeritus acceperat Sacramentum Unctionis Infirmorum in fine Missae celebrationis, cui praesederat Secretarius Particularis, Praefectus Domus Pontificiae, Archiepiscopus Georgius Gänswein.

Mane diei XXXI mensis Decembris, quattuor mulieribus consecratis *Memores Domini* et aegrotorum ministris adstantibus, qui ei assidebant una cum Secretario, Papa Emeritus hora 9.34 in Domino obdormivit et medicus personalis Doctor Patricius Polisca, decessum eius exploravit. Sanctus Pater Franciscus, de notitia certior factus ab Exc.mo D.no Gänswein, statim illuc se contulit, ut obsequium benevolum et fraternum complorato Praedecessori redderet.

---

Denuntiatio mortis, a Dr. Polisca et a Prof. Andrea Arcangeli, Praefecto Directionis de Publica Salute et Valetudine Gubernatoratus Status Civitatis Vaticanae, subsignata, sequens iudicium afferebat:

«Causa iniziale: insufficienza parenchimale; causa intermedia: insufficienza respiratoria; causa terminale: shock cardiogeno».

Paulo poste, tristis nuntius mundo a Moderatore Officii Communicationis Sanctae Sedis, Matthaeo Bruni, sequentibus verbis datus est:

---

«Sabato, 31 dicembre 2022

Con dolore informo che il Papa Emerito, Benedetto XVI, è deceduto oggi alle ore 9.34, nel Monastero *Mater Ecclesiae* in Vaticano.

Non appena possibile seguiranno ulteriori informazioni».

---

Deinceps Officium Communicationis Vaticanum notas de expositione corporis defuncti et de celebratione Exsequiarum praeibit:

«31 dicembre 2022

Le spoglie del Papa Emerito Benedetto XVI riposeranno presso il Monastero *Mater Ecclesiae* fino alla prima mattina di lunedì 2 gennaio; non sono previste visite ufficiali o preghiere pubbliche.

Nello stesso giorno, a partire dalle ore 9.00, la salma verrà esposta per la visita dei fedeli nella Basilica di San Pietro.

Lunedì la Basilica resterà aperta dalle 9.00 alle 19.00, martedì e mercoledì dalle 7.00 alle 19.00.

I funerali presieduti dal Santo Padre verranno celebrati in Piazza San Pietro giovedì 5 gennaio alle ore 9.30. Per la partecipazione non sono previsti biglietti. Chi desidera concelebrare potrà rivolgersi all'Ufficio delle Celebrazioni Liturgiche del Sommo Pontefice (cfr *Notificazione* del 31 dicembre 2022).

Le Delegazioni ufficiali presenti saranno quelle della Germania e dell'Italia».

---

Deinde Magister Pontificiarum Celebrationum Liturgicarum notificavit diem, horam et praescripta, quae ad Missam exsequialem celebrandam Ss.mi Domini Papae Emeriti pertinebant:

Il 5 gennaio 2023, alle ore 9.30, sul Sagrato della Basilica di San Pietro, il Santo Padre Francesco presiederà la Santa Messa esequiale per il defunto Sommo Pontefice Emerito Benedetto XVI.

Al termine della Celebrazione Eucaristica avranno luogo l'*Ultima Commendatio* e la *Valedictio*. Il feretro del Sommo Pontefice Eme-

rito sarà portato nella Basilica di San Pietro e quindi nelle Grotte Vaticane per la tumulazione.

\* \* \*

Potranno concelebbrare con il Santo Padre:

– i Patriarchi e i Cardinali, che si troveranno, entro le ore 9.00, nella Cappella di San Sebastiano in Basilica, portando con sé la mitra bianca damascata;

– gli Arcivescovi e i Vescovi, muniti di apposito biglietto, rilasciato dall’Ufficio delle Celebrazioni Liturgiche del Sommo Pontefice attraverso la procedura indicata nel sito [biglietti.liturgiepontificie.va](http://biglietti.liturgiepontificie.va), che si troveranno, entro le ore 8.30, al Braccio di Costantino, portando con sé amitto, camice, cingolo e mitra bianca;

– i Presbiteri, muniti di apposito biglietto, rilasciato dall’Ufficio delle Celebrazioni Liturgiche del Sommo Pontefice attraverso la procedura indicata nel sito [biglietti.liturgiepontificie.va](http://biglietti.liturgiepontificie.va), che si troveranno, entro le ore 8.30, direttamente nel settore loro riservato in Piazza San Pietro, dove indosseranno l’amitto, il camice, il cingolo e la stola rossa che avranno portato con sé.

\* \* \*

I Patriarchi, i Cardinali, gli Arcivescovi e i Vescovi e tutti coloro che, in conformità al Motu Proprio «Pontificalis Domus», compongono la Cappella Pontificia e, muniti della *Notificazione* richiesta per il tramite dell’indirizzo email: [celebrazioni@celebra.va](mailto:celebrazioni@celebra.va), desiderano partecipare alla celebrazione liturgica senza concelebbrare, indossando l’abito corale loro proprio, sono pregati di trovarsi entro le ore 9.00 sul Sagrato della Basilica di San Pietro.

Città del Vaticano, 31 dicembre 2022

*Per mandato del Santo Padre*

Mons. DIEGO GIOVANNI RAVELLI

*Maestro delle Celebrazioni Liturgiche Pontificie*

## EXPOSITIO

Vespere diei XXXI mensis Decembris, hora 19.00, Exc.mus Georgius Gänswein ritui vestitionis Papae Emerito praefuit, adstantibus Magistro Pontificiarum Celebrationum Liturgicarum una cum Caeremoniariis Rev.mo D.no Ioanne Dubina et Rev.mo D.no Lubomiro Welnitz.

Deinde corpus defuncti Pontificis in sacello Monasterii *Mater Ecclesiae* expositum est et visitationes privatae inceptae sunt.

Die nocteque precibus ei advigilaverunt familiares et parvi coetus, qui venerunt ut obsequium ei redderent, usque ad mane diei II mensis Ianuarii anni 2023.

---

Die II mensis Ianuarii, hora 7.00, feretrum Pontificis Emeriti a Monasterio *Mater Ecclesiae* ad Basilicam Sancti Petri translatum est, cum cantu Litaniarum Sanctorum.

Archipresbyter Basilicae Sancti Petri, Maurus S.R.E. Cardinalis Gambetti ritui praefuit, familiaribus, Canonicis, Coadiutoribus et Paenitentariis Basilicae adstantibus. Postquam positum est apud Altar Confessionis, corpus aqua sancta aspersum est atque turificatum.

Multitudo fidelium tres dies corpus Benedicti XVI invisit et ei advigilavit, et quamvis Basilica clausa esset, etiam nocte coetus amicorum, defuncti familiaribus comitantibus, venerunt.

## DEPOSITIO ET MISSA EXSEQUALIS

Vespere feriae IV, diei IV mensis Ianuarii anni 2023, hora 20.00, ante Missam exsequiarum corpus Pontificis Emeriti in conditorio ligneo cupressae est positum.

Secretarius Status Petrus S.R.E. Cardinalis Parolin ritui praefuit. Participaverunt S.R.E. Cardinales Ioannes Baptista Re, Collegii Cardinalium Decanus, Angelus De Donatis, Vicarius Generalis Suae Sanctitatis pro dioecesi Urbis, Maurus Gambetti, Archipresbyter Basilicae Vaticanae, Ferdinandus

Vérgez Alzaga, Praeses Gubernatoratus SCV; Exc.mi Archiepiscopi Edgarius Peña Parra, Substitutus Secretariae Status Sectionis de Generalibus Negotiis, Georgius Gänswein, Praefectus Domus Pontificiae; Rev.mi Domini Horatius Pepe, Secretarius Fabricae Sancti Petri, Leonardus Sapienza, Domus Pontificiae Regens, Canonici et Coadiutores Basilicae Vaticanae; familiares defuncti: quattuor *Memores Domini*, quattuor aegrotorum ministri et Dr. Patricius Polisca.

Post introductionem Celebrantis, Magister Pontificiarum Celebrationum Liturgicarum Rogitum legit, cuius exemplaria ab adstantibus subsignata sunt. Rev.mus D.nus Didacus Ioannes Ravelli et Secretarius Summi Pontificis Emeriti vultum defuncti velo operuerunt. Postea Celebrans aqua benedicta corpus aspersit.

Tandem Magister pallium, bulgam nomismata continentem, quae sub Pontificatu defuncti Benedicti XVI cusa sunt, ac simul tubum cum Rogito sigillo munitum Officii Celebrationum Liturgicarum Summi Pontificis in conditorio posuit.

Hic est Rogiti textus, quod in Pontificis Emeriti conditorio positum est:

In lumine Christi a mortuis Resurgentis, die tricesimo primo mensis Decembris anno Domini bismillesimo vicesimo secundo, hora nona, triginta quattuor momentis elapsis, ante meridiem, dum annus ad finem vergebat et iam ad *Te Deum* canendum parati eramus propter diversa beneficia a Domino concessa, Ecclesiae dilectus Pastor emeritus, Benedictus XVI, de hoc mundo ad Patrem migravit. Eius transitum tota Ecclesia orans una cum Summo Pontifice Francisco comitata est.

Benedictus XVI ducentesimus sexagesimus quintus fuit Pontifex. Cuius memoria in universae Ecclesiae atque omnium hominum cordibus perseverans manet.

Iosephus Aloisius Ratzinger, die undevicesimo mensis Aprilis anno bismillesimo quinto Summus Pontifex electus, in vico v.d. *Marktl am Inn*, intra fines dioecesis Passaviensis, die decimo sexto mensis Aprilis anno millesimo nongentesimo vicesimo septimo ortus est. Pater eius munere publici ministri fungebatur, ex agricolarum Bavariae inferioris familia natus, cuius fortuna admodum erat exigua. Mater opificum de vico v.d. *Rimsting* ad lacum Chiemense erat filia, quae ante nuptias opus coquae varia apud deversoria exercuerat.



Infantiam et adolescentiam in vico v.d. *Traunstein* deguit, parvo oppido prope Austriae fines, quod triginta circiter chilometra a Salisburgo aberat, ubi institutione sua christiana, humana et culturali exornatus est.

Tempus iuventutis expeditum haud fluxit. Fides et institutio familiaris ad durum aerumnarum nazistarum regiminis tirocinium eum pararunt, in quo hostilem erga Ecclesiam catholicam animum in Germania cognovit. His in difficilibus adiunctis pulchritudinem et veritatem Christi fidei repperit.

Ab anno millesimo nongentesimo quadragesimo sexto ad annum millesimum nongentesimum quinquagesimum primum apud Scholam Superiorem Philosophiae et Theologiae Frisingensem et apud Universitatem Monacensem studia excoluit. Die undetricesimo mensis Iunii anno millesimo nongentesimo quinquagesimo primo presbyteratu auctus est et subsequenti anno opus disciplinae in eadem Schola Frisingensi incepit tradendae. Deinde, magistri munere Bonnae, Monasterii, Tubingae et Ratisbonae est functus.

Anno millesimo nongentesimo sexagesimo secundo peritus officialis Sacrosancti Oecumenici Concilii Vaticani II factus est, uti Cardinalis Iosephi Frings adiutor.

Die vicesimo quinto mensis Martii anno millesimo nongentesimo septuagesimo septimo a Paulo Pp VI Archiepiscopus Monacensis et Frisingensis electus est et die duodetricesimo mensis Maii eiusdem anni ordinationem episcopalem recepit, sententiam sibi deligens «Cooperatores veritatis». Idem Pontifex in Consistorio die septimo et vicesimo mensis Iunii anno millesimo nongentesimo septuagesimo septimo habito in Patrum Cardinalium Collegium eum rettulit, tributo ei titulo Sanctae Mariae Consolatricis in regione Tiburtina.

Die vicesimo quinto mensis Novembris anno millesimo nongentesimo octogesimo primo Ioannes Paulus Pp II eum Congregationis pro Doctrina Fidei nominavit Praefectum et die decimo quinto mensis Februarii insequentis anni pastoralis Archidioecesis Monacensis et Frisingensis cura abdicavit.

Die sexto mensis Novembris anno millesimo nongentesimo nonagesimo octavo Collegii Patrum Cardinalium Decanus Vicarius factus est et die tricesimo mensis Novembris anno bismillesimo secundo Decanus, sumpto titulo Ecclesiae suburbicariae Ostiensis.

Feria sexta, die octavo mensis Aprilis anno bismillesimo quinto, Sanctae Missae in exsequiis Ioannis Pauli Pp II in Foro Petriano praesedit.

In Conclavi die undevicesimo mensis Aprilis anno bismillesimo quinto Summus Pontifex a Patribus Cardinalibus electus est atque ipse sibi nomen imposuit Benedictum XVI. E Porticu Benedictionum «humilem operarium in vinea Domini» sese descripsit.

Pontificatus sui fulcrum Benedictus Pp XVI propositum Dei et fidei posuit, necnon perseverantem vultus Domini Iesu Christi perquisitionem, ad cuius cognitionem omnes adiuvit opere potissimum suo, cui titulus *Iesus de Nazareth*, in tria volumina diviso. Ampla atque doctrina biblica ac theologica praeditus, mira facultate enituit perspicua de summis capitibus doctrinae et spiritualitatis compendia concipiendi, sicut et de hodiernae aetatis vita Ecclesiae et humano cultu praecipuis.

Dialogo cum anglicanis, iudaeis et aliarum religionum moderatoribus efficaciter favit, sicut et cum sacerdotibus e Communitate Sancti Pii X usus redintegravit.

Mane diei undecimi mensis Februarii anno bismillesimo decimo tertio in Consistorio pro ordinariis decretis circa tres causas canonizationis convocato, post votum Patrum Cardinalium, declarationem, quae sequitur, legit: «Bene conscius sum hoc munus secundum suam essentiam spirituales non solum agendo et loquendo exerceri debere, sed non minus patiando et orando. Attamen in mundo nostri temporis rapidis mutationibus subiecto et quaestionibus magni ponderis pro vita fidei perturbato ad navem Sancti Petri gubernandam et ad annuntian- dum Evangelium etiam vigor quidam corporis et animae necessarius est, qui ultimis mensibus in me modo tali minuitur, ut incapacitatem meam ad ministerium mihi commissum bene administrandum agnos- cere debeam. Quapropter bene conscius ponderis huius actus plena libertate declaro me ministerio Episcopi Romae, Successoris Sancti Petri, mihi per manus Cardinalium die 19 aprilis MMV commissio renuntiare ita ut a die 28 februarii MMXIII, hora 20, sedes Romae, sedes Sancti Petri vacet et Conclave ad eligendum novum Summum Pontificem ab his quibus competit convocandum esse».

In postrema Audientia Generali Pontificatus sui, die scilicet vicesi- mo septimo mensis Februarii anno bismillesimo decimo tertio, gratias

omnibus et singulis agens etiam ob reverentiam et benevolentiam, quibus consilium eius receptum est, asseveravit: «Iter Ecclesiae oratione ac meditatione comitari perseverabo, eodem Domini eiusque Sponsae studio, quod retinui hucusque cotidie et semper retinere velim».

Post brevem commorationem in Palatio Arcis Gandulphi, postremos vitae annos in Civitate Vaticana degit, intra moenia monasterii Matris Ecclesiae, preci ac meditationi deditus.

Doctrinae magisterium Benedicti Pp XVI in tribus Litteris encyclicis *Deus caritas est* (diei vicesimi quinti mensis Decembris anni bismillesimi quinti), *Spe salvi* (diei tricesimi mensis Novembris anni bismillesimi septimi) et *Caritas in veritate* (diei undetricesimi mensis Iunii anni bismillesimi noni) expositum videtur. Ecclesiae quattuor Adhortationes Apostolicas tradidit, plurimas Constitutiones Apostolicas, Litteras Apostolicas, praeter catecheses in Audientiis Generalibus et Allocutionibus habitis, additis illis in viginti quattuor itineribus Apostolicis ubique per orbem pronuntiatis.

Coram relativismo et atheismo pratico magis magisque irrepen-  
tibus, anno bismillesimo decimo Litteris Apostolicis Motu Proprio datis *Ubicumque et semper* Pontificium Consilium de Nova Evangelizatione promovenda instituit, cui omnia commisit quae ad catechesim attinet.

Clericorum crimina contra minores seu vulnerabiles firmiter oppugnavit, Ecclesiam iugiter ad conversionem, orationem, paenitentiam et purificationem revocans.

Theologus probatae auctoritatis, insigne patrimonium studiorum pervestigationumque de praecipuis institutis fidei reliquit.

CORPUS

BENEDICTI XVI P.M.

VIXIT A. XCV M. VIII D. XV

ECCLESIAE UNIVERSAE PRÆFUIT

A. VII M. X D. IX

A D. XIX M. APR. A. MMV AD D. XXVIII M. FEB. A. MMXIII

DECESSIT DIE XXXI M. DECEMBRIS

ANNO DOMINI MMXXII

Semper in Christo vivas, Pater Sancte!

Subsignaverunt:

S.R.E. Card. Ioannes Baptista Re, *Decanus Collegii Cardinalium*

S.R.E. Card. Petrus Parolin, *Secretarius Status*

S.R.E. Card. Angelus De Donatis, *Vicarius Generalis Suae Sanctitatis pro dioecesi Urbis*

S.R.E. Card. Maurus Gambetti, *Archipresbyter Basilicae Sancti Petri*

S.R.E. Card. Ferdinandus Vérguez Alzaga, *Praeses Gubernatoratus SCV*

Ex.mus D.nus Edgarius Peña Parra, *Substitutus Secretariae Status*

Ex.mus D.nus Georgius Gänswein, *Praefectus Domus Pontificiae et Secretarius Particularis Benedicti XVI*

Rev.mus D.nus Leonardus Sapienza, *Regens Domus Pontificiae*

Rev.mus D.nus Didacus Ioannes Ravelli, *Magister Pontificiarum Celebrationum Liturgicarum*

*Familiares: 4 Memores Domini et Doctor Patricius Polisca*

---

Ritus exsequiarum hora 8.45, die 5 mensis Ianuarii inceptus est.

Conditorium Papae Emeriti umeris “selliferorum” e Basilica ad summam aream Petriani fori translatum et ante altar positum est. Tinnitus campanarum Basilicae, plausus increscens et praesertim Corona Marialis comitati sunt Papam defunctum. Post feretrum Archiepiscopus Gänswein et familiares.

Hora 9.30 incepta est Missa, cui praefuit Papa Franciscus. Lectio I ex libro Isaiae (29, 16-19) lingua hispanica proclamata est. Psalmus XXII latine cantatus est. Lectio II e prima Epistula Petri Apostoli (1, 3-9) lingua anglica facta est. Passus Evangelii (*Lc 23, 39-46*) sermone italico cantatus est.

Hic est textus homiliae, quam Papa Franciscus fecit, post lectionem sancti Evangelii:

«Padre, nelle tue mani consegno il mio spirito» (*Lc 23, 46*).

Sono le ultime parole che il Signore pronunciò sulla croce; il suo ultimo sospiro — potremmo dire —, capace di confermare ciò che caratterizzò tutta la sua vita: un continuo consegnarsi nelle mani del Padre suo. Mani di perdono e di compassione, di guarigione e di mise-

ricordia, mani di unzione e benedizione, che lo spinsero a consegnarsi anche nelle mani dei suoi fratelli. Il Signore, aperto alle storie che incontrava lungo il cammino, si lasciò cesellare dalla volontà di Dio, prendendo sulle spalle tutte le conseguenze e le difficoltà del Vangelo fino a vedere le sue mani piagate per amore: «Guarda le mie mani», disse a Tommaso (*Gv 20, 27*), e lo dice ad ognuno di noi: “Guarda le mie mani”. Mani piagate che vanno incontro e non cessano di offrirsi, affinché conosciamo l’amore che Dio ha per noi e crediamo in esso (cfr *1 Gv 4, 16*).<sup>1</sup>

«Padre, nelle tue mani consegno il mio spirito» è l’invito e il programma di vita che ispira e vuole modellare come un vasaio (cfr *Is 29, 16*) il cuore del pastore, fino a che palpitino in esso i medesimi sentimenti di Cristo Gesù (cfr *Fil 2, 5*). *Dedizione grata* di servizio al Signore e al suo Popolo che nasce dall’aver accolto un dono totalmente gratuito: “Tu mi appartieni... tu appartieni a loro”, sussurra il Signore; “tu stai sotto la protezione delle mie mani, sotto la protezione del mio cuore. Rimani nel cavo delle mie mani e dammi le tue”.<sup>2</sup> È la condiscendenza di Dio e la sua vicinanza capace di porsi nelle mani fragili dei suoi discepoli per nutrire il suo popolo e dire con Lui: prendete e mangiate, prendete e bevete, questo è il mio corpo, corpo che si offre per voi (cfr *Lc 22, 19*). La *synkatabasis* totale di Dio.

*Dedizione orante*, che si plasma e si affina silenziosamente tra i crocevia e le contraddizioni che il pastore deve affrontare (cfr *1 Pt 1, 6-7*) e l’invito fiducioso a pascere il gregge (cfr *Gv 21, 17*). Come il Maestro, porta sulle spalle la stanchezza dell’intercessione e il logoramento dell’unzione per il suo popolo, specialmente là dove la bontà deve lottare e i fratelli vedono minacciata la loro dignità (cfr *Eb 5, 7-9*). In questo incontro di intercessione il Signore va generando la mitezza capace di capire, accogliere, sperare e scommettere al di là delle incomprensioni che ciò può suscitare. Fecondità invisibile e inafferrabile, che nasce dal sapere in quali mani si è posta la fiducia (cfr *2 Tim 1, 12*). Fiducia orante e adoratrice, capace di interpre-

<sup>1</sup> Cfr BENEDETTO XVI, Enc. *Deus caritas est*, 1.

<sup>2</sup> Cfr ID., *Omelia nella Messa Crismale*, 13 aprile 2006.

tare le azioni del pastore e adattare il suo cuore e le sue decisioni ai tempi di Dio (cfr *Gv* 21, 18): «Pascere vuol dire amare, e amare vuol dire anche essere pronti a soffrire. Amare significa: dare alle pecore il vero bene, il nutrimento della verità di Dio, della parola di Dio, il nutrimento della sua presenza».<sup>3</sup>

E anche *dedizione sostenuta* dalla consolazione dello Spirito, che sempre lo precede nella missione: nella ricerca appassionata di comunicare la bellezza e la gioia del Vangelo (cfr Esort. ap. *Gaudete et exsultate*, 57), nella testimonianza feconda di coloro che, come Maria, rimangono in molti modi ai piedi della croce, in quella pace dolorosa ma robusta che non aggredisce né assoggetta; e nella speranza ostinata ma paziente che il Signore compirà la sua promessa, come aveva promesso ai nostri padri e alla sua discendenza per sempre (cfr *Lc* 1, 54-55).

Anche noi, saldamente legati alle ultime parole del Signore e alla testimonianza che marcò la sua vita, vogliamo, come comunità ecclesiale, seguire le sue orme e affidare il nostro fratello alle mani del Padre: che queste mani di misericordia trovino la sua lampada accesa con l'olio del Vangelo, che egli ha sparso e testimoniato durante la sua vita (cfr *Mt* 25, 6-7).

San Gregorio Magno, al termine della *Regola pastorale*, invitava ed esortava un amico a offrirgli questa compagnia spirituale: «In mezzo alle tempeste della mia vita, mi conforta la fiducia che tu mi terrai a galla sulla tavola delle tue preghiere, e che, se il peso delle mie colpe mi abbatte e mi umilia, tu mi presterai l'aiuto dei tuoi meriti per sollevarmi». È la consapevolezza del Pastore che non può portare da solo quello che, in realtà, mai potrebbe sostenere da solo e, perciò, sa abbandonarsi alla preghiera e alla cura del popolo che gli è stato affidato.<sup>4</sup> È il Popolo fedele di Dio che, riunito, accompagna e affida la vita di chi è stato suo pastore. Come le donne del Vangelo al sepolcro, siamo qui con il profumo della gratitudine e l'unguento della speranza per dimostrargli, ancora una volta, l'amore che non si perde; vogliamo farlo con la stessa

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*, *Omelia nella Messa di inizio del pontificato*, 24 aprile 2005.

<sup>4</sup> Cfr *ibid.*

unzione, sapienza, delicatezza e dedizione che egli ha saputo elargire nel corso degli anni. Vogliamo dire insieme: “Padre, nelle tue mani consegniamo il suo spirito”.

Benedetto, fedele amico dello Sposo, che la tua gioia sia perfetta nell’udire definitivamente e per sempre la sua voce!

## TUMULATIO

In fine Missae Papa Franciscus ritui Extremae Commendationis atque Valedictionis praefuit et S.R.E. Cardinalis Decanus Ioannes Baptista Re feretrum Summi Pontificis Emeriti aqua benedicta aspersit cum ritu turificationis.

Cum “selliferi” conditorium umeris apprehenderunt et processio ad cryptas Vaticanas incoharet, Papa Franciscus se attulit in medium summae areae Petriani fori et, gestu benedictionis porrecto, manum supra conditorium posuit, caput inclinans ut signum extremae commoventis valedictionis erga suum Praedecessorem.

Cantu Magnificat comitante, feretrum Basilicam Sancti Petri percurrit et per Portam Precis latum est in cryptas Vaticanas, in eundem locum ubi corpora Sanctorum Ioannis XXIII et Ioannis Pauli II deposita sunt, prope sepulcrum Beati Petri Apostoli.

Ritui tumulationis praefuit S.R.E. Cardinalis Ioannes Baptista Re, Decanus Collegii Cardinalium. Celebrationi intefuerunt S.R.E. Cardinales Petrus Parolin, Secretarius Status, Angelus De Donatis, Vicarius Suae Sanctitatis pro dioecesi Urbis, Maurus Gambetti, Archipresbyter Basilicae Sancti Petri, Ferdinandus Vérgez Alzaga, Praeses Gubernatoratus SCV; Exc.mi Archiepiscopi Edgarius Peña Parra, Substitutus Secretariae Status Sectionis de Generalibus Negotiis, Georgius Gänswein, Praefectus Domus Pontificiae; Rev.mi Domini Horatius Pepe, Secretarius Fabricae Sancti Petri, Leonardus Sapienza, Domus Pontificiae Regens, quinque Canonici quorum unus notarii munere fungens, familiares defuncti: quattuor *Memores Domini*, quattuor aegrotorum ministri et Dr. Patricius Polisca.

Cum Corona Marialis recitaretur, conditorium ligneum cupresseum ligatum est sericis taeniis rubris supra quas, cera signatoria liquefacta, sigilla

Praefecturae Domus Pontificiae, Officii Pontificiarum Celebrationum Liturgicarum et Capituli Vaticani impressa sunt.

Idem conditorium deinde positum est in capsula plumbea cuius tegimentum ipsis sigillis plumbatum et munitum est. Supra tegimentum affixae sunt, ex aere factae, imago crucis, insignia defuncti Papae Emeriti et sequens inscriptio:

CORPUS  
BENEDICTI XVI P.M.  
VIXIT A. XCV M. VIII D. XV  
ECCLESIAE UNIVERSAE PRÆFUIT  
A. VII M. X D. IX  
A D. XIX M. APR. A. MMV AD D. XXVIII M. FEB. A. MMXIII  
DECESSIT DIE XXXI M. DECEMBRIS  
ANNO DOMINI MMXXII

Deinde capsula plumbea in alia lignea roborea inserta est, quae veluti superiores firmiter clausa est eius tegimento, supra quod sculptae ex aere sunt eadem crux, insignia et inscriptio.

Exuviae Benedicti XVI depositae sunt in sepulcro iam parato inter Beatum Ioannem Paulum I et Sanctum Paulum VI et Celebrans aqua benedicta eas aspersit.

Notarius Capituli Basilicae Vaticanae authenticum inhumationis actum confecit eumque legit coram adstantibus. Postea documentum, quod tumulationis peractae testimonium fecit, subsignaverunt:

S.R.E. Cardinalis Maurus Gambetti, *Archipresbyter Basilicae Sancti Petri*

Exc.mus Georgius Gänswein, *Praefectus Domus Pontificiae et Secretarius Particularis Benedicti XVI*

Rev.mus D.nus Didacus Ioannes Ravelli, *Magister Pontificiarum Celebrationum Liturgicarum*

Rev.mus D.nus Daniel Aemilius Estivill, *Tabularius et Notarius Capituli Vaticani*



**BENEDICTI XVI, PP. EMERITI, TESTAMENTUM**

29. August 2006

*Mein geistliches Testament*

Wenn ich in dieser späten Stunde meines Lebens auf die Jahrzehnte zurückschaue, die ich durchwandert habe, so sehe ich zuallererst, wieviel Grund ich zu danken habe. Ich danke vor allen anderen Gott selber, dem Geber aller guten Gaben, der mir das Leben geschenkt und mich durch vielerlei Wirrnisse hindurchgeführt hat; immer wieder mich aufgehoben hat, wenn ich zu gleiten begann, mir immer wieder neu das Licht seines Angesichts geschenkt hat. In der Rückschau sehe und verstehe ich, daß auch die dunklen und mühsamen Strecken dieses Weges mir zum Heile waren und daß Er mich gerade da gut geführt hat.

Ich danke meinen Eltern, die mir in schwerer Zeit das Leben geschenkt und unter großen Verzichten mir mit ihrer Liebe ein wundervolles Zuhause bereitet haben, das als helles Licht alle meine Tage bis heute durchstrahlt. Der hellsichtige Glaube meines Vaters hat uns Geschwister glauben gelehrt und hat als Wegweisung mitten in all meinen wissenschaftlichen Erkenntnissen standgehalten; die herzliche Frömmigkeit und die große Güte der Mutter bleiben ein Erbe, für das ich nicht genug danken kann. Meine Schwester hat mir selbstlos und voll gütiger Sorge über Jahrzehnte gedient; mein Bruder hat mir mit der Hellsicht seiner Urteile, mit seiner kraftvollen Entschiedenheit und mit der Heiterkeit des Herzens immer wieder den Weg gebahnt; ohne dieses immer neue Vorausgehen und Mitgehen hätte ich den rechten Weg nicht finden können.

Von Herzen danke ich Gott für die vielen Freunde, Männer und Frauen, die er mir immer wieder zur Seite gestellt hat; für die Mitarbeiter auf allen Stationen meines Weges; für die Lehrer und Schüler, die er mir gegeben hat. Sie alle vertraue ich dankbar seiner Güte an. Und danken möchte ich dem Herrn für die schöne Heimat im bayerischen Voralpenland, in der ich immer wieder den Glanz des Schöpfers selbst durchscheinen sehen durfte. Den Menschen

meiner Heimat danke ich dafür, daß ich bei ihnen immer wieder die Schönheit des Glaubens erleben durfte. Ich bete darum, daß unser Land ein Land des Glaubens bleibt und bitte Euch, liebe Landsleute: Laßt euch nicht vom Glauben abbringen. Endlich danke ich Gott für all das Schöne, das ich auf den verschiedenen Stationen meines Weges, besonders aber in Rom und in Italien erfahren durfte, das mir zur zweiten Heimat geworden ist.

Alle, denen ich irgendwie Unrecht getan habe, bitte ich von Herzen um Verzeihung.

Was ich vorhin von meinen Landsleuten gesagt habe, sage ich nun zu allen, die meinem Dienst in der Kirche anvertraut waren: Steht fest im Glauben! Laßt euch nicht verwirren! Oft sieht es aus, als ob die Wissenschaft — auf der einen Seite die Naturwissenschaften, auf der anderen Seite die Geschichtsforschung (besonders die Exegese der Heiligen Schriften) — unwiderlegliche Einsichten vorzuweisen hätten, die dem katholischen Glauben entgegenstünden. Ich habe von weitem die Wandlungen der Naturwissenschaft miterlebt und sehen können, wie scheinbare Gewißheiten gegen den Glauben dahinschmolzen, sich nicht als Wissenschaft, sondern als nur scheinbar der Wissenschaft zugehörige philosophische Interpretationen erwiesen — wie freilich auch der Glaube im Dialog mit den Naturwissenschaften die Grenze der Reichweite seiner Aussagen und so sein Eigentliches besser verstehen lernte. Seit 60 Jahren begleite ich nun den Weg der Theologie, besonders auch der Bibelwissenschaften, und habe mit den wechselnden Generationen unerschütterlich scheinende Thesen zusammenbrechen sehen, die sich als bloße Hypothesen erwiesen: die liberale Generation (Harnack, Jülicher usw.), die existenzialistische Generation (Bultmann usw.), die marxistische Generation. Ich habe gesehen und sehe, wie aus dem Gewirr der Hypothesen wieder neu die Vernunft des Glaubens hervorgetreten ist und hervortritt. Jesus Christus ist wirklich der Weg, die Wahrheit und das Leben — und die Kirche ist in all ihren Mängeln wirklich Sein Leib.

Endlich bitte ich demütig: Betet für mich, damit der Herr mich trotz all meiner Sünden und Unzulänglichkeiten in die ewigen Wohnungen einläßt. Allen, die mir anvertraut sind, gilt Tag um Tag mein von Herzen kommendes Gebet.

Benedictus PP. XVI

**Plurimae legationes Ecclesiarum et Communitatum ecclesialium, necnon Consociationum Iudaicarum et aliarum Orbis Religionum, quae exsequiis Benedicti XVI interfuerunt, hic recensentur:**

## DÉLÉGATIONS DES ÉGLISES ORTHODOXES

### PATRIARCAT OECUMÉNIQUE

Son Éminence EMMANUEL, Métropolitte de Calcedoine.

Son Éminence POLICARPO, Métropolitte d'Italie.

### PATRIARCAT D'ALEXANDRIE ET DE TOUTE L'AFRIQUE

Son Éminence GENNADIOS, Métropolitte du Botswana.

### PATRIARCAT DE MOSCOU

Son Éminence ANTONIJ, Métropolitte de Volokolamsk, Président du Département des relations ecclésiastiques extérieures.

M. IVAN NIKOLAEV, Assistant du Département.

### PATRIARCAT SERBE

Son Excellence ANDREJ, Évêque d'Autriche, Suisse, Italie et Malte.

### PATRIARCAT DE ROUMANIE

Son Excellence SILUAN, Diocèse orthodoxe roumain d'Italie.

Son Excellence ATANASIE DE BOGDANIA, Évêque auxiliaire.

### PATRIARCAT DE BULGARIE

Rév. IVAN IVANOV, Administrateur des Communautés bulgares en Italie.

### ÉGLISE ORTHODOXE DE CHYPRE

Son Éminence VASILIOS, Métropolitte de Konstantia.

### ÉGLISE ORTHODOXE DE GRÈCE

Son Éminence IGNATIOS, Métropolitte de Dimitriade.

Rév. Père Archimandrite AMFILOCHIOS MILTOS.

ÉGLISE ORTHODOXE D'AMÉRIQUE  
(Orthodoxe Church in America)

Sa Béatitude le Métropolitte ТИХОН, Primat de l'Église orthodoxe d'Amérique.  
Rév. ALESSANDRO MARGHERITINO, Secrétaire de l'Église orthodoxe d'Amérique.

ÉGLISE ORTHODOXE DE MACÉDOINE DU NORD

Son Éminence JOSIF, Métropolitte de Tetovo-Gostivar.  
Rév. Diacre STEFAN GOGOVSKI.

DÉLÉGATIONS  
DES ÉGLISES ORTHODOXES ORIENTALES

PATRIARCAT COPTE ORTHODOXE D'EGYPTE

Son Excellence BARNABA EL SORYANY, Évêque pour l'Italie.

ÉGLISE APOSTOLIQUE ARMÉNIENNE  
(Siège d'Etchmiadzine)

Son Éminence KHAJAG BARSAMIAN, Représentant de l'Église apostolique arménienne (Siège d'Etchmiadzine) près le Saint-Siège.  
Son Éminence BAGRAT GALSTANYAN, Primat, Diocèse de Tavush en Arménie.  
Son Excellence TIRAN PETROSYAN, Legat pontifical d'Europe centrale.

ÉGLISE APOSTOLIQUE ARMÉNIENNE  
(Siège de Cilicie)

Son Éminence NAREG ALEMEZIAN.

ÉGLISE MALANKARE ORTHODOXE SYRIAQUE

Sa Grâce ABRAHAM MAR STEPHANOS, Métropolitte du Royaume-Uni, d'Europe et d'Afrique.

---

ÉGLISE ASSYRIENNE DE L'ORIENT

Sa Grâce MAR ODISHO ORAHAM, Évêque de Scandinavie et d'Allemagne.  
Rév. RAFED MAROKI ZAIA DEKHI ELISS.

ÉGLISE ET COMMUNIONS ÉCCLÉSIALES D'OCCIDENT

CONFÉRENCE INTERNATIONALE  
DES ÉVÊQUES VIEUX-CATHOLIQUES DE L'UNION D'UTRECHT

Très Révérend Dr HEINRICH LEDERLEITNER, Autriche.

COMMUNION ANGLICANE

Sa Grâce l'Archevêque IAN ERNEST, Représentant de l'Archevêque de Canterbury près le Saint-Siège, Directeur du Centre anglican à Rome.  
Très Révérend CHRISTOPHER HILL, Représentant du Secrétaire général de la Communion anglicane.  
Très Révérend DAVID HAMID, Évêque suffragant du Diocèse en Europe.

CONSEIL MÉTHODISTE MONDIAL

Rév. MATTHEW LAFERTY, Directeur du Bureau œcuménique méthodiste à Rome.

COMMUNION MONDIALE DES ÉGLISES RÉFORMÉES

Rév. MARCO FORNERONE, Table vaudoise, Rome.

FÉDÉRATION LUTHÉRIENNE MONDIALE

Rév. Pasteur Dr MICHAEL JONAS, Rome.

ALLIANCE ÉVANGÉLIQUE MONDIALE

Rév. SAMUEL CHIANG, Vice-Secrétaire général pour les ministères de l'Alliance évangélique mondiale.

**ARMÉE DU SALUT**

Lieutenant-Colonel ANDREW MORGAN, Chef de commandement, Italie.

**ORGANISATIONS CHRÉTIENNES INTERNATIONALES****CONSEIL ŒCUMÉNIQUE DES ÉGLISES**

Très Révérend Dr HEINRICH BEDFORD-STROHM, Modérateur du Conseil œcuménique des Églises.

**ITALIE — YOUNG MEN CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION**

(Young Men Christian Association — Italy)

Dr FEDERICO SERRA, Président du Congrès.

**DÉLÉGATIONS DU JUDAÏSME****ROME ET ITALIE**

Mme NOEMI DI SEGNI, Président de l'Union des Communautés juives italiennes.

Mme RUTH DUREGHELLO, Président de la Communauté juive de Rome.

**REPRÉSENTANTS DE L'ISLAM****UNION DES COMMUNAUTÉS**

**ET ORGANISATIONS ISLAMIQUE EN ITALIE (U.C.O.I.I.)**

D. YASSINE LAFRAM, Président.

**COMMUNAUTÉ RELIGIEUSE ISLAMIQUE ITALIENNE (Milan)**

D. YAHYA SERGIO YAHE PALLAVICINI, Vice-Président.

---

**Interfuerunt praeterea Legationes Nationum, quae sequuntur:**

## DÉLÉGATIONS DES ÉTATS

### ALLEMAGNE (République Fédérale d')

S.E. M. FRANK-WALTER STEINMEIER, Président de la République.

S.E. Mme ELKE BÜDENBENDER, Épouse de M. le Président de la République.

\* \* \*

S.E. Mme BÄRBEL BAS, Président du Bundestag.

S.E. M. OLAF SCHOLZ, Chancelier.

S.E. M. PETER TSCHENTSCHER, Président du Bundesrat.

S.E. M. Dr. HARBART, Président de la Cour Constitutionnelle.

S.E. Mme NANCY FAESER, Ministre de l'Intérieur.

S.E. M. MARKUS SÖDER, Ministre-président de l'État libre de Bavière.

M. FRIEDRICH MERZ, Président de la CDU.

Mgr KARL JÜSTEN, Directeur de l'Office catholique de Berlin.

### ITALIE

S.E. M. SERGIO MATTARELLA, Président de la République.

S.E. Mme LAURA MATTARELLA, Fille de M. le Président de la République.

M. Dr. UGO ZAMPETTI, Secrétaire Général de la Présidence de la République.

M. Dr. FABIO CASSESE, Conseiller diplomatique du Président de la République.

\* \* \*

S.E. Mme GIORGIA MELONI, Président du Conseil des Ministres.

S.E. M. IGNAZIO LA RUSSA, Président du Sénat de la République.

S.E. M. LORENZO FONTANA, Président de la Chambre des Députés.

S.E. Mme SILVANA SCIARRA, Président de la Cour Constitutionnelle.

S.E. M. ANTONIO TAJANI, Ministre des Affaires étrangères et de la Coopération internationale.

S.E. M. ALFREDO MANTOVANO, Sous-secrétaire d'État à la Présidence du Conseil des Ministres.

S.E. M. FRANCESCO DI NITTO, Ambassadeur d'Italie près le Saint-Siège.

M. Dr. BRUNO A. PASQUINO, Chef du Cérémonial Diplomatique de la République.

M. Dr. CARLO DEODATO, Secrétaire Général de la Présidence du Conseil des Ministres.

Mme Dr. ELISABETTA SERAFIN, Secrétaire Général du Sénat de la République.

M. Dr. FABRIZIO CASTALDI, Secrétaire Général de la Chambre des Députés.

M. Dr. UMBERTO ZINGALES, Secrétaire Général de la Cour Constitutionnelle.

M. Dr. ETTORE SEQUI, Secrétaire Général du Ministère des Affaires étrangères et de la Coopération internationale.

M. Dr. FRANCESCO GENUARDI, Chef d'équipe du Ministre des Affaires étrangères et de la Coopération internationale.



## **QUAERELAE TESTIMONIA PAPAE FRANCISCO MISSA**

### **A MODERATORIBUS ECCLESiarUM ET COMMUNITATUM ECCLESIALIUM**

It is with great sadness that as this year draws to a close and in anticipation of welcoming the New Year, we also bid farewell to Your direct predecessor on Saint Peter's Throne of the Sister Church of Rome. We, therefore, offer to You, dear Brother, and to the entire Catholic Church the condolences of the Holy and Great Church of Constantinople, her hierarchs, and our personal commiserations in light of this loss.

While we know that our Brother, Pope Benedict XVI, suffered for the last few years, we acknowledge that he lived a full life, complete with both difficulties and countless blessings. However, his memorable contributions not only to Your Church, but in academia — being one of the greatest theologians of the 20th century — and in building bridges — evident in his commitment to dialogue, especially with the Orthodox Church — will undeniably leave their mark in history. Relatedly, we sincerely valued his visit to our Sacred Centre here at the Phanar in 2006 and cherished our numerous visits to him at the Vatican.

Once again, in fondly remembering this significant figure, we pray to the “God of all spirits and flesh, Who has trodden down death, destroying the power of the devil, bestowing life on Your world”, to grant eternal rest to his soul where the just repose.

Requiescat in pace! May his memory be eternal!

BARTHOLOMEW

*Archbishop of Constantinople,  
New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch*

We greet you with fraternal embrace and love in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are saddened by the news of the passing away of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. He was an eminent theologian who led the church in very difficult times, and a humble servant of the Lord who became an example to others in his humility and meekness.

We assure you of our prayers for the soul of the late Pope Emeritus and, indeed, for the entire sister Roman Catholic Church. We ask our Lord Jesus Christ to count him among the faithful stewards and to make him hear His voice saying: “Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master” (*Matthew 25:23*).

On behalf of the Archbishops, Bishops, clergy and the faithful of the Syriac Orthodox Church of Antioch, we wish to express our deepest condolences to your Holiness and the faithful of the Roman Catholic Church. May God rest his soul in peace and may his memory be eternal.

In Christ our Lord, we remain fraternally.

IGNATIUS APHREM II

*Patriarch of Antioch and All the East*

*Supreme Head of the Universal Syrian Orthodox Church*

It is with deep sorrow and heartache that we have learned of the passing of your blessed Predecessor, the honorable Pope Benedict XVI, for whom we pray to our Lord Jesus Christ to grant his blessed soul rest in the land of the living.

The late Primate of the sister Roman Catholic Church was a leading theologian of the 20th century, an ardent supporter of fraternal relations between the Orthodox and the Roman Catholic Church, a beacon of the rights of the Pontifical Office, as well as a pioneer of the Theological and Patristic Teaching of the One Church. For this reason, he leaves an indelible imprint of his Papal ministry on the history of the Episcopal Throne of Elder Rome.

May memory of the venerable Pope Benedict XVI, an ecclesiastical man of indisputable spiritual stature, productive minister of the sister Roman Catholic Church be eternal.

THEODOROS II

*Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa*

È con tristezza che ho ricevuto la notizia della morte del suo predecessore, il Papa Emerito Benedetto XVI.

I molti anni di vita di Sua Santità hanno segnato un'intera epoca nella storia della Chiesa cattolica romana, guidata da lui in un periodo storico difficile e associato a molte sfide esterne e interne.

L'autorità incontestabile di Benedetto XVI come eminente teologo gli ha permesso di dare un contributo significativo allo sviluppo della cooperazione intercristiana, alla testimonianza di Cristo di fronte a un mondo secolarizzato e alla difesa dei valori morali tradizionali.

Avendo avuto l'opportunità di incontrare personalmente più volte il defunto Papa durante il suo mandato sul soglio di Roma, ho avuto l'occasione di testimoniare il suo profondo amore per il cristianesimo orientale e, in particolare, il sincero rispetto per la tradizione dell'Ortodossia russa. Durante il pontificato di Benedetto XVI, i rapporti tra la Chiesa ortodossa russa e la Chiesa cattolica romana si sono notevolmente sviluppati nello spirito di fraterna collaborazione e nel desiderio di interazione sulla via del superamento dell'eredità talvolta dolorosa del passato.

A nome della Chiesa ortodossa russa, esprimo le mie condoglianze a Lei e al gregge della Chiesa cattolica romana in relazione a questa perdita. Il Signore misericordioso, di cui si definì umile lavoratore nella vigna, il compianto Pontefice nel giorno della sua elezione, gli renda eterna memoria!

Con profonde condoglianze.

KIRILL

*Patriarca di Mosca e di tutta la Russia*

It is with deep sorrow that we learnt about the demise of His Holiness Benedict XVI, Pope Emeritus of Rome. On behalf of the Supreme Spiritual Council, clergy and faithful of the Armenian Apostolic Church we extend our heartfelt condolences to you, to the clergy and the faithful of the Catholic Church upon the passing away of His Holiness, Pope Emeritus.

He lived his life in constant service to the Holy Church. More than seventy years His Holiness served the Church with endless devotion and commitment, and played an important role in the development of the Catholic theological tradition.

We cherish the good memories of our meetings with His Holiness and give thanks to God for late Pope's years of devoted service to the Church.

Extending a fervent prayer to the Lord for the repose of this faithful servant of His, we ask beneficent God to welcome him in His eternal joy.

With brotherly love in Christ.

KAREKIN II  
*Supreme Patriarch*  
*Catholicos of All Armenians*

We learned with profound sorrow the passing away of His Holiness Pope Emeritus, Benedict XVI. Indeed, His Holiness has been a humble and courageous servant of Jesus Christ and his Gospel. As a great theologian, he has played, with his firm positions and clear perspectives on matters pertaining to inter-church, inter-religious and church-society relations, a highly significant role in shaping the doctrine and the teachings of the Catholic Church. As a Pope, he faced responsibility the challenges of the church which was called to witness in a globalized world. May he rest in peace in the heavenly Kingdom.

May Almighty God grant to Your Holiness physical health and spiritual courage to carry on in these critical times with renewed efforts your pontifical ministry.

ARAM I  
*Catholicos of Cilicia of the Armenians*

We have felt deep sorrow since we heard the announcement concerning the eternal rest of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI, Pope Emeritus of Roman Catholic Church. We always remember the fraternal relationships His Holiness established with our Church, especially His Holiness' invitation to our predecessor, His Holiness Abume Paulos I, the late Patriarch of Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church, on October 7, 2009, to be a special guest speaker at the Vatican, at the Second Special Assembly of the Synod of Bishops.

We express our condolence to the Eminences Cardinals, Archbishops, Reverend clergies, and all the faithful, on behalf of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church Holy Synod and myself.

---

May the soul of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict Reest in Peace with the souls of our Holy righteous fathers in the heavenly abode!

MATTHIAS I

*Patriarch of the Ethiopian  
Orthodox Tewahedo Church*

I have received with godly sorrow the news of the passing of the late Pope-Emeritus Benedict XVI, this past December 31<sup>st</sup>. I, along with my brother Hierarchs, members of the Holy Synod of the Assyrian Church of the East, and all of our clergy and faithful, offer our heartfelt condolences for the passing of the late pontiff and pray for the repose of his soul.

The late Pope-Emeritus Benedict will, no doubt, be missed by both those within and outside of the Catholic Church. His theological contributions to the advancement of the ecumenical dialogue between our two Churches cannot go unmentioned. In 2001, as Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, he was indispensable in the Vatican's recognition of our Church's ancient and apostolic anaphora of Ss. Addai & Mari, under your late predecessor Pope John Paul II of blessed memory. This was a monumental step not only in the ecumenical process between us, but it also benefited the Latin eucharistic theology and its understanding of eucharistic consecration for generations to come. He will, therefore, always be remembered by us for this great achievement.

We too join the voices of all Christians worldwide who are praying for his blessed soul and beseech the Lord to grant the late Pope-Emeritus a blessed repose among all the saints of God in the heavenly Kingdom. Our prayers and heartfelt consolation are offered to Your Holiness at the passing of this blessed hierarch, in the great hope of the resurrection of the dead and new and eternal life in the Risen Lord, our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. May the grace and peace of the Lord remain with Your Holiness now and always.

AWA III ROYEL

*Catholicos Patriarch of the Assyrian Church  
of the East Worldwide*

The death of His Holiness, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI is a great loss for the Christian world.

It is true that he was no longer an active pope, but he still had a great influence. Benedict XVI will remain for us a faithful defender of Christian values recognized by the Catholic Church, a strong and highly dignified person, who deservedly won the love and respect of people.

Your Holiness, Beloved in Christ Pope Francis, please, accept condolences from us and from our Church, and please, convey them to the clergy of your Church and to your numerous flock.

ILIA II

*Catholicos Patriarch of All Georgia*

Вестта за кончината на Вашия предшественик на Римския престол почетния папа Бенедикт XVI, натъжи сърцето ни!

Покойният папа Бенедикт XVI остави дълбока дия с богатото си богословско творчество, което докосна сърцата на мнозина човечи. През периода на управлението на Римската църква (2005-2013 г.), папа Бенедикт се стремеше към прилагане на дело на християнските добродетели вяра, надежда и любов (1 Кор. 13:13), както и твърдото отстояване на Христовата повеля за единение и мир между човеците.

Изказваме искрени съболезнования на Ваше Светейшество, към клира, монашеството и опечалените християни!

Нека Възкръсналият Господ и Спасител Иисус Христос, Чиято „правда е вечна и законът Му е истина“ (пс. 118:142) упокои душата на новопреставилия се папа Бенедикт XVI, а делата що извърши в полза на Христовото Благовестие бъдат за негово спасение!

Неофит

*Патриарх Български*

With deep sorrow, we learned about the passing away from this world, after a long suffering that he endured with much courage, of the one who was the 265th bishop of Rome, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, a venerable and well-known contemporary personality.

We share in the grief of Your Holiness caused by this loss and send our condolences to the entire Roman Catholic Church.

We pray to the Lord Jesus Christ, the One Who is the resurrection and the life (cfr *John* 11:25), to rest the soul of Pope Benedict XVI in the light, peace and love of the Most Holy Trinity.

DANIEL

*Patriarch of Romania*

A nome del Santo Sinodo, degli Arcivescovi della Chiesa Ortodossa Serba e mio proprio Le formulo le mie condoglianze per la morte del Suo predecessore, il Papa Emerito Benedetto XVI.

Papa Benedetto XVI, di venerata memoria, resterà nella storia della Chiesa di Gesù Cristo come un Arcipastore, che misurava tutto con Cristo, da dove promanava la Sua apertura e comprensione per tutto il mondo cristiano, specialmente per la teologia e tradizione Ortodossa.

Eleviamo le nostre preghiere a Gesù Cristo, il Sommo Sacerdote dei beni futuri, affinché dia pace all'anima del Papa Benedetto insieme ai Santi, lì dove non c'è dolore, né tristezza, né lamenti, ma dove è vita eterna.

Memoria eterna per i secoli dei secoli!

PORFIRIO

*Arcivescovo di Peć*

*Metropolita di Belgrado e Karlovac*

The sad news about the end of the earthly life of the former head of the Catholic Church, Benedict XVI, marked the last day of this difficult year for Ukraine and the whole world.

From me personally and from the Orthodox Church of Ukraine, I ask you to accept my condolences on his passing. The late Pope Emeritus Benedict was widely known and respected as an outstanding Catholic theologian, preacher of the Gospel, devoted servant of the Catholic Church.

As Christians, we know that after earthly life comes eternity and a person goes from death to resurrection. So let the sadness of the

loss be relieved by faith in God's mercy and confidence in the future Resurrection.

May God rest the soul of the deceased in His dwellings!

EPIPHANIUS

*Metropolitan of Kyiv and All Ukraine  
Primate Of The Orthodox Church Of Ukraine*

Rattristati nell'apprendere la notizia della pia morte del Suo predecessore Papa Emerito Benedetto XVI, la prego di accettare le nostre sincere condoglianze, sia personali e dei membri del Santo Sinodo della Chiesa Ortodossa di Grecia.

Ricordiamo con affetto e ammirazione il nostro fratello compianto Papa Benedetto il quale ha trascorso una vita interamente dedicata alla Chiesa, cercando sempre di essere un buon pastore che pasce il gregge affidatogli dal nostro Signore Gesù Cristo, seguendo proprio Lui che è il Buon Pastore e Salvatore dell'uomo.

Papa Emerito Benedetto ha servito con profonda dedizione lo scopo della riconciliazione tra Cattolici e Ortodossi ed ha fatto diffondere la Teologia patristica orientale in Occidente, sia nel campo accademico sia in quello ecclesiastico, essendo sempre un amico e fratello sincero della Chiesa Ortodossa.

Il nostro Sinodo partecipa al cordoglio della Chiesa Romana Cattolica, ha deciso di nominare S.E.R. il metropolita di Dimitriadis Mons. Ignazio, Presidente della Commissione Sinodale per le Relazioni Inter cristiane, come suo rappresentante al fine di partecipare alle esequie del Papa Benedetto.

Pregando il nostro Signore Gesù Cristo, il quale ci assicura che «*Io sono la risurrezione e la vita; chi crede in me, anche se muore, vivrà; chiunque vive e crede in me, non morrà in eterno*» (Giov. 11:25-26), di accogliere il suo servo Papa Benedetto nel Suo regno celeste tra i santi e i beati.

IERONYMOS

*Arcivescovo di Atene e di tutta la Grecia*

Having been informed of the passing away of His Holiness the Pope of Rome, Benedict XVI, we address to you on behalf of our Holy Church



of Cyprus our warm condolences wishing whole heartedly the rest of his soul between the living.

We are with you in this holy time of Christ's Incarnation and we remain.

GEORGIOS I

*Archbishop of Nea Justiniana  
and All Cyprus*

It was with sadness that I received the news today of the death of retired Pope Benedict XVI. The reposed Pontiff was a man of the Church from his youngest days. He was an intellectual, a most authoritative bishop and above all a profound man of prayer, all of which allowed him to serve God, who alone was the meaning of his long life.

I would especially like to note the sensitivity and interest, which the Pontiff showed towards Orthodoxy. His natural tact and his genuinely profound knowledge served the cause of strengthening inter-confessional dialogue and were the pledge of its mutual benefit.

We shall retain warm prayerful memories of His Holiness, believing that the All-Merciful Lord, who «is not the God of the dead, but of the living», shall rest him in the mansions of the righteous.

With love in the Lord.

RATISLAV

*Archbishop of Prešov  
Metropolitan of the Czech Lands and Slovakia*

I am saddened by the news of the departure from this life of Your Holiness' predecessor, His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, and I offer my condolences to Your Holiness.

His Holiness' Christian leadership, witness to the Gospel, wide-ranging theological activity, and personal devotion to our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ were and remain an inspiration to generations of the Christian faithful, including many of the theologians and believers of the Orthodox Church in America. His desire and labor for good relations between the Roman Catholic Church and the Orthodox Churches, in particular his joint

declaration with His All-Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew — a legacy upon which Your Holiness has continued to build — will be long remembered.

His Holiness will be missed, though he leaves behind an important legacy for Christians worldwide. May the merciful Lord make the memory of His Holiness to be eternal and bring comfort to all those who grieve for him.

TIKHON

*Archbishop of Washington  
Metropolitan of All America and Canada*

Il Pastore, il sacro Clero e il pio gregge della Sacra Arcidiocesi Ortodossa d'Italia, del Patriarcato Ecumenico di Costantinopoli, con profonda commozione hanno appreso la triste notizia della dormizione nel Signore del Santissimo Papa Emerito Benedetto XVI, diretto Predecessore di Vostra Santità, una grande figura teologica, spirituale, culturale ed episcopale che ha lasciato la sua forte impronta non solo nella Chiesa Cattolica Romana, ma in tutta la Cristianità ed anche all'Umanità intera.

Partecipando al lutto della Santissima Chiesa di Roma, Le assicuriamo per la nostra fervida preghiera al Signore della vita e della morte Cristo Salvatore, che con la Sua Resurrezione dai morti ha calpestato e ha vinto la morte, affinché il Santo Padre e Suo Servo fedele Papa Benedetto abbia un viaggio dalla Chiesa terrestre a quella celeste buono e benedetto, e concelebando nell'altare celeste con tutti i suoi Santi Predecessori ricorda la nostra turbata umanità, che passa momenti molto difficili a causa del suo allontanamento dall'unica vera Fonte di vita Cristo nato, crocifisso e resuscitato per noi uomini e per la nostra salvezza.

Eterna memoria!

POLYKARPOS

*Arcivescovo Ortodosso d'Italia  
ed Esarca per l'Europa Meridionale*

В дните след светлия празник на Рождеството Христово разбрахме за тежкото здравословно състояние на почетния папа Бенедикт XVI и за неговата кончина днес сутринта на 31 декември 2022 година.

Изразяваме Нашите най-искрени съболезнования към Вас и всички верни християни на Католическата църква, които скърбят за Вашия предшественик.

Почетният папа Бенедикт XVI беше един от най-великите теолози на Католическата църква, изключителен проповедник и оратор, професор, учен и изследовател, а също така и един от най-големите радатели за единение на християните, изразяващо се както в неговите изследвания и публикации, насочени към чистотата на вярата, според учението на древните църковни отци, така и в отношението му към всички вярващи от различните християнски деноминации.

В това отношение благодарим сърдечно за братската подкрепа, която по време на неговия понтефикат той и неговите съработници са оказвали към Българската православна църква, Нашата мисия в Западно- и Средноевропейската епархия и нашите български православни християни в цяла Европа.

Добрите дела са израз на християнско отношение и човеколюбие, защото този, който живее в Христа и както казва св. ап. Павел, чийто живот е „скрит с Христа в Бога” (Кол. 3:3) има „вечна памет” (пс. 111), тъй като го поддържа Светият Дух и смъртта няма власт над него.

Приемете Нашата молитва за душата на папа Бенедикт XVI по пътя му към Небесното царство на Отца, в блажено заспиване и вечен покой.

Вечна да бъде паметта му!

Антоний

*Западно- и Средноевропейски Митрополит*

Επι τη εκδημια του πεπνυμενου, σοφου θεολογου και χρηματισαντος δεξιου οιακοστροφου της υφ' υμας αγιωτατης ρωμαιοκαθολικης Εκκλησιας Βενεδικτου 16<sup>ου</sup> του απο Παπων Ρωμησ, υλλυπουμεθα υμασ εκ βαθουσ καρδιασ, ευχομενοι οπωσ Κυριοσ αναπαυση την ψυχην αυτου εν χωραι δικαιων, υμιν δε χαρισηται την εν παρηγοριαι υγειαν και αλκην σωματοσ και ψυχησ προς συνεχισιν του υπατου εκκλησιαστικου διακονηματοσ επι τωι νεωι ετει και πλειστουσ οσουσ ενιαυτουσ.

ΚΟΡΙΝΘΟΥ ΔΙΟΝΥΣΙΟΣ

It was with deep sadness that we have learned of the passing away after a long illness of Pope Emeritus Benedict VI. Personally and on behalf of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church, we would like to express our deepest sympathy and closeness in prayers to Holy Father Pope Francis and the whole God-loving Catholic Church in mourning.

Our Church calls in mind with sentiments of esteem the commitment of both the Churches to promote the Ecumenical Relations. At this time of grief, we personally cannot attend the Funeral Service of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI but we would like to delegate His Grace Abraham Mar Stephanos Metropolitan of UK, Europe & Africa to represent the Church and us to the funeral service with our message of condolences.

We set our eyes to the glory of Jesus Christ, whose victory over death is our redemption and we make ours the words of the Psalmist: “The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in the green pastures; he leads me besides still waters; he restores my soul... and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long” (Ps 23:1-2:6).

Please accept this expression of our fraternal communion and prayerful solidarity.

BASELIOS MARTHOMA MATHEWS III

*Catholicos of the Apostolic Throne of St. Thomas  
and Malankara Metropolitan*

With deep sorrow, I have learned of the passing of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. We, the children of our Lord in Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian Church, Kerala, India, the Holy See of St. Thoma, express to your Holiness, and to the entire Catholic Church our condolences and the prayerful closeness of our Hierarchy His Beatitude Dr. Theodosius Mar Thoma Metropolitan, members of the Honorable Synod, clergy and all lay faithful of the Church at this time of deeply-felt loss.

The whole Christian world has lost one of its outstanding spiritual leaders, courageous and wise in leading people through very difficult times. Pope Benedict was one of the greatest theologians of his age committed to the faith of the Church and also known as the defender of this faith

through his writings and teachings. The foundation of his thought and the basis of his prayer, writing, and his preaching was Jesus Christ, the Gospel and the image of the invisible God.

Your Holiness, May the memory of Pope Benedict XVI long and devoted service to the whole Christendom live on as a challenge and a stimulus to all. May His memory be eternal!

JOSEPH MAR BARNABAS

*Suffragan Metropolitan Thiruvananthapuram*

We the Holy Synod of the Eritrean Orthodox Tewahedo Church, so saddened to hear of the loss of his Holiness Pope Benedict XVI.

On behalf of the Holy Synod, the Clergy and faithful of the Eritrean Orthodox Tewahedo Church, we wish again to express our condolences to your Holiness Pope Francis and to all faithful of the Roman Catholic Church.

May God rest his soul in peace and his memory internal.

ABUN PIETROS

*Locum Tenens*

*Eritrean Orthodox Tewahedo Church*

The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church Diocese Secretariat in Italy and The Surrounding was sad to receive the news about the sudden death of the Pope of Roman Catholic Church Benedict XVI.

On behalf of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Parishes in Italy and the surrounding as well as on my own, I express sincerest and deepest condolences to all who mourn the passing away of the Benedict XVI Pope of the Roman Catholic Church. His role in preserving and augmenting the role of the Roman Catholic Church is invaluable and his legacy is precious. His decease is a great loss for the whole Catholic world. We grieve with the people of Italy and Catholic Church followers.

ABBA HSRYACOA

*Archbishop of Italy and the Surrounding Ethiopian  
Orthodox Tewahedo Church*

Today I join with the church throughout the world, and especially with the Holy Father, Pope Francis, and all in the Catholic Church, in mourning the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

In Pope Benedict's long life and ministry of service to Christ in His Church he saw many profound changes in the church and in the world. He lived through the Nazi regime in Germany and served briefly in the Second World War. As a younger theologian and priest he witnessed first-hand the discussions of the Second Vatican Council. As a professor and then as an Archbishop he lived in a divided Germany but saw too the fall of the Berlin Wall and the reunification of his homeland.

Pope Benedict was one of the greatest theologians of his age — committed to the faith of the Church and stalwart in its defence. In all things, not least in his writing and his preaching, he looked to Jesus Christ, the image of the invisible God. It was abundantly clear that Christ was the root of his thought and the basis of his prayer.

In 2013 Pope Benedict took the courageous and humble step to resign the papacy, the first Pope to do so since the fifteenth century. In making this choice freely he acknowledged the human frailty that affects us all. In his retirement in Rome he has led a life of prayer and now he has gone to the eternal rest granted by the Father. In his life and ministry Pope Benedict strove to direct people to Christ. May he now rest in Christ's peace, and rise in glory with all the Saints.

JUSTIN WELBY

*Archbishop of Canterbury*

It is with great sadness that I learn of the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

With all the member churches of the Anglican Communion I would like to assure His Holiness Pope Francis, and all our sisters and brothers in the Roman Catholic Church of our prayers, thanking God for Pope Benedict's outstanding ministry of service to the Church and the world.

He was an inspiring and courageous teacher, preacher and pastor. His theological wisdom has been of immense benefit not only to Catholics, but to countless faithful in other Christian traditions.

Anglicans are deeply grateful for the wisdom we have received from Pope Emeritus Benedict, and pray as he did that in Christ we shall all be one, and that together we will share in the fullness of the Resurrection.

May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

ANTHONY POGGO

*Secretary General of the Anglican Communion*

The message of sorrow concerning the death of Pope Benedict XVI deeply affected Christians in Finland. The message reminded us of the limitations of life, but also about the life of a significant spiritual leader. Pope Benedict XVI was known in Finland as a learned theologian as well as a cultured and profound Christian. I had the honor of meeting him in 2009 when I participated in the pilgrimage of St. Henry in Rome, and that encounter left me a strong impression. Blessed be his memory.

“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace” (*Luke 2:29*).

TAPIO LUOMA

*Archbishop of Turku and Finland*

*Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland*

With sadness we heard about the passing away of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

On behalf of the Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church, I would like to extend our deepest sympathy to you and the Roman Catholic Church.

We will remember Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI as a brilliant scholar, excellent theologian, humble and yet courageous person. We join you in gratitude for his long and fruitful life and his faithful service, and we join you in prayer, as you commend him into the hands of our Lord.

“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared

in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel” (*Luke 2:29-32*).

URMAS VIILMA

*Archbishop of the Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church*

Together with other World Communions, the World Methodist Council extends its condolences to His Holiness Pope Francis and the entire Catholic Church on the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

Pope Benedict was a towering intellectual figure who published sixty-six books, three encyclicals, and three apostolic exhortations. His support of informed theological dialogue between Churches, including the dialogue between the World Methodist Council and the Roman Catholic Church, was a hallmark of his pontificate. Pope Benedict’s impact on Christian unity through prayer and theological discourse is an enduring legacy of his ministry.

On learning of the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict’s death, the President of the World Methodist Council, Rev. Dr. JC Park, commented, “His most significant contribution has been the spiritual and theological retrieval of the uniqueness of Jesus. His magnum opus *Jesus of Nazareth*, is the living witness of Jesus ‘who is close to the Father’s heart.’” (*John 1:18*)

May Benedict rest in peace and rise in glory.

WORLD METHODIST COUNCIL

On behalf of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, may I express our deepest condolences at the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you and to all within the Roman Catholic Church.

It has been nearly four years since we met in person as you graciously granted me an audience in early March 2019. I have fond memories of our



time together. My heart is gladdened as I continue to see our two faith communities collaborating on humanitarian and other projects to relieve suffering around the world.

May God's blessings be upon you at this tender time.

RUSSELL M. NELSON

*President of The Church of Jesus Christ  
of Latter-day Saints*

### **AB HEBRAEIS CONSOCIATIONIBUS**

On behalf of the Council of Religious Leaders of Israel, we would like to extend to all the Catholic world and to the Holy See our deepest condolences on the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

It should be noted that His Holiness worked for tolerance and for the bringing together of people and faiths, and was fervently committed to the historic reconciliation between the Catholic Church and the Jewish world. He carried on this his historic visit to Israel in 2009, in his meeting with the Council of tradition during Religious Leaders of Israel, and in the 2011 visit of the Council of Religious Leaders of Israel to the Vatican during which His Holiness spoke for tolerance, peace, and acceptance of the other.

We will remember him as a true friend of the State of Israel and of the religious leaders of Israel.

May His memory be a blessing.

COUNCIL OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS OF ISRAEL

On behalf of the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations, we write to express our condolences to you and to the entire Roman Catholic Church on the passing of Pope Benedict XVI.

We gratefully recall his powerful words at Auschwitz and his steadfast and consistent stand against all expressions of antisemitism.

We will also remember Pope Benedict for his deep engagement with Judaism and the Jewish people. His contribution to the Jewish People and Their Scripture in the Christian Bible; his detailed refutation of the deicide charge in his book about Jesus (and his subsequent friendship with Jacob Neusner); and his engagement with European rabbis after his *Communio* article all demonstrate his commitment not only to his faith and to his church, but also to scholarship and to serious and substantive dialogue.

May his memory be a blessing.

INTERNATIONAL JEWISH COMMITTEE  
FOR INTERRELIGIOUS CONSULTATIONS

**AB ALIARUM RELIGIONUM  
ORBIS TERRARUM MODERATORIBUS**

È con profondo dolore che abbiamo appreso nella giornata di ieri della scomparsa di Sua Santità il Pontefice Emerito Benedetto XVI. I reiterati appelli alla preghiera che la Santità Vostra ha rivolto al mondo non sono rimasti inascoltati nella nostra comunità ed è proprio per questo che, in queste festività ormai velate di mestizia, desideriamo unirci al lutto della Cristianità esprimendo i più profondi sentimenti di cordoglio.

Con la scomparsa del Pontefice Emerito Benedetto XVI l'umanità intera, credenti e non credenti, perde non solo un'eccelsa figura di teologo e di pensatore ma prima ancora, se è concesso, d'ineguagliabile testimone e guida che ha accompagnato, nello scorrere dei decenni, il genere umano in una delle epoche più tribolate della storia, con le sue asperità, le sue angosce, i suoi tormenti, le difficili sfide che la modernità ha posto a ogni uomo di fede. La figura di Benedetto XVI si è stagliata, massimamente nel suo pontificato, come un argine contro le derive della modernità e al contempo come sicuro rifugio per le anime assetate della presenza di Dio.

Mai come in questa nostra epoca, con la rapidità degli spostamenti e dei mezzi di comunicazione, fedeli di diverse confessioni religiose hanno avuto così tante occasioni per interagire. Più volte il Pontefice Emerito manifestò la sua piena e assoluta consapevolezza di quanto questa interazione potesse essere foriera di scambi proficui, e al contempo la coscienza dei rischi che comportava. In occasione dell'incontro, promosso dal Centro Islamico Culturale d'Italia, che il 25 settembre 2006 il Pontefice Emerito ebbe nel Palazzo Pontificio di Castelgandolfo con una numerosa rappresentanza islamica, Papa Benedetto XVI ebbe a ribadire quanto già detto l'anno precedente a Colonia: "Il dialogo interreligioso e interculturale fra cristiani e musulmani non può ridursi a una scelta del momento. Si tratta effettivamente di una necessità vitale, da cui dipende in gran parte il nostro futuro". Non abbiamo mai smesso, da quel giorno, di far nostre quelle sue parole e, oggi che chi le ha pronunciate ha varcato quella soglia che tutti ci attende, le raccogliamo come testamento spirituale.

ABDELLAH REDOUANE  
*Segretario Generale*  
*Centro Islamico Culturale d'Italia*

I, in my capacity as the Chief Imam in Scotland and representative of the Shi'i faith, both in the United Kingdom and Europe, join with the Catholic Church, its congregants and in particular, the Holy Father, Pope Francis, in mourning the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

Pope Benedict was a brilliant theologian of his age, committed through his writings and preaching to uphold the values and doctrines of the Catholic Church.

In his earlier life, he came to witness first-hand the development of what is widely known as the Second Vatican Council.

In his long life, Pope Benedict's Ministry ranged from academia to pastoral care. Though he lived through difficult times, from the rise of the Nazi regime, to a divided Germany, he was also able to witness the fall of the Berlin Wall, which led to the reunification of his coun-

try. In all of these challenging situations, he remained steadfast in his conviction to God and his personal faith in Christ — most of all, he performed his duty.

When he took the step to resign the papacy in 2013, a decision which had not been taken previously since the fifteenth century, it outlined his commitment to what he felt was proper in the eyes of God. In his retirement he led a life of prayer.

May he now rest in peace.

SAYED RAZAWI

*Chief Imam Scottish Ahlul Bayt Society*

Siza öz yüksək ehtiramımızı bildirərək, Azərbaycan və ümumən Qafqaz müsəlman dindarları adından rahatlıqda olan Zati-müqəddəsləri Papa Benedikt XVI vəfatı ilə əlaqədar dərin hüznə başsağlığını ifadə edirəm.

Zati-müqəddəsləri Papa Benedikt XVI öz müdrüklüyü və ruhani əqidəsinə sadıqlığı ilə seçilən dünya miqyaslı görkəmli dini Lider və dövlət rəhbəri olaraq Vatikanın, Müqəddəs Taxt-tacın yüksək amalları naminə misilsiz töhfələr vermiş, gələcək nəsillər üçün böyük miras qoymuşdur.

Uca Yaradanımızdan Papa Benedikt XVI rəhmət, Sizə və bütün Katolik dünyasına səbir diləyirik.

ALLAHŞÜKÜR PAŞAZADƏ

*Şeyxülislam*

Želim Vama, svim katolicima u svijetu a naročito našim komšijama iz Katoličke crkve u Bosni i Hercegovini, uputiti najiskrenije izraze saučešća povodom smrti Pape Emeritusa Benedikta XVI. Njegovom smrću za sve njegove poštovaoce u svijetu nastupilaje velika žalost, tako je i sa ljudima u Bosni i Hercegovini.

Odlaskom Pape Benedikta XVI Katolička crkva je izgubila svoga viteza i autoriteta koji se nije libio otvoriti ni najteža pitanja u odnosima među ljudima vjere. Nadamo se da će njegova misao i njegova promišljanja o aktuelnim izazovima savremenog svijeta biti izazov teolozima i ljudima vjere kako bi nastavili tragati za autentičnom vjerom u vremenu u kojem živimo.

Još jednom u moje lično ime i u ime Islamske zajednice u Bosni i Hercegovini primite iskrene izraze sućuti. Svi smo mi Božiji i svi ćemo se Njemu vratiti.

HUSEIN EF. KAVAZOVIĆ  
*Reis-ul-ulema*

On behalf of Indonesia's Nahdlatul Ulama, I would like to personally express to you and to the entire world-wide community of Catholic faithful our heartfelt sorrow on the passing of His Holiness, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

Please be assured that millions of Indonesians of all faiths, including Roman Catholics, Protestants, Hindus, Buddhists, and Muslims, join Nahdlatul Ulama in mourning the loss of His Holiness, whose legacy of sanctity, courage, and intellectual rigor we sincerely honor and regard as a timeless model for all religious believers, especially amidst the world's current pressing challenges.

We honor His Holiness for his important role in the Second Vatican Council, which represents not only a decisive turning point in the history of the Catholic Church, but also, in our view, a worthy model for other religious communities to contemplate and emulate.

We honor His Holiness for standing with such clarity against the ideology of moral and spiritual relativism, which risks emptying public life of reverence for God and leaves no room for respect for the transcendent dignity of the human soul, and for the weak and vulnerable.

Moreover, we honor His Holiness for the rare courage with which he called for truly honest dialogue and substantive conversation between adherents of different faiths.

With my sincere condolences again, and the assurance of my prayers for Your Holiness.

KH. YAHYA CHOLIL STAQUF  
*General Chairman*  
*Nahdlatul Ulama Central Board*

It is with sadness that I have learned of the passing away of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, I pray for our spiritual brother, and offer my condolences to the members of the Catholic Church.

I had the opportunity to meet Pope Benedict and found there was much we agreed about in relation to human values, religious harmony and the environment. During his papacy, he worked hard to promote these issues. He lived a meaningful life.

I have been engaged in dialogue with members of the Catholic community for several decades and have learnt much about their experience. I believe these have contributed to a better religious understanding between us.

At a time when we are seeing tension in several parts of the world, we can take a lesson from the life of Pope Benedict and do what we can to contribute to religious harmony and global peace.

With my prayers.

DALAI LAMA

We would like to express our sincere condolences at the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. We would also like to convey our heartfelt gratitude from Mt. Hiei, Japan to his distinguished service for the realization of world peace through the interreligious dialogue and cooperation.

KOKEI OOKI

*Supreme Priest of the Tendai Buddhist Denomination*

A nome del comitato giapponese della “Religions for Peace” (WCRP/RfP Japan) e della Rissho Kosei-kai, vorrei esprimere le mie più sincere condoglianze, avendo ricevuto la triste notizia della scomparsa del Papa Emerito Benedetto XVI.

Per amore della pace nel mondo, fra molti complessi problemi internazionali, Sua Santità Papa Benedetto XVI ha continuamente sottolineato i valori della vita e della famiglia per la realizzazione di un mondo pacifico, pieno d’amore.

Durante il suo pontificato, seguendo il desiderio del suo predecessore, Papa Giovanni Paolo II, nel 2011 ha convocato ad Assisi la “Giornata di preghiera per la pace”. E cosa ormai ben nota che quell’evento rafforzò moltissimo la tendenza al dialogo e alla cooperazione inter-religiosa.

Per queste ragioni, dal profondo del cuore, desidero esprimere ancora una volta il mio più profondo rispetto al Papa Emerito.

Vorrei aggiungere che, subito dopo il grande terremoto del 2011 che ha colpito il Giappone orientale, Papa Benedetto XVI ci ha trasmesso messaggi di solidarietà e incoraggiamento, e il nostro Paese ha tempestivamente ricevuto varie forme di sostegno da parte della Chiesa Cattolica. Come cittadino giapponese, desidero esprimere ancora una volta la mia profonda gratitudine.

Riflettendo sul mio legame personale con Papa Benedetto XVI, ricordo con particolare intensità la messa in occasione del suo insediamento nell'aprile 2005, alla quale ho assistito assieme ad altri rappresentanti delle diverse religioni del mondo. Nel corso dell'udienza speciale avvenuta dopo la messa, Papa Benedetto ha preso la mia mano e mi ha detto: "lavoriamo insieme per la pace". Ancora oggi, ogni volta che ci ripenso, le sue parole mi scaldano il cuore.

Sono convinto che per i credenti della Chiesa Cattolica la scomparsa del Papa Emerito Benedetto XVI debba essere dolorosa quanto la perdita di un genitore. Nel mondo di oggi, continuano a esserci realtà nelle quali la dignità della vita viene calpestata. Personalmente, rinnovo la mia determinazione a continuare a fare del mio meglio per contribuire alla realizzazione di un mondo nel quale venga riconosciuto alla vita il suo valore inestimabile, e lo farò mediante il dialogo e la collaborazione tra le religioni, serbando nel mio cuore tutto ciò che Papa Benedetto XVI mi ha trasmesso.

Rinnovo così la mia partecipazione al cordoglio di tutti coloro che, amando la pace, hanno ammirato Papa Benedetto ed esprimo ancora la mia profonda gratitudine al Papa Emerito per la gentilezza che ha sempre avuto per noi. Prego sinceramente affinché la sua anima riposi in pace.

NICHIKO NIWANO

*Presidente della WCRP/Religions for Peace Japan*

*Presidente della Rissho Kosei-kai*

On behalf of myself and members of the Soka Gakkai International (SGI) in 192 countries and territories worldwide, I ask that you accept this

expression of heartfelt sympathies on the passing of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

In an era of great challenges, His Holiness demonstrated a commitment to the values of love and justice, inspiring not only his fellow Roman Catholics, but standing as a symbol of solidarity and peace for people of good will throughout the world. His example will live on in the hearts of people, brightly illuminating the future.

Recalling His Holiness' many important attainments and contributions, I offer heartfelt prayers for His Holiness' peaceful repose and for the continued well being of Your Holiness and all the members of the global Catholic community.

DAISAKU IKEDA

*President of Soka Gakkai International*

On behalf of the European Soka Gakkai Buddhist Community, we wish to join with our prayers in the grief and mourning of the Catholic Church and all Catholic believers for the passing of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

We will always remember him as a great promoter of dialogue between cultures, science and religion for the realization of a path of Peace.

We wish to send you our continued good wishes and prayers for your own pontificate.

H. TAKAHASHI AND SUZANNE PRITCHARD

*SGI Europe Buddhist Association (SGI EBA)*

I write to offer my heartfelt condolences on the passing of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

During his reign of seven years and ten months, His Holiness carried on and developed the important legacy of his predecessors, from Pope John XXIII to Pope John Paul II, as he strove to promote interfaith and intercultural dialogue based on his profound insights into the nature of faith and reason, love and truth.

His Holiness' contributions in sharing the Christian message of love with the world will continue to shine with brilliance far into the future.



Recalling His Holiness' many important attainments and contributions, I offer heartfelt prayers for His Holiness' peaceful repose.

MINORU HARADA  
*President of Soka Gakkai*

## **A NATIONUM MODERATORIBUS**

### ANGOLA

Tenho a honra de me dirigir a Vossa Santidade para lhe dizer que recebi com bastante pesar a notícia do falecimento do Papa Emérito, Sua Santidade Bento XVI.

A Igreja católica e o mundo em geral perdem uma figura que prestou um significativo contributo ao papel positivo e notavelmente construtivo que a igreja católica vem desempenhando no mundo, em prol de um humanismo cada vez mais necessário nos tempos que correm, na relação entre Povos, Nações e Indivíduos.

Apresento por isso, neste momento de dor e de luto, em nome do Executivo angolano e no meu próprio, as nossas mais profundas e sentidas condolências a Vossa Santidade e aos católicos espalhados pelo nosso universo.

Alta e fraternal consideração.

JOÃO MANUEL GONÇALVES LOURENÇO  
*Presidente da República*

### ARGENTINA

Tengo el agrado de dirigirme a Ud., en nombre del pueblo, del Gobierno Argentino y en el mío propio, con el fin de expresar las condolencias ante la noticia del fallecimiento del Papa Emérito Benedicto XVI quien, como Sucesor de Pedro, ha sido Cabeza de la Iglesia y de los católicos de todo el mundo.

Saludo al Santo Padre con las seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

ALBERTO FERNÁNDEZ  
*Presidente de la República*

#### ARMENIA

È con profondo dolore che ho appreso la triste notizia della scomparsa di Sua Santità Benedetto XVI, Papa Emerito.

A nome del popolo armeno e del governo della Repubblica d'Armenia, La prego di accettare le nostre più sentite condoglianze e la nostra partecipazione.

Con la sua vicinanza spirituale, Papa Benedetto è stato un instancabile sostenitore del dialogo e dei principi.

NIKOL PASHINYAN  
*Primo Ministro dell'Armenia*

#### AUSTRALIA

I was deeply moved to learn of the death of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI on 31 December 2022.

Conscripted by the Nazis against his will and held prisoner by the Allies in World War II, Benedict XVI learned early the tension between personal integrity and public service. His support for reform during the Second Vatican Council is a less-known, though equally valuable, contribution to understanding faith than his remarkable theological body of work. His commitment to building relations with the Church of England, Eastern Orthodox Church and Islam consolidated the efforts of Saint John Paul II and paved the way for your own outreach. He was the first Pope to introduce a zero-tolerance policy for clerical sexual abuse. His episcopal motto “Cooperators of the truth” appropriately described his approach to life,

including his decision to resign his papacy. We recall with fondness his visit to Australia for World Youth Day in 2008.

On behalf of the Government and people of Australia, I extend my profound condolences to the Catholic community throughout the world, and all who grieve his loss.

David Hurley

*Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia*

I was deeply saddened to learn of the death of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI's devout service and leadership as Pope during challenging times will be a cornerstone of his legacy. His mastery of theology has left an enduring contribution to the Catholic Church and to all those of the Catholic faith.

Australians warmly remember then Pope Benedict XVI's visit to Australia in 2008 for the 23<sup>rd</sup> World Youth Day. Over 500,000 pilgrims from Australia and more than 125,000 visiting from overseas attended the concluding mass, demonstrating the lasting ties between Australia and the Holy See, and the strong support for Pope Benedict XVI's leadership.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI's efforts to strengthen relations with other faiths, including the Church of England, Eastern Orthodox Church, and Islam, are particularly valued by Australians, supporting our diverse multi-faith society.

Please accept my most sincere condolences on behalf of the Government and people of Australia to the Catholic community throughout the world, and all those who grieve his loss.

ANTHONY ALBANESE

*Prime Minister of Australia*

AUSTRIA

Mit großer Trauer habe ich vom Ableben Seiner Heiligkeit Benedikt XVI.,  
Papa Emeritus, erfahren.

In zahlreichen Krisensituationen hat Benedikt XVI. durch seine neutrale und diskrete Vermittlung die Außenpolitik des Heiligen Stuhls nachhaltig geprägt. Als aktiver Teilnehmer des II. Vatikanischen Konzils und später als Präfekt der Glaubenskongregation hat Benedikt XVI. die Bedeutung des Dialogs der Religionen und Kulturen stets in den Vordergrund gestellt.

Besonders wird den Menschen in unserem Land die tiefe Verbundenheit Seiner Heiligkeit mit Österreich in Erinnerung bleiben, die im Jahre 2007 in seinem Pastoralbesuch anlässlich des 850. Gründungsjubiläums des Wallfahrtsortes Mariazell ihren sichtbaren Höhepunkt erfahren hat.

Im Namen der Republik Österreich und auch persönlich möchte ich meine tiefempfundene Anteilnahme zum Ausdruck bringen.

Mit dem Ausdruck meiner vorzüglichsten Hochachtung

ALEXANDER VAN DER BELLEN

*Bundespräsident der Republik Österreich*

Tief berührt und mit großer Trauer habe ich vom Heimgang Seiner Heiligkeit Benedikt XVI., Papa Emerito erfahren.

Durch sein nachhaltiges Wirken hat Benedikt XVI. mittels weitsichtiger und besonnener Diplomatie die Außenpolitik des Heiligen Stuhls entscheidend geprägt. Seit seiner Teilnahme am II. Vatikanischen Konzil und später als Präfekt der Glaubenskongregation war Benedikt XVI. stets um den christlich-ökumenischen sowie interreligiösen Dialog bemüht. Darüber hinaus hat er sich unermüdlich für die Verteidigung der Menschenrechte, insbesondere der Religionsfreiheit eingesetzt.

Mit Österreich hat Seine Heiligkeit eine besondere Beziehung verbunden, die 2007 im Pastoralbesuch anlässlich des 850. Gründungsjubiläums des Wallfahrtsortes Mariazell kulminierte.

Ich bitte Eure Heiligkeit, im Namen der österreichischen Bundesregierung und auch in meinem eigenen Namen die aufrichtige Anteilnahme und das Mitgefühl zu diesem so schmerzlichen Verlust entgegenzunehmen.

KARL NEHAMMER

*Bundeskanzler der Republik Österreich*

---

BAHAMAS

It is with a sense of deep sadness that we learned of the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, who served as the head of the Catholic Church from 19 April 2005 to 28 February 2013.

Pope Benedict was known as a great theologian who was intellectually adept and whose life was marked with humility, benevolence and kindness as he sought to promote peace. His distinguished papal legacy will be long remembered by many.

On behalf of the Government and people of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, heartfelt condolences are extended to Pope Francis, Archbishop Patrick Pinder and the local Roman Catholic Community, the wider Catholic community on the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, and to his family and friends.

FREDERICK A. MITCHELL  
*Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

BAHRAIN

It is with great sadness, I have received the news announcing the death of the former Pope of the Vatican Benedict XVI. In my name and on behalf of the people and government of the Kingdom of Bahrain, I extend to Your Holiness, to the family and relatives of the deceased and to the friendly nations of the world the sincerest condolences and honest sympathy while wishing you good health and long life and may his family find consolation and comfort. At the same time, I praise the efforts and the contributions of the late in promoting and spreading the culture of peace, love and peaceful coexisting among the peoples of the world as well as the respect towards the monotheistic religions.

HAMAD BIN ISA AL KHALIFA  
*King of the Kingdom of Bahrain*

**BELIZE**

Prime Minister, John Briceño, would like to extend his condolences on behalf of the Government and people of Belize on the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. Pope Benedict XVI will be remembered as a distinguished theologian committed to the faith and principles of the Catholic Church. Prime Minister, John Briceño wishes to extend his deepest respect to the life and legacy of His Holiness.

Prime Minister Briceño's thoughts and sympathies are with the Catholic Church and Vatican clergy across the globe during this period of sorrow and grief

JOHN BRICEÑO

*Prime Minister of Belize*

**BENIN**

En cette douloureuse circonstance du rappel à Dieu du Pape Émérite Benoît XVI, je voudrais vous exprimer ma compassion ainsi que les sincères condoléances du Gouvernement et du Peuple béninois à la Communauté catholique mondiale.

Aussi, voudrais-je saluer la mémoire de ce grand homme d'Eglise qui a incarné, durant ces huit années de pontificat, un exemple d'intégrité dans la foi, d'humilité et de fraternité pour l'Afrique et le monde.

En vous réitérant ma compassion, je vous prie d'agréer, Très Saint Père, l'expression de ma très haute considération.

PATRICE TALON

*Président de la République*

**BIELORUSSIA**

З пачуццём глыбокага смутку ўспрыняў трагічную вестку аб смерці Папы Рымскага на спакоі Бенедыкта XVI.

Яго Святасць паклаў сваё жыццё на алтар добра, міру, справядлівасці і любові. Ён належыў не сабе, а ўсім вернікам, дзяліўся святлом і мудрасцю, у тым ліку са мной падчас асабістай сустрэчы.

Упэўнены, што неацэнны ўклад Бенедыкта XVI у фармаванне годнага свету, яго вялікая спадчына будуць захаваны і прымножаны ўсімі людзьмі добрай волі.

Прыміце мае шчырыя спачуванні, а таксама пажаданні мужнасці і стойкасці ў сувязі з гэтай цяжкай стратай.

Аляксандр Лукашэнка  
*Прэідэнт*  
*Рэспублікі Беларусь*

#### BOSNIA ED ERZEGOVINA

Sa velikom tugom i žaljenjem primio sam vijest o smrti Njegove svetosti Pape Emeritusa Benedikta XVI.

Varna i svim pripadnicima Katoličke crkve izražavam najdublje saučešće u ime gradana Bosne i Hercegovine i u svoje lično ime.

Katolička crkva ostala je bez predanog zagovornika očuvanja i obnove zajedničke baštine ljudskih i kršćanskih vrijednosti.

Molim Vas primite izraze našeg dubokog saučešća.

DENIS BEÉIROVIÉ  
*Član Predsjedništva BiH*

Dozvolite mi, kao predsjedateljica Vijeća ministara Bosne i Hercegovine te u svoje osobno ime, uputiti Vam izraze najdublje sućuti povodom smrti dragog nam Pape Benedikta XVI.

Katolička crkva ostala je bez velikog duhovnog čovjeka i mudrog pastira koji je izuzetno bio posvećen služenju Bogu i Crkvi, zaljubljenika u pravdu, mir i jedinstvo. Neka nam kao takav bude primjer da i mi svojim životom i djelima, u ovom svijetu budemo sljedbenici Krista i služimo narodu.

Neka dragi Bog pokojnom Papi Benediktu XVI. podari milost svoje svjetlosti. Počivao u miru Božjem.

Primate Vaša Svetosti, izraze mog dubokog poštovanja.

BORJANA KRIŠTO

*Predsjedateljica Vijeća ministara BiH*

### BRASILE

Profundamente consternado com a notícia do falecimento de Sua Santidade o Papa Emérito Bento XVI, transmito a Vossa Santidade, em nome do povo brasileiro e em meu próprio, as manifestações de nossas mais sentidas condolências. O Papa Emérito será recordado por todos por sua fé, grande humildade e profunda devoção à Verdade.

ANTÔNIO HAMILTON MARTINS MOURÃO

*Presidente ad interim da República*

### BULGARIA

Ho appreso con dolore la notizia del decesso del Papa Emerito Benedetto XVI, nelle ore mattutine del 31 dicembre 2022, ed invio condoglianze a Vostra Santità, piene di fervidi sentimenti e di personali ricordi dei Bulgari per il defunto Papa Emerito.

Negli anni di governo di Papa Benedetto XVI le delegazioni bulgare, guidate dal Capo di Stato, dai Presidenti del Parlamento e dai Primi Ministri, nonché le delegazioni della Chiesa Ortodossa di Bulgaria e della Chiesa Cattolica in Bulgaria, pellegrini e cittadini bulgari hanno avuto diverse possibilità di attingere alla sapienza del Papa Emerito, e di conservare vivo il ricordo di questi incontri. Il Papa Emerito Benedetto XVI lascia un'impronta significativa tra la comunità scientifica e teologica Bulgara con le sue molte opere scientifiche, tradotte in lingua bulgara.



Santità, mentre mi unisco di nuovo al dolore dei cattolici nel mondo, esprimo con venerazione il nostro ossequio per il Papa Emerito Benedetto XVI, che ha guidato paternamente la Chiesa Cattolica, riformando e affermando il suo ruolo tra le sfide del mondo contemporaneo in cambiamento.

RUMEN RADEV

*Presidente della Bulgaria*

## BURUNDI

C'est avec une grande émotion que j'ai appris le décès du Pape Émérite Benoît XVI, grande figure de l'Eglise Catholique, serviteur humble et dévoué du Christ Jésus.

En ces circonstances très douloureuses, je voudrais exprimer, au nom du Peuple burundais, de son Gouvernement et en mon nom propre, mes condoléances à Votre Sainteté, à sa famille de sang, aux chrétiens catholiques du monde entier ainsi qu'à ses amis et connaissances de l'Illustre Disparu.

Puisse le Dieu Tout-Puissant qu'il a toujours cherché à faire connaître davantage à travers ses recherches théologiques et à servir comme Pasteur de son Eglise lui ouvre grandement les portes du Paradis et que son âme repose dans la paix éternelle.

EVARISTE NDAYISHIMIYE

*Président de la République*

## CAMERUN

La nouvelle du décès du Pape Émérite Benoît XVI, m'a particulièrement ému.

Je salue la mémoire de cette grande figure de l'Eglise catholique romaine, connue pour son profond attachement à la Foi chrétienne et son engagement en faveur de la communauté des croyants.

Tout le peuple camerounais garde un excellent souvenir de sa visite à Yaoundé.

Je tiens en cette circonstance particulière, à vous adresser, ainsi qu'à la Curie romaine et à sa famille, mes sincères condoléances. J'y joins le sentiment de compassion de mon Epouse.

PAUL BIYA

*Président de la République*

#### CANADA

On behalf of the Parliament of Canada, we wish to convey our utmost sympathy on the passing of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Catholics throughout Canada grieve with their fellow disciples around the world and with those who knew him best.

During his many years of service to the Church, Pope Benedict undeniably exerted significant influence, and he had a notable impact as a defender of the tenets of the Catholic faith. His love of liturgy was evident to all those who heard him speak. May his devotion and teachings live on in memory of his time as leader of the faith.

Please accept our most heartfelt condolences.

ANTHONY ROTA

*Speaker of the House of Commons*

#### CAPO VERDE

Foi com enorme tristeza e pesar que recebi a notícia do passamento do Papa Emérito Bento XVI, no passado dia 31 de dezembro de 2022, na venerável idade de 95 anos, um dos líderes mundiais mais sábios e que marca de forma indelével a história da Igreja Católica.

Em nome do povo cabo-verdiano e em meu próprio, apresento a Vossa Santidade as nossas mais profundas e sentidas condolências, solicitando-lhe que transmita os nossos sentimentos de pesar à Igreja católica,

aos Bispos e Católicos de todo o Mundo e à família enlutada de Joseph Ratzinger.

Peço-lhe que creia nos protestos da minha mais elevada consideração.

JOSÉ MARIA PEREIRA NEVES

*Presidente da República*

É com profundo pesar e emoção que o Governo de Cabo Verde tomou conhecimento do falecimento, neste dia 31 de Dezembro, do Papa Emérito Bento XVI, ilustre Cardeal que dirigiu os destinos da Igreja Católica de 19 de Abril de 2007 a 11 de fevereiro de 2013.

Revelou-se, no decurso do seu Pontificado como um homem humilde, comprometido com os ensinamentos da Igreja e empenhado nas grandes causas da humanidade. A paz, a igualdade, a justiça social, o amor e a tolerância entre os homens e os povos estiveram sempre presentes nas suas principais intervenções, revelando uma grande e constante preocupação com os destinos das pessoas e dos Estados.

Uma lição moral magnífica e de profundo significado teve a sua renúncia ao cargo de Bispo de Roma e Sucessor do Apóstolo Pedro em 2013, dedicando-se completamente a uma vida de oração em favor dos homens, especialmente daqueles mais injustiçados deste mundo. A sua estatura intelectual goza de um respeito universal e a fidelidades aos princípios da Igreja Católica é de reconhecimento geral.

Nesta hora de sofrimento, o Governo de Cabo Verde, consternado com a notícia, apresenta as suas mais sentidas condolências e manifesta o seu mais profundo pesar pela morte do Papa Emérito Bento XVI, associando-se à dor e perda sentidas por todos, especialmente pelos fiéis da Igreja Católica espalhados pelos quatro cantos do mundo.

Com sentido pesar e solidariedade.

JOSÉ ULISSES CORREIA E SILVA

*Primeiro Ministro*

## CILE

En nombre del pueblo de Chile, del gobierno que presido y en el mío propio, deseo expresarle las más sentidas condolencias ante el fallecimiento del Papa Emérito Benedicto XVI, ocurrido el pasado 31 de diciembre de 2022.

Chile y la Santa Sede, siempre han mantenido un estrecho vínculo de amistad, diálogo y cooperación, que se ha expresado de manera significativa en las visitas efectuadas por todos los Presidentes de Chile, desde el retorno a la democracia en 1990.

Recordamos el paso del Papa Emérito por nuestro país en 1988, oportunidad en la que se reunió con académicos, estudiantes, pobladores y comunidades de fieles a quienes transmitió su profunda fe y sabiduría como intelectual y teólogo.

GABRIEL BORIC FONT

*Presidente de la República*

## CINA

It is deeply saddening to learn of the passing of His Holiness Benedict XVI, Pope Emeritus. The people and Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) share the world's deep grief and sorrow at the loss of such a remarkable spiritual leader.

He was not only the Head of the Catholic Church, but also a luminous example of faith, a warm, loving pastor, and the greatest theologian and catholic thinker of our time who worked tirelessly to heal divisions in the Catholic Church. His spiritual testimony and worldwide efforts in fostering christian unity as a pattern for the unity of all human beings will be a lasting reminder of his mission to proclaim the love of Christ for the entire humanity.

I pray that the Lord may welcome the soul of this generous pastor who devoted himself with humbleness to the service of God's people and grant him a peaceful rest.

---

The people and Government of Taiwan will always remember his lasting contributions to the life of the Church and the world. Please accept my heartfelt sympathy and condolences at this most difficult time.

TSAI ING-WEN

*President of the Republic of China*

### CIPRO

It is with great sadness and profound sorrow that I received the news of the recent passing away of the late Pope Benedict XVI.

I still fondly remember his papal visit to our country in 2010, a historic one as it was the first ever visit of a Pope to Cyprus; His courtesy and proximity with everyone that welcomed and approached him.

On behalf of the People and the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish to extend to Your Holiness and the Holy See, as well as to all Catholics around the world, our deepest and most sincere condolences.

May His soul rest in peace and His legacy forever be remembered.

NICOS ANASTASIADES

*President of Republic*

### COLOMBIA

En nombre del Gobierno colombiano, me permito expresar nuestras sinceras condolencias por el fallecimiento del Papa Emérito Benedicto XVI, destacado humanista y defensor de la justicia social, que dedicó su vida a la renovación de la iglesia y la promoción de los valores cristianos. Será recordado especialmente por su liderazgo y búsqueda constante de soluciones a los desafíos espirituales de la humanidad.

Sea esta la ocasión para acompañar, con nuestros pensamientos y oraciones, a la familia y discípulos del Papa Emérito Benedicto XVI en estos momentos de profunda tristeza.

ÁLVARO LEYVA DURÁN  
*Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores*

#### CONGO (BRAZZAVILLE)

C'est avec une grande consternation et une vive émotion que J'ai appris le décès du Pape Émérite Benoît XVI survenu le samedi 31 décembre 2022.

En cette circonstance particulièrement douloureuse, Je m'incline devant la mémoire de l'illustre disparu et vous adresse, au nom du Peuple et du gouvernement congolais ainsi qu'au mien propre, à vous-même et à l'ensemble de la Papauté, mes condoléances les plus attristées.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Très Saint-Père, l'expression de ma Très Profonde Compassion.

DENIS SASSOU N'GUESSO  
*Président de la République du Congo*

#### CONGO (KINSHASA)

C'est avec une profonde tristesse et une grande compassion que je vous adresse cette missive à la suite du décès du Pape Émérite Benoît XVI, survenu le 31 décembre dernier.

L'Église se souviendra de l'homme de foi et d'Évangile qu'il fut tout comme l'humanité tout entière se souviendra du grand théologien qu'il était, au travers de ses contributions dans l'explication des saintes écritures et de son apport à l'Homme dans un monde en perpétuelle mutation.

En vous faisant l'hommage de mon profond respect et de l'assurance de mes fidèles et dévoués sentiments, veuillez recevoir, Saint-Père, au

---

nom du peuple congolais ainsi qu'au mien propre, mes condoléances les plus attristées.

FÉLIX ANTOINE TSHISEKEDI TSHILOMBO  
*Président de la République Démocratique du Congo*

## COREA

Unendosi al dolore di tutti i fedeli-cattolici del mondo, il Governo e il Popolo della Repubblica di Corea desiderano porgere le più sentite condoglianze per la scomparsa di Benedetto XVI, Papa Emerito.

Come ben esprime il suo motto episcopale *Cooperatores veritatis*, Benedetto XVI è stato uno dei migliori teologi cattolici che ha dedicato tutta la vita alla ricerca delle rette dottrine cristiane e al servizio della Chiesa. La profondità della fede, dei pensieri, della personalità e delle sue convinzioni è stata la ragione per cui non solo i fedeli-cattolici, ma anche persone di tutte le religioni lo hanno rispettato.

Il defunto Pontefice ha anche mostrato particolare amore e attenzione per il futuro del nostro Paese e ha pregato di cuore per la realizzazione della pace nella Penisola Coreana.

Non potrò mai dimenticare le parole da Lui pronunciate nell'ultimo *Angelus* del suo pontificato: «Il Signore mi chiama a “salire sul monte”, a dedicarmi ancora di più alla preghiera e alla meditazione». Prego per il defunto Papa, affinché la sua anima riposi nella pace eterna nel seno di Gesù Cristo.

YOON SUK YEOL  
*Presidente della Repubblica*

## COSTA D'AVORIO

C'est avec une vive émotion que j'ai appris le décès survenu ce samedi 31 décembre 2022, dans le Monastère des Jardins du Vatican, du Pape Émérite Benoît XVI (Joseph Ratzinger) à l'âge de 95 ans.

Je voudrais saluer la mémoire d'un Souverain Pontife intègre, pieux et défenseur des valeurs chrétiennes traditionnelles.

Je rends un vibrant hommage à un grand théologien dont les nombreux ouvrages continueront d'édifier l'Eglise catholique, Par sa grandeur d'âme et son altruisme, il continuera à demeurer un modèle pour l'humanité.

En cette circonstance particulièrement douloureuse, je voudrais, au nom du peuple et du gouvernement ivoiriens, ainsi qu'en mon nom propre, adresser à Votre Sainteté et à la curie romaine mes condoléances les plus émues et mes sentiments de profonde compassion.

ALASSANE OUATTARA

*Président de la République*

#### COSTA RICA

Con profundo pesar hemos recibido la triste noticia del sensible fallecimiento del S.S. Benedicto XVI, el Papa Emérito acaecida el pasado 31 de diciembre, quien estamos seguros ya se encuentra gozando en los regazos del Creador.

El luto por el que atraviesa la Santa Sede y toda la comunidad católica en estos momentos es fiel reflejo del inmenso cariño que embarga los corazones de todos aquellos que veíamos en el Papa Emérito a un extraordinario ser humano, pleno de virtudes, alguien que supo dedicar su vida al servicio de los demás.

Por ello, Santo Padre, le ruego aceptar, mis más sentidas condolencias que son las del Pueblo de Costa Rica y las de su Gobierno.

RODRIGO CHAVES ROBLES

*Presidente de la República*

#### CROAZIA

S velikom tugom primio sam vijest o smrti Njegove Svetosti Pape Emeritusa Benedikta XVI.



U ime gradana Republike Hrvatske i svoje osobno ime upućujem Vama, Vaša Svetosti, i cijeloj Katoličkoj crkvi iskrenu i duboku sućut.

Odlaskom Pape Benedikta XVI. Katoilčka crkva gubi jednog od najvećih teoloških umova koji je svećeničku službu vršio predano i u dubokoj vjeri. Tijekom svog pontifikata neumorno je radio za plemenitu misiju Crkve, a svoju teološku misao pretočioje u enciklike i druge apostolske dokumente. Svojim moralnim autoritetom i duhovnom snagom zalagao se za mir među ljudima i narodima, uspostavu pravde te promicanje i zaštitu ljudskih prava.

Pastoralni posjet Pape Benedikta XVI. Republici Hrvatskoj 2011. ostat će u trajnom sjećanju cijelom hrvatskom narodu i svim katoličkim vjernicima moje zemlje. Njegov boravak u Hrvatskoj pantimo kao trajni izvor moralnog i duhovnog ohrabrenja te kao trajni znak nade i vjere u budućnost. Moj osobni susret s Papom Benediktom XVI. 2012., tijekom službenog posjeta Svetoj Stolici, ostao mi je u osobitom sjećanju.

Osobno Vam izražavam svoje najdublje poštovanje.

ZORAN MILANOVIĆ

*Predsjednik Republike Hrvatske*

Following the sad news on the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, allow me to convey my deepest condolences as well as those on behalf of the Croatian government.

We join Your Holiness and Catholics around the world in remembering and honouring the devotion and service of Benedict XVI. He will be remembered as one of the great theologians of the past century, whose work has profoundly shaped the Catholic Church.

The Croatian people will also always cherish and remember His apostolic journey to Croatia in 2011, which was held under the motto of "Together in Christ". As back then, on today's sad day for the Church, we continue to witness strong bonds between Croatia and the Holy See.

I beg Your Holiness to accept the expression of my devotion as well as the assurances of my highest consideration and my constant friendship.

ANDREJ PLENKOVIĆ

*Prime Minister of Croatia*

U ime Ministarstva vanjskih i europskih poslova Republike Hrvatske, i u moje osobno, molim Vas primiti izraze iskrene sućuti povodom smrti Pape Emeritusa Benedikta XVI.

Njegovim odlaskom svijet je ostao bez jednog od najvećih teologa našeg doba, kao i aktivnog promicatelja međureligijskog dijaloga i mira, a vjernici bez istinskog pastira.

Pastoralni pohod Pape Benedikta XVI. Hrvatskoj u lipnju 2011. godine, kada je podržao ulazak Hrvatske u Europsku uniju, ostat će zauvijek u sjećanju hrvatskog naroda, koji baštini stoljetnu kršćansku tradiciju i povezanost s Katoličkom crkvom.

Posebnu povezanost Papa Benedikt XVI. je imao s hrvatskim kardinalom Franjom Šeperom, kojeg je naslijedio na mjestu prefekta Kongregacije za nauk vjere 1981. godine. Njegov je dolazak u Zagreb, 5. siječnja 1982. godine, na sprovod svojeg prethodnika, bio izraz njegove iskrene zahvalnosti ne samo kardinalu Šeperu nego i hrvatskom narodu iz kojega je potekao, kao i Crkvi u Hrvatskoj.

Brojne veze s Hrvatima vjernicima održavao je i dok je bio na čelu nadbiskupije München-Freising, gdje živi i djeluje snažna hrvatska zajednica.

GORDAN GRLIĆ RADMAN

*Ministar vanjskih i europskih poslova*

CUBA

Le expreso sentidas condolencias por el fallecimiento del Papa Emérito Benedicto XVI, las cuales hago extensivas a sus familiares y allegados,

Como manifesté, en el mensaje de despedida de su visita a nuestro país al Papa Emérito, el pueblo de Cuba siempre recordará con gratitud y aprecio, sus afectuosos sentimientos hacia los cubanos.

RAUL CASTRO RUZ

*Ex Presidente de la República*

---

DANIMARCA

Please accept my deepest condolences upon the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

We will remember Pope Benedict as a renowned theologian and lifelong servant of the Roman Catholic Church.

MARGRETHE R.

ECUADOR

Me dirijo a usted y a la Iglesia católica para expresar los sentimientos de pesar del Gobierno y pueblo del Ecuador por el sensible fallecimiento del Papa Emérito Benedicto XVI.

Su deceso ha conmovido al mundo entero, pues su ejemplo de hombre bueno y consagrado a Dios inspiró a los católicos, pero también a muchos practicantes de otros credos. Su legado, como teólogo y como pastor, permanecerá en el tiempo. Nuestro país tiene motivos de especial agradecimiento por la ayuda que, como arzobispo de Múnich, prestó a la Iglesia ecuatoriana a fines de la década del setenta.

En lo personal, a mi esposa y a mi, por encima del sentimiento de congoja, que, por supuesto tenemos, nos invade el convencimiento de que este líder, pastor y guía ha llegado al encuentro definitivo con Dios tras haber cumplido la misión que le dio en la tierra.

GUILLERMO LASSO MENDOZA

*Presidente Constitucional de la República del Ecuador*

EGITTO

J'ai appris avec douleur la triste nouvelle du décès de Sa Sainteté le Pape Émérite Benoît XVI.

En cette douloureuse circonstance, je tiens à exprimer mes plus sincères condoléances à l'Église Catholique pour la perte de cette personne noble

qui a établi les ponts du dialogue et d'entente entre les différentes civilisations et les diverses cultures, qui a consacré sa vie à diffuser les grandes valeurs et qui a œuvré pour la prospérité de l'humanité.

Je prie Dieu Tout-Puissant de bénir l'âme du défunt et de garder, Votre Sainteté, de tout malheur.

ABDEL FATTAH AL SISI

*Président de la République Arabe d'Égypte*

#### EMIRATI ARABI UNITI

It is with a heavy heart that we received the news of the passing away of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI in the Vatican. We wish to convey our heartfelt sympathy and sincere condolences to Your Holiness, friendly people of the Vatican and the bereaved family over such a great loss.

MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTUUM

*Vice President of the United Arab Emirates*

*Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai*

قداستكم، ببالغ الحزن والأسى تلقينا خبر وفاة البابا الفخري بندكتس السادس عشر، وإني أنقل لكم تعازينا وتعازي الحكومة وشعب دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة الصادقة في وفاته.

لقد كان رجل دين عظيم كرّس حياته كلّها لنشر السلام والمحبة حول العالم وترك وراءه إرثاً إنسانياً عريقاً.

ختاماً، أرجو أن تتقبلوا قداستكم خالص تعازينا، مع تمنياتنا لكم بموفور الصّحة والعافية.

SAIF BIN ZAYED AL NAHYAN

*UAE Deputy Prime Minister*

*Minister of Interior*

---

ESTONIA

On behalf of the Estonian people and myself, I would like to express our sincere condolences upon the loss of a great spiritual leader the Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. He will always be remembered with gratitude not only for his faithful and humble service of the Roman Catholic Church and as one of the pre-eminent theologians of the past century but also for his commitment to promote peace and justice, his deep involvement in ecumenism and focus on Christian mission in secular societies. May his soul rest in peace.

Please accept our deepest sympathies to Your Holiness, the Holy See and Catholics around the world at this time of sorrow.

ALAR KARIS

*President of the Republic of Estonia*

FEDERAZIONE RUSSA

Vogliate accogliere le mie più sentite condoglianze per la morte di Sua Santità Emerita Benedetto XVI.

Benedetto XVI è stato un grande leader religioso e importante uomo di Stato, convinto protettore dei valori tradizionali cristiani. Nel periodo del Suo pontificato tra la Russia e il Vaticano sono stati instaurati rapporti diplomatici solidi, si sono sviluppati le relazioni tra la Chiesa Russa Ortodossa e la Chiesa Cattolica Romana.

Ho avuto l'onore di potermi confrontare più volte con questo uomo straordinario e porterò per sempre il Suo ricordo più sincero. In questo doloroso momento mi permetta di trasmetterLe le mie più cordiali parole di sincero cordoglio.

Con stima.

VLADIMIR PUTIN

*Presidente della Federazione Russa*

Vogliate accogliere le mie più sentite condoglianze per la scomparsa di Sua Santità, il Papa Emerito Benedetto XVI.

Tutta la Sua vita ha dedicato per promuovere i veri valori cristiani. Il suo ministero pastorale, poliedrico e instancabile, ha suscitato rispetto di milioni di persone in tutto il mondo.

Nel nostro paese si apprezza molto il suo contributo personale nell'instaurare i rapporti diplomatici tra la Russia e il Vaticano, nello sviluppo del dialogo tra la Chiesa Russa Ortodossa e la Chiesa Cattolica Romana e nella difesa dei diritti e interessi dei cristiani.

Con sentimenti più calorosi mi ricordo conversazioni con questo pensatore, profondo e straordinario, sempre aperto alle discussioni significative.

Condivido il dolore di tutti, nel cuore dei quali rimarrà Benedetto XVI.

DMITRY MEDVEDEV

*Vice Presidente del Consiglio di sicurezza  
della Federazione Russa*

## FIJI

On behalf of the Fijian Government and all Fijians, we join the global community in extending our sincerest condolences at the untimely passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

The Catholic community in Fiji is profoundly grieved by the message of the passing of Pope Emeritus. A traditionalist, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI took on the reigns of leadership at a time when many challenges plagued the church and during his papacy the late Emeritus proved to be a humble servant of God.

Your Holiness, I personally pray that the Almighty shall bestow upon the Vatican much peace during this time of loss and strengthen your resolve as you continue the work of tending to the flock.

RATU WILIAME M. KATONIVERE

*President of the Republic of Fiji*

It is with profound sadness that I convey my deepest sympathies to your good office for the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

The thoughts and prayers of all the people of Fiji are with you and the Holy See during this difficult time as we remember his profound ministry and legacy.

May his soul rest in peace and his life be an inspiration to all of us.

STIVENI L. RABUKA

*Prime Minister of the Republic*

### FILIPPINE

I am deeply saddened to learn of the passing of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, who previously served as the Bishop of Rome and the head of the Roman Catholic Church. I extend my heartfelt condolences to his beloved ones and to the broader Christendom.

His Holiness will be remembered for his pious dedication to the Christian faith and his commitment to spreading the love of Jesus Christ. He will also be remembered by my countryfolk for his instrumental role on the canonization of Saint Pedro Calungsod, the second Filipino to be declared a saint by the Roman Catholic Church. I join the Filipino people in praying for the eternal repose of his soul.

SARA DUTERTE

*Vice President of Republic of the Philippines*

### FINLANDIA

I was saddened to learn about the passing away of the Pope Emeritus, Benedict XVI.

On behalf of the people of Finland and on my own behalf, I would like to express my condolences to you and the Catholic community worldwide.

SAULI NIINISTÖ

*President of the Republic*

## FRANCIA

J'assure Votre Sainteté de ma sympathie et Lui présente mes condoléances attristées après la disparition du Pape Émérite.

Je prie Votre Sainteté de bien vouloir les partager au sein de la famille de l'Église.

La France et les Français conservent le souvenir des visites de Benoît XVI et de ses témoignages mémorables rendus dans notre pays, notamment par sa haute présence lors de l'inauguration en septembre 2008 du cloître des Bernardins rendu à sa splendeur, héritage de l'histoire de la France et de l'Europe et de leur culture chrétienne.

Dans le monde, les efforts de Benoît XVI pour la paix et ses plaidoyers inlassables méritent l'hommage de tous. Issu du cœur du continent européen marqué par les tragédies du vingtième siècle, Benoît XVI a délivré un incessant appel à la paix que la France partageait pleinement.

Je prie Votre Sainteté de bien vouloir agréer les assurances de ma très haute estime et de ma constante amitié.

EMMANUEL MACRON

*Président de la République*

## GABON

C'est avec une grande tristesse que j'ai appris le décès dans sa quatre vingt quinzième année de votre prédécesseur, le Pape Émérite Benoît XVI, survenu le samedi 31 décembre 2022.

Je suis d'autant plus touché par cette disparition que mon épouse, Madame la Première Dame du Gabon et Moi-même avons été reçus par l'Illustre disparu, le 10 décembre 2009 au Saint-Siège.

En cette douloureuse circonstance, je voudrais rendre un hommage particulier à sa mémoire et saluer en lui une personnalité de grande culture, un penseur de grande conviction spirituelle et intellectuelle.

Le Pape Émérite Benoît XVI appréciait particulièrement la musique classique et la musique religieuse, et ce n'est donc pas sans émotion que



je me remémore ces quelques instants durant lesquels nous avons tous les deux échangé sur cette passion commune.

Je mesure l'immensité de cette perte pour l'Église Catholique et au-delà. Aussi, voudrais-je vous adresser mes sincères condoléances, au Collège des Cardinaux, à l'Église Catholique et à l'ensemble des croyants aujourd'hui affectés par cette disparition.

Mais, nous savons aussi que nous sommes dans l'Espérance. Sa Sainteté le Pape Benoît XVI rejoint ainsi son Créateur au terme d'un cheminement intellectuel et spirituel qui l'a tendu toujours vers cette ultime issue.

Mes pensées seront avec Vous lors des obsèques solennelles de votre prédécesseur.

Soyez assuré, Très Saint Père, de ma fraternelle proximité dans cette épreuve, ainsi que de l'expression de ma très haute et très cordiale considération.

ALI BONGO ONDIMBA

*President de la République*

## GAMBIA

I join the Government, the People and all Catholics of The Gambia and the world in extending heartfelt condolences on the demise of His Holiness Pope Emeritus, Benedict XVI.

Pope Benedict was a charismatic preacher and theologian. During his papacy, he carried the World ever closer to a just and inclusive humanity with his commitment to ecumenical and interfaith dialogue.

As a great figure in the history of the Church, his wisdom and legacy will continue to benefit and inspire humanity around the globe.

In this time of grief, I pray for the eternal repose in peace of the esteemed Former Pontiff.

ADAMA BARROW

*President of the Republic*

## GERMANIA

Mit großer Trauer haben wir in Deutschland vom Tod Papst Benedikts XVI. erfahren.

Sein Glaube, sein Intellekt, seine Weisheit und seine menschliche Bescheidenheit haben mich immer tief beeindruckt.

Über seine weltkirchliche Sendung hinaus hatte dieser Papst als Landsmann für uns Deutsche eine ganz besondere Bedeutung. Die Wahl eines Papstes aus dem Mutterland der Reformation und eines Intellektuellen, der sich den Dialog zwischen Glaube und Verunft zur Lebensaufgabe gemacht hatte, war für viele Menschen auf der ganzen Welt ein wichtiges Zeichen.

Die Einheit der Christenheit und der Dialog der Religionen, das Miteinander von Religion und Gesellschaft lagen ihm besonders am Herzen. Er suchte das Gespräch mit Juden und Muslimen sowie allen christlichen Konfessionen weltweit.

Schon im Wirken des Professors Joseph Ratzinger verband sich hohe theologische und philosophische Bildung mit verständlicher Sprache. Deswegen fanden viele Menschen, nicht nur Katholiken in seinen Schriften und Ansprachen klare Orientierung. Er hat sich dem Suchen und Fragen der Menschen gestellt.

Spätestens als Präfekt der Glaubenskongregation war er mit dem bedrückenden Problem des weltweiten sexuellen Missbrauchs und dessen systematischer Vertuschung konfrontiert. Hier war er besonders in der Verantwortung. Benedikt wusste um das große Leid der Opfer und den immensen Schaden für die Glaubwürdigkeit der Kirche.

Benedikt entschied sich zum Amtsverzicht in dem Moment, in dem er gewiss war, sein Amt nicht mehr mit der nötigen Kraft ausführen zu können. Das war eine unerwartete kirchengeschichtliche Zäsur.

Als Papst der ganzen Welt verpflichtet, blieb er doch immer mit seiner bayerischen Heimat verbunden, die seinen Glauben tief geprägt hat. Das konnten wir Deutsche bei seinen Besuchen und Ansprachen in Deutschland spüren. Vielen sind seine Besuche zum Weltjugendtag in Köln, in Berlin, im Eichsfeld und in Freiburg unvergesslich geblieben.

Als erster Papst sprach Benedikt vor einem gewählten Parlament der Deutschen. Seine Worte zu den Grundlagen des freiheitlichen Rechtsstaates und der Demokratie, zur Würde des Menschen und zur Ökologie lösten

nicht nur in Deutschland engagierte Debatten aus und beförderten die Wahrheitssuche Einzelner wie des Gemeinwesens.

„Deus caritas est — Gott ist die Liebe“ aus diesem Titel seiner ersten Enzyklika spricht Benedikts tiefe Überzeugung, mit der er vielen Menschen auf der ganzen Welt Halt und Kraft vermittelte.

Deutschland trauert um Papst Benedikt XVI. und erinnert sich seines Wirkens.

FRANK-WALTER STEINMEIER

*Bundespräsident der Bundesrepublik Deutschland*

Die Nachricht vom Tod Seiner Heiligkeit Benedikt XVI. erfüllt mich mit großer Trauer.

Meine Gedanken sind bei jenen, die ihm in den letzten Jahren Stütze und Hilfe gewesen sind. Ihnen und den Gläubigen weltweit gilt mein Mitgefühl.

In stiller Anteilnahme

OLAF SCHOLZ

*Bundeskanzler der Bundesrepublik Deutschland*

Im Namen des Deutschen Bundestages und persönlich spreche ich Ihnen und der Kirche zum Tode Seiner Heiligkeit Papst Benedikts XVI. meine tief empfundene Anteilnahme aus.

Der Deutsche Bundestag erinnert sich mit großer Dankbarkeit und bleibender Hochachtung an den Besuch von Papst Benedikt im Reichstagsgebäude zu Berlin am 22. September 2011. Als Oberhaupt der katholischen Christenheit, aber auch als Landsmann, stellte er seine Ansprache unter ein Wort der Bibel aus dem Ersten Buch der Könige an den König Salomo. Was dürfe dieser sich am Beginn seiner Herrschaft anderes wünschen „als ein hörendes Herz — die Fähigkeit, Gut und Böse zu unterscheiden und so wahres Recht zu setzen, der Gerechtigkeit zu dienen und dem Frieden“?

Diese Mahnung, die Papst Benedikt auch uns, den zu demokratischer Verantwortung und politischer Gestaltung Gewählten, auf den Weg gab, wirkt nach wie so vieles aus der langen und reichen theologischen, wissenschaftlichen und seelsorgerischen Lebensleistung dieser großen Persönlichkeit.

Indem ich mich in Ehrfurcht vor ihr verneige, versichere ich Ihnen, dass der Deutsche Bundestag um einen der bedeutenden Päpste in der Geschichte Trauer trägt.

Genehmigen Eure Heiligkeit den Ausdruck meiner ehrerbietigen Hochachtung.

BÄRBEL BAS

*Präsidentin des Bundestages*

#### GHANA

I received the news of the passing of Benedict XVI today, 31<sup>st</sup> december 2022, with deep sense sorrow and sadness.

On behalf of the Government and People of the Republic of Ghana and in my own name, I wish to convey heartfelt condolences to Your Holiness, to the catholic Church and immediate family of the late Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. On your great loss. Our prayers and thought are with You.

Pope Emeritus Benedict was a true shepherd of God who lived and dedicated his entire life in the ministry of God, serving humanity and affected many lives positively. He lived a life worthy of emulation and sorely will be sorely missed.

May his gentle soul rest in perfect peace.

Please accept, Your Holiness my best wishes for your personal wellbeing even as we mourn the passing of Pope Benedic XVI. Compliments of the season.

NANA ADDO DANKWA AKUFO-ADDO

*President of the Republic of Ghana*

#### GIAPPONE

Profondamente rattristato dalla notizia della scomparsa di Sua Santità Benedetto XVI, Papa Emerito, desidero esprimere a nome del Governo del Giappone e del popolo giapponese le più sentite condoglianze.

Sua Santità Benedetto XVI, durante il Suo pontificato dal 2005 al 2013, alla guida di circa 1 miliardo di fedeli, ha svolto un ruolo di rilievo per la pace nel mondo esercitando la Sua peculiare influenza diplomatica.

Le parole di vicinanza che Sua Santità Benedetto XVI ha pronunciato in occasione del Grande Terremoto del Giappone Orientale del 2011 sono state di grande incoraggiamento per tutto il Giappone.

Il Governo del Giappone, esprimendo sincero rispetto per le alte attività svolte da Sua Santità Benedetto XVI, desidera porgere le più sentite condoglianze.

KISHIDA FUMIO

*Primo Ministro del Giappone*

#### GIORDANIA

I was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

A highly respected theologian, Pope Benedict XVI was a great believer in the role of faith in bringing people together. We witnessed this firsthand in Jordan, as he made his pilgrimage to Bethany Beyond the Jordan and other Christian holy sites in our country in 2009, and spoke of the importance of faith in fostering peace and harmony.

I extend my sincerest condolences and heartfelt sympathies to Your Holiness and the millions of believers around the world who mourn Pope Benedict XVI's passing, may his soul rest in peace.

‘Abd Allāh II

*King of Jordan*

It is with my sincerest condolences that I write to you, following the passing of Pope Benedict XVI, who provided hope in the prospect of justice and peace in our war-torn world.

It fills me with great warmth to recall the time I spent over the years working with Pope Benedict XVI to promote inter-faith harmony, fraternity, and dialogue amongst the Abrahamic faiths. As co-founders for the

Foundation for Interreligious and Intercultural Research and Dialogue, we developed a strong friendship and respect for one another that we hoped would set a precedent for tolerance and understanding amongst the people of the Book for generations to come.

In emphasising our mutual affinity for human dignity across the three religions, all of which promote an ethics of benevolence, we worked tirelessly to place inter-religious dialogue at the forefront. In doing so, we demonstrated the positive role of religion in human relationships and peace-building initiatives. Should my faith in humanity ever need restoring, it is these fond memories that will come to mind.

May Pope Benedict XVI always rest in peace.

PRINCE EL HASSAN BIN TALAL  
*The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan*

#### GRAN BRETAGNA

I received the news of the death of your predecessor, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, with deep sadness. I remember with fondness my meeting with His Holiness during my visit to the Vatican in 2009. His visit to the United Kingdom in 2010 was important in strengthening the relations between the Holy See and the United Kingdom. I also recall his constant efforts to promote peace and goodwill to all people, and to strengthen the relationship between the global Anglican Communion and the Roman Catholic Church.

My wife and I send you our continued good wishes for your own pontificate.

CHARLES R.

It is with the greatest sadness that I have learnt of the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

His unstinting efforts to promote a just and sustainable future for all people and his concern for all the people of the world, especially those in

developing countries, will long be remembered. His historic visit to the United Kingdom in 2010 was an important moment for our country and he will be sadly missed. His decision to step down from the Papacy in 2013 was a momentous one.

I extend to His Holiness Pope Francis, Your Eminence, to the Secretariat of State of His Holiness and to the Catholic Church my deepest sympathy

RISHI SUNAK

*Prime Minister of the United Kingdom*

## GUATEMALA

El reciente deceso del Papa Emérito Benedicto XVI representa una enorme pérdida, no solo para la Iglesia, sino para todos los hombres de buena voluntad. La historia pierde a uno de sus protagonistas y la humanidad un punto de referencia para la justicia y la paz, un pastor que supo hacer de su misión terrena un ejemplo de fe y de humildad, uno de los grandes teólogos de la iglesia, profesor e incansable escritor.

En nombre del Gobierno, del Pueblo guatemalteco y del mío propio, expreso las más sinceras y sentidas condolencias a Vuestra Santidad, a la Iglesia toda y a cuantos convivieron y amaron a Su Santidad Benedicto XVI, consciente de que ha encontrado ya el amor del Padre pues, como él mismo expresó en su encíclica “Deus Caritas Est” Dios ama tanto al hombre que, haciéndose hombre él mismo, lo acompaña incluso en la muerte y, de este modo, reconcilia la justicia y el amor.

Al unirnos al dolor por la pérdida del Papa Emérito, y de todos cuantos hoy lo lloran, rendimos homenaje a su vida incansable siempre al servicio de la Fe.

ALEJANDRO EDUARDO GIAMMATTEI FALLA

*Presidente de la República*

## INDIA

Saddened by the passing away of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, who devoted his entire life to the Church and the teachings of Lord Christ. He will be remembered for his rich service to society. My thoughts are with the millions around the world who grieve his passing.

NARENDRA MODI

*Prime Minister of India*

## IRAQ

I would like to present to Your Holiness and to the Vatican State my deepest condolences and sympathy for the passing of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI, asking God to cover his soul with the abundance of His mercy and inspire you, his family and loved ones with consolation, endurance and solace.

Please accept my highest appreciation and respect.

MOHAMMED SHIYA'A AL-SUDANI

*Prime Minister of the Republic of Iraq*

## IRLANDA

It is with sadness that Catholics around the world will learned of the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

At this time of the return of war on our continent in so many areas of the world, he will be remembered for his untiring efforts to find a common path in promoting peace and goodwill throughout the world, including a steadfast interest in peace in Northern Ireland.

He will be remembered too for the value he attached to intellectual work and for the personal commitment he gave to such within the Roman Catholic Church, this work being respected by both supporters and critics.

Of particular importance was that during his tenure, Pope Benedict sought to highlight both the common purpose of the world's major religions



and his injunctions as to how our individual responsibilities as citizens require the highest standards of ethics in our actions.

May I extend my condolences to Pope Francis and to all members of the Catholic faith across the world.

MICHAEL D. HIGGINS  
*President of Ireland*

### ISRAELE

On behalf of the people and the State of Israel, please accept my deepest condolences on the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. I send you strength and support as you comfort the millions of mourners worldwide during this somber period of grief.

In Israel, we remember Pope Benedict XVI for his outreach to the global Jewish community and his dedication to sanctifying the warm bond between our peoples. His pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2009 was a powerful moment for the relations between the Vatican and the State of Israel, and his message of brotherhood continues to reverberate in the present day.

We remember his solemn words as he spoke at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, and his humble, sanctified prayer on behalf of those murdered during the Shoah. We embrace his celebration of inter-religious harmony, and pledge to continue protecting this fundamental freedom for all our citizens.

During his visit, Pope Benedict XVI and President Shimon Peres, planted an olive tree together at the presidential residence. This tree, this living symbol of peace and brotherhood between Christians and Jews, serves as a beautiful reminder that our two peoples share deep and inseparable roots. I was also fortunate to meet with His Holiness during his visit, and I was greatly impressed by his heartfelt connection to Israel and the Jewish people. Pope Benedict XVI came to Israel as a friend, but he left as a brother.

The State of Israel and the Jewish people join our Catholic brothers and sisters as you come together to commemorate and remember this

holy and pious man. As we say in the Jewish tradition, may his memory be for a blessing.

ISAAC HERZOG

*President of the State of Israel*

## ITALIA

Desidero unirmi ai sentimenti di profonda commozione degli italiani tutti nel porgere a Vostra Santità le espressioni del sincero cordoglio della Repubblica Italiana per la morte di Benedetto XVI, Papa Emerito.

Teologo insigne, brillante accademico e uomo di finissima cultura, Joseph Ratzinger ha profondamente segnato per oltre mezzo secolo la vita della Chiesa, dedicandosi con passione, coerenza e dedizione alla riflessione su aspetti fondamentali del cristianesimo e al suo rapporto con la modernità.

Nella coinvolgente esperienza del Concilio Vaticano Secondo, nell'insegnamento presso le più prestigiose università della natia Germania e nell'attività pastorale ha delineato un percorso intellettuale e di fede che, fin dagli anni della lunga e intensa collaborazione con San Giovanni Paolo II, ha posto senza riserve al servizio della Chiesa universale, proseguendo poi con serenità nella inedita veste di Papa Emerito.

Il suo pontificato ha rappresentato per milioni di uomini e donne — credenti e non credenti — una luminosissima e feconda testimonianza dei principi evangelici. Con la mite fermezza propria del suo carattere, Benedetto XVI ha saputo imprimere uno slancio particolare al dialogo tra fede e ragione, tra aggiornamento e tradizione, ponendo sempre al centro della sua predicazione — e di tutto il suo Magistero — i valori dell'umanesimo cristiano.

La sua scomparsa segna per l'Italia la perdita di un pastore che nel corso di una lunga vita le ha testimoniato ripetutamente un profondo affetto, unito al sincero attaccamento per quell'immenso patrimonio di cultura intimamente legato alle radici e alle tradizioni cristiane del nostro Paese.

In quest'ora, che è di preghiera per i credenti e di raccoglimento per tutti, l'Italia intera si stringe a Vostra Santità con sentita partecipazione e le rinnova, Padre Santo, le affettuose espressioni della più sincera vicinanza.

SERGIO MATTARELLA

*Presidente della Repubblica Italiana*

La scomparsa del Papa Emerito Benedetto XVI riempie tutti di grande tristezza: guida spirituale di notevole carisma ed esempio di fede profonda, pastore fermo e al tempo stesso mite, fine studioso e autore di numerosi saggi, attraverso i suoi documenti pontifici ha rappresentato un punto di riferimento ben oltre la durata del suo pontificato. Mancheranno l'esempio personale e religioso, lo spirito di servizio, la profonda umiltà.

Anche a nome dei colleghi senatori desidero esprimere sentimenti di sincero e profondo orgoglio.

IGNAZIO LA RUSSA

*Presidente del Senato della Repubblica*

Appresa la notizia della scomparsa di Sua Santità Benedetto XVI, desidero farLe pervenire le più sentite espressioni del mio profondo cordoglio e della mia partecipazione al dolore Suo e della Chiesa.

Memorie e vincoli di stima e di rispettosa amicizia mi legavano a Sua Santità Benedetto XVI, sviluppatasi in particolare negli anni trascorsi come Presidente della Repubblica Italiana. Pur provenendo da esperienze intellettuali e umane lontane e differenti, con il Pontefice allora potei sviluppare una condivisione di ansie e intenti e una consuetudine di riflessione sul futuro dell'Italia e dell'Europa. Fu per me un'esperienza di rilevante intensità spirituale, culturale e umana, segnata dall'interazione positiva di mondi diversi e aiutata anche dal comune amore per la musica.

La prego di accogliere, Santità, le espressioni della mia vicinanza per la dipartita di una grande figura della Chiesa e della cultura contemporanea.

GIORGIO NAPOLITANO

*Senatore a vita*

*Già Presidente della Repubblica*

## JAMAICA

On behalf of the Government and people of Jamaica, I express heartfelt sympathies and deepest condolences to the Government of the Holy See and the worldwide Catholic Church community, on the recent passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Head of the Catholic Church and Sovereign of the Holy See from 2005 to 2013.

Pope Benedict XVI will long be remembered for having led a life of service to the Catholic Church and the ideals of peace and goodwill. He leaves behind a remarkable legacy as a dedicated theologian with unparalleled influence on, and inspiration for, the body politic.

Please accept, Your Holiness, our thoughts and prayers at this difficult moment, and the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

PATRICK L. ALLEN

*Governor General of Jamaica*

## KAZAKHSTAN

With great sorrow I received the sad news of the passing of His Holiness Benedict XVI, Pope Emeritus.

We know the former Head of the Catholic Church as a world-famous spiritual figure, a great personality who worked hard to promote the ideas of peace, mutual understanding and humanism.

The vivid image of His Holiness Benedict XVI, who made a significant contribution to the protection of the values of humanity forever remain in the memory of the world community.

At this sad moment, on behalf of the people of Kazakhstan and on my own behalf, I express condolences to the entire Catholic community.

May His Holiness rest in peace.

KASSYM-JOMART TOKAYEV

*President of Kazakhstan*

## KIRIBATI

It is with great sadness that I have learned of the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. On behalf of the Government and the people of the Republic of Kiribati, I extend my deepest sympathy and sincere condolence to your Holiness and all Catholics worldwide, including Kiribati, who are saddened by this heartbreaking news.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI was renowned for his selfless service and leadership and will be remembered dearly for his tireless efforts to promote inter-religious dialogue and harmony, which is very pertinent for a multireligious society like Kiribati. The staunch efforts by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI to promote peace across the world and for championing causes of goodwill and development will remain his enduring legacy for the Catholic Church in Kiribati. We join our Catholic brothers and sisters worldwide during this time of mourning through our thoughts, our love, and our prayers.

TANETI MAAMAU BERETITENTI

*President of the Republic of Kiribati*

## KURDISTAN

La scomparsa del Papa Emerito Benedetto XVI è un lutto per l'intera Regione del Kurdistan. Il suo pontificato ha rappresentato, per milioni di uomini e donne, una brillante testimonianza dei principi evangelici, ponendo sempre al centro i valori dell'umanesimo cristiano.

In veste di Papa Emerito ha continuato a servire la Chiesa con dedizione ed umiltà, e sarà sempre ricordato come un rinomato teologo, un gigante della fede e della ragione. Guida spirituale di notevole carisma e autore di numerosi saggi, ha rappresentato un punto di riferimento ben oltre la durata del Suo pontificato.

A nome del popolo Kurdo, della Presidenza della Regione del Kurdistan, del Governo Regionale del Kurdistan, ed in qualità di Alto Rappresentante in Italia e presso la Santa Sede, esprimiamo profondo cordoglio e ci uniamo in questo triste momento alla preghiera di tutta la comunità cattolica.

La sua testimonianza ed il suo pensiero continueranno a essere riferimento per tutti noi.

REZAN KADER

*Alto Rappresentante del Governo Regionale  
del Kurdistan in Italia*

KUWAIT

I received with deep sorrow the news of the pass away of Benedict XVI, former Pope of the Holy See.

I would like to express my deepest condolences and sincere sympathy for this painful loss. I wish your patience, commending both the deceased's contribution and his role in spreading and promoting a culture of tolerance, love and peace.

My sincere appreciation.

NAWAF AL-AHMAD AL-JABER AL-SABAH

*Emir of Kuwait*

I received with great sadness and regret the news of the pass away of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, after a journey full of giving in which the deceased devoted his life to promoting a culture of peace, love and tolerance among all peoples of the world.

I express to Your Holiness and to the family of the great deceased my sincere condolences and sincere heartfelt sympathy. I ask God Almighty to cover him with the abundance of his mercy and forgiveness and to inspire you with patience and solace.

My sincere appreciation.

MISHAAL AL-AHMAD AL-JABER AL-SABAH

*Crown Prince of Kuwait*

I received with deep grief the news of the pass away of Benedict XVI, former Pope of the Holy See.

I would like to express my deepest condolences and sincere sympathy, remembering with appreciation the deceased's contribution and his remarkable role in promoting a culture of tolerance and peace among all peoples of the world.

AHMED NAWAF AL-AHMED AL-SABAH  
*Prime Minister of Kuwait*

#### KYRGYZYSTAN

Бенедикт XVI дүйнэдэн кайткандыгы тууралуу кабарды кайгыруу менен кабыл алдым.

2005-2013-жылдары Бенедикт XVI Рим Папасы болуп турган учурда дүйнэдэ тынчтыкты сактоого, толеранттуулукту жана элдер арасында ынтымакты чыңдоого зор салымын кошкон.

Кыргыз Республикасынын элинин жана жеке езумдун атымдан аза кайгысын тен белушуп терең кайгыруу менен канул айтам.

Садыр Жапаров  
*Кыргыз Республикасынын Президенти*

#### LETTONIA

With great sadness I learned that Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI has passed away. On behalf of the people of the Republic of Latvia please accept our most heartfelt condolences.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI will be remembered as a great scholar and a connoisseur of arts who promoted interaction of the Church and art. During his Pontificate relations between the Republic of Latvia and the Holy See continued to develop in the spirit of his predecessor Saint Pope John Paul II. Notably, a project to publish a facsimile edition of "Terra Mariana" was completed, thus setting the scene for long term cooperation between the National Library of Latvia and the Vatican Apostolic Library.

EGILS LEVIT  
*President of the Republic of Latvia*

## LIBANO

C'est avec une grande affliction que j'ai reçu la nouvelle du décès de Sa Sainteté le Pape Émérite Benoît XVI.

Je salue la mémoire de l'une des plus éminentes figures de l'Eglise, leader dévoué et engagé dans le dialogue interreligieux, défenseur des vulnérables, et grand théologien renommé depuis des décennies, ayant marqué le monde de la foi du sceau de son érudition et oeuvré inlassablement pour un monde plus fraternel.

Les officiers et les membres de l'Armée Libanaise, de toutes les confessions du pays gardent vivaces en leur mémoire son voyage Apostolique au Liban (14-16 septembre 2012), et qui fut le dernier de son Pontificat, notamment pour avoir eu la grâce d'assurer sa sécurité pendant son séjour en notre pays.

En cette circonstance douloureuse, ils se joignent à moi pour Vous adresser, ainsi qu'au monde chrétien et à l'Eglise, nos plus sincères condoléances, nos sentiments de compassion, et notre profond sentiment de proximité spirituelle.

Elevant nos prières afin que Votre Sainteté poursuive Votre mission en faveur de l'espérance chrétienne et la tendre consolation divine, veuillez agréer, Très Saint-Père l'expression de mon profond filial dévouement.

JOSEPH AOUN

*Commandant en Chef de l'Armée Libanaise*

## LIBERIA

My Government is deeply saddened by the demise of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, who was the first pontiff in almost 600 years from April 19, 2005 to resign his position on February 28, 2013. Pope Benedict XVI will be remembered as a renowned theologian and dedicated leader who was committed to interfaith dialogue, and an advocate for vulnerable persons, including refugees, internally displaced person and migrants. He supported international legal measure to defend them.



As we celebrate a remarkable theologian whose efforts to find a common path in promoting peace and goodwill throughout the world, it is my ardent prayer and hope that the Almighty God will grant Your Holiness, and people of the Vatican City, and the Roman Catholic faith the fortitude to endure this time of grief. Please accept, once again, Your Holiness, our deepest condolences. With sentiments of my highest esteem.

GEORGE MANNEH WEAH

*President of the Republic of Liberia*

### LIECHTENSTEIN

Mit grosser Trauer erfuhren wir vom Heimgang Seiner Heiligkeit Benedikt XVI., Papst Emeritus. In tiefer Verbundenheit mit Euer Heiligkeit sowie dem Heiligen Stuhl versichern wir Sie unseres ganz besonderen Mitgeföhls und unserer Anteilnahme, auch im Namen meines Vaters Fürst Hans-Adam II. sowie im Namen meiner ganzen Familie und aller Liechtensteinerinnen und Liechtensteiner.

Heiliger Vater, unsere Trauer ist auch verbunden mit einer grossen Dankbarkeit für den treuen Dienst und das heilvolle Wirken Ihres Vorgängers. Wir durften dies auch in persönlichen Begegnungen mit Benedikt XVI., Papst Emeritus, erfahren. Zugleich danken wir Ihnen, Heiliger Vater, für die vorbildliche Beziehung, die Sie und Ihr Amtsvorgänger gepflegt haben.

In Trauer und Gebet mit dem Heiligen Vater verbunden

ERBPRINZ ALOIS VON LIECHTENSTEIN

### LUSSEMBURGO

La Grande-Duchesse et moi sommes très attristés par l'annonce du décès de Sa Sainteté le Pape Benoît XVI.

Intelligence et douceur sont les deux mots qui nous viennent spontanément à l'esprit alors qu'il a poursuivi inlassablement sa mission de pasteur et d'enseignant, même après sa renonciation au trône papal en 2013.

Nous Vous présentons nos plus sincères condoléances et, à travers Vous, à toute la Communauté chrétienne.

HENRI

*Grand-Duc de Luxembourg*

## MACEDONIA

Со длабока тага ја примив веста за смртта на Папата Емеритус Бенедикт XVI.

Папата Бенедикт XVI ќе остане запаметен по неговата скромност и верна служба кон Бога и кон Црквата, како и по неговите доживотни заложби за промовирање глобален мир и разбирање.

Во сеќавање на граѓаните на Република Северна Македонија ќе останат длабоко врежани и високо ценети погледите и ставовите на почитуваниот поранешен Папа во однос на нашето духовно и културно наследство и духовен идентитет. Верувам дека со неговата посветена работа остави траен белег во духовните, цивилизациските и историските врски меѓу нашите две земји.

Во име на граѓаните на Република Северна Македонија и во мое лично име, изразувам длабоко сочувство до Вас и до сите припадници на Католичката црква за загубата на Папата Емеритус Бенедикт XVI.

Стево Пендаровски

*Претседател на Македонија*

Со искрено жалење ја примив веста за смртта на Папата Емеритус Бенедикт XVI. Ве молам примете го моето длабоко сочувство за загубата до Вас и до сите верници и припадници на Католичката црква.

Папата Емеритус Бенедикт XVI ќе остане запаметен по својата скромност и доследност во почитувањето на христијанските вредности до крајот на животот. Ќе го паметиме по неговите дела во развивање на дијалог и разбирање меѓу различните вери, како и по тоа што ги застапуваше начелата за мир и помирување.

Неговата посветеност на вредностите на дијалог, разбирање и солидарност меѓу луѓето, традициите, продолжија да ги поттикнуваат напорите ширум светот да истраат во ткаењето врски на единство и мир меѓу земјите и народите.

Нека почива во мир!

Димитар Ковачевски  
*Претседател на Владата на Република Северна  
Македонија*

### MALAYSIA

It is with great sadness that The Raja Permaisuri Agong joins Us in extending our deepest condolences to Your Holiness, the Holy See and all in the Catholic Church on the passing of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI, Pope Emeritus.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI's contribution and commitment in bridging the differences between Christian denominations and with other religions through inter-religious peaceful dialogue, shall be remembered throughout all generations. Malaysia will always have a special connection with Pope Emeritus as it was during his papacy that we established both countries diplomatic relations in 2011.

We join the Catholic Community in Malaysia and people of the Catholic faith around the world in mourning this profound loss.

We also wish to extend Our continued good wishes to Your Holiness for your own pontificate.

ABDULLAH OF PAHANG  
*King of Malaysia*

### MALTA

I write with a heavy heart to convey deepest condolences on behalf of the People of Malta, on the demise of Former Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

The People of Malta and Gozo are united in recalling warm memories of the Apostolic Visit to Malta by Pope Benedict XVI in 2010, which served greatly to reinvigorate the spiritual bonds between Malta and the Holy See.

Pope Benedict was a towering theologian of outstanding pastoral sensitivity. Through his work and example, the global community will continue to appreciate his steadfast efforts towards finding a common path to peace, benevolence and mutual respect for years to come.

In expressing my sincere sympathy in these difficult moments, please accept, Your Holiness, the assurance of my most profound respect and personal esteem.

GEORGE VELLA

*President of Malta*

On behalf of my Government, I would like to convey my sincere condolences on the demise of Former Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

Pope Benedict XVI was a most influential theologian and a remarkable man of great faith and reason which he demonstrated through the spiritual and intellectual depth of his Magisterium.

Our islands will always fondly remember the visit to Malta in 2010 by Pope Benedict, which served to strengthen the close spiritual ties between Malta and the Holy See.

While I reiterate my deepest sympathy, please accept, Your Holiness, the assurance of my most profound respect.

ROBERT ABELA

*Prime Minister of Malta*

## MAROC

Mucho me ha conmovido la noticia del fallecimiento de Su Santidad el Papa Emérito, Benedicto XVI, Dios lo tenga en Su Santa Misericordia.

Con esta triste ocasión os queremos transmitir Nuestros sinceros sentimientos de condolencia y simpatía, que rogamos se hagan extensivos al

Mundo Cristiano y, en particular, a la Iglesia Católica, implorando a Dios el Altísimo os aporte Su consuelo y reciba al finado con Su divina aceptación y agrado.

Ruego, Santo Padre, aceptad mis sinceros sentimientos de simpatía y toda mi consideración.

MOHAMMED VI  
*Rey de Marruecos*

#### MAURITIUS

It is with deep grief and sorrow that I learnt of the passing of Joseph Aloisius Ratzinger, former Pope Benedict XVI.

I wish to convey to you, on behalf of the People of the Republic of Mauritius, and in my own name, our heartfelt condolences for the loss of this man of God who made relentless efforts to promote peace, reconciliation, and goodwill throughout the world.

Even after his resignation as Pope in 2013, he made it abundantly clear that he would dedicate his post papal life to prayer and meditation.

Our world has lost a man of high spiritual life.

PRAVIND KUMAR JUGNAUTH  
*Prime Minister of Mauritius*

#### MESSICO

Recibí con mucha tristeza la noticia del fallecimiento el sábado 31 de diciembre del Papa Emérito Benedicto XVI, quien sé que usted lleva en su corazón como un ejemplo fraterno de amor por la Iglesia y de servicio por la humanidad. Con ese sentimiento me permito ofrecerle, a nombre del gobierno y del pueblo de México, mi más sentido pésame.

El servicio del Papa Emérito a la Iglesia y al mundo queda registrado en la memoria colectiva como una muestra de certidumbre en un mundo cambiante y de aliento a la misión evangelizadora petrina. México recuerda

con mucho cariño la visita que realizó al estado de Guanajuato en 2012, en donde el entonces obispo de Roma pudo sentir el afecto y cariño que el pueblo guadalupano siempre le guarda al sucesor de Pedro. Su partida a la casa celestial se siente con tristeza en suelo mexicano, pero con agradecimiento por una vida dedicada al servicio de los demás.

Por todo lo anterior, Santo Padre, le pido aceptar mis condolencias y muestras personales de afecto en este momento, así como el cariño y la amistad que México siempre le hace llegar.

ALBERTO BARRANCO CHAVARRÍA

*Embajador de México ante la Santa Sede*

## MICRONESIA

It is with great sadness that I learned of the passing of your predecessor, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. On behalf of the Government and the People of the Federated States of Micronesia, allow me to express our heartfelt sympathies and condolence to Your Holiness.

On a notable note, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI will be remembered by the Catholic community for his selfless contributions to the Catholic faith, championing causes of peace and development. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI touched the lives of countless people through his devotion and courage, which inspired hopes to humanity. The tireless efforts of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI to promote inter-religious dialogue and harmony is particularly pertinent for a multi-religious and multi-racial society in our global community, and his legacy will remain for generations to come.

In this time of global mourning, we join Your Holiness in honoring the legacy of the late Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. As eternal peace is granted upon his departed soul and as the Lord embraces him, we offer our prayers during this time of grief.

DAVID W. PANUELO

*President of Federated States of Micronesia*

## MONACO

C'est avec une profonde tristesse et une affliction particulière qu'avec S.A.S. la Princesse Charlène, ma Famille et l'ensemble des Monégasques, j'apprends la douloureuse nouvelle du décès de S.S. le Pape Émérite Benoît XVI.

Monaco, nation catholique, a suivi, avec respect et intérêt, l'élaboration de son immense œuvre théologique fondée, entre autres, sur une rare connaissance des Pères de l'Eglise et un attachement au Concile Vatican II auquel il prît activement part. Exprimée notamment au travers de ses Encycliques, sa doctrine demeure un vibrant témoignage de l'unité et de la vigueur de la révélation évangélique, de la continuité de la réforme conciliaire ainsi qu'une analyse profonde des grands maux de notre temps.

C'est là exprimer à Votre Sainteté combien la perte de Votre prédécesseur sur le Trône de Pierre nous affecte tous.

En cette douloureuse circonstance, je prie Votre Sainteté de bien vouloir accepter en mon nom et en celui de la Principauté mes condoléances les plus attristées.

PRINCE SOUVERAIN ALBERT

## MONTENEGRO

Sa žaljenjem sam primio vijest o smrti Pape Emeritusa Benedikta XVI. U ime gradana Crne Gore, i u svoje ime, upućujem izraze najdubljeg saučešća najbližima, sveštenstvu Rimokatoličke crkve, i Vama lično.

S ljubavlju se sjećam susreta sa Njegovom Svetošću tokom moje posjete Svetoj Stolici 2009. godine.

Istorija će s poštovanjem vrednovati umijeće i izuzetne napore kojima je Papa Benedikt XVI promovisao mir, blagostanje i dobru volju svim narodima.

MILO ĐUKANOVIĆ

*Predsjednik Crne Gore*

## MOZAMBICO

Foi com profunda consternação que recebemos a notícia do desaparecimento físico do Papa Emérito Bento XVI, ocorrido no último dia do ano de 2022.

Durante a sua peregrinação, o Papa Bento XVI revelou-se um verdadeiro cristão que cultivou no seio dos fiéis as virtudes do Cristianismo, com destaque para a Paz e Reconciliação, valores que também são muito caros aos moçambicanos.

A sua resignação, há oito anos, por motivos de saúde, foi um verdadeiro testemunho da humildade que sempre o caracterizou.

Neste momento de dor, em nome do Povo, do Governo da República de Moçambique e no meu próprio, gostaria de endereçar as nossas sentidas condolências à Vossa Santidade, à Igreja Católica, aos cristãos de todo mundo e à família enlutada.

Queira aceitar, Santo Padre, os protestos da minha mais elevada consideração e estima pessoal. Estamos do vossa lado neste momento difícil e oramos para que os ensinamentos deixados pelo Papa Emérito Bento XVI sejam transmitidas às gerações vindouras.

Que a sua alma descanse em Paz!

FELIPE JACINTO NYUSI  
*Presidente da República*

## NORVEGIA

I was deeply saddened to learn of the Passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

On behalf of myself and the people of Norway, I send you my deepest condolences. My sympathy is with all Catholics on this sad occasion.

HARALD V  
*King of Norway*



---

OLANDA

The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands has the honour on behalf of King and Queen of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Her Royal Highness Princess Beatrix to offer their sincere condolences on the passing away of Pope Emeritus Benedictus XVI.

This is done in grateful remembrance of the dedication of Pope Emeritus Benedictus XVI to the Catholic community around the world and of his efforts to foster peace and mutual understanding between people.

The Embassy would appreciate if the Secretariat of State would forward this message to His Holiness Pope Francis.

THE EMBASSY OF THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS

PALAU

The people of Palau were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of your predecessor, Pope Emeritus Benedict on December 31, 2022.

As Pope Benedict XVI, the late Pope Emeritus ably led the Catholic Church from 2005 until his resignation in February 2013 due to declining health. His passing culminates 70 years as a priest, leading various congregations in his native Germany and throughout Europe before ascending the Papacy in 2005.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI will be remembered by the Palau Catholic community for his tireless contributions to the Catholic faith, and for advocating for global tolerance and harmony, principles particularly important for Palau's multi-faith population.

On behalf of the people and government of the Republic of Palau, I extend our sincere condolences and prayers as the world mourns the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

SURANGEL S. WHIPPS  
*President of the Republic*

## PALESTINA

In the name of the State of Palestine, and its people, I avail myself of this sad occasion to express our sincere condolences to your Holiness and to the Council of Cardinals on the passing of Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI.

As we share your grief during these moments, let us remember our welcome to the late Emeritus Pope Benedict in the town of Bethlehem, the birth place of Jesus Christ, when he arrived as a dear guest in the Holy Land on 13 May 2009. He carried with him the message of love and peace to the world, and met during his visit with Palestinian Islamic and Christian dignitaries in the Haram Al Sharif, in our capital Jerusalem. He also visited the Aida refugee camp, Bethlehem, and showed solidarity and support to the liberation and independence of our people in the State of Palestine.

We ask God the Almighty to have mercy on the late Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI's soul, and to grant your Holiness health and longevity to continue in the message of achieving peace, justice and building bridges between nations and religions.

MAHMOUD ABBAS

*President of the State of Palestine*

## PANAMA

Tengo el honor de dirigirme a Vuestra Santidad para expresarle, en nombre del pueblo y el Gobierno de la República de Panamá y en el mio propio, mis sentidas condolencias por el fallecimiento del Papa Emérito Benedicto XVI.

Recordaremos con profundo respeto y admiración a Benedicto XVI, reconocido por su trabajo como teólogo y estadista, por su gran dedicación y empeño al servicio de la comunidad cristiana del mundo en tiempos de grandes retos espirituales para la fe católica.

Las grandes virtudes del Papa Emérito Benedicto XVI permanecerán inborrables en la memoria de los panameños.

Aprovecho esta ocasión para presentar a Vuestra Santidad las seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

LAURENTINO CORTIZO COHEN

*Presidente de la República de Panamá*

## PERÚ

Con inmenso pesar me dirijo a Vuestra Santidad para hacerle llegar, en nombre del gobierno y pueblo del Perú, así como en el mío propio, las más sentidas condolencias por el sensible fallecimiento del Papa Emérito Benedicto XVI.

Al recordar con gratitud el Magisterio del Papa Emérito Benedicto XVI y su contribución a la paz y al diálogo en el mundo, su trascendental legado espiritual e intelectual, así como sus altísimas calidades humanas, le expreso mi cercanía y me uno a las oraciones de la Iglesia Católica en su conjunto por el eterno descanso del Papa Emérito. Ruego a Vuestra Santidad hacer extensivas mis condolencias a sus familiares.

En estos momentos de recogimiento y pesar, hago llegar a Vuestra Santidad las seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

DINA ERCILIA BOLUARTE ZEGARRA

*Presidenta de la República*

## POLONIA

Z głębokim smutkiem przyjąłem wiadomość o odejściu Jego Świątobliwości, Papieża Benedykta XVI. W imieniu moich Rodaczek i Rodaków oraz własnym pragnę złożyć Waszej Świątobliwości i całemu Kościołowi Powszechnemu wyrazy współczucia z powodu tak wielkiej straty.

Benedykt XVI od pierwszych lat kapłaństwa, aż po pontyfikat, wszystkie swoje siły oddał Kościołowi. Jako jeden z najwybitniejszych teologów, wskazywał człowiekowi XX i XXI wieku drogi do spotkania z Bogiem, ukazując piękno i sens chrześcijaństwa. Zadziwił świat, gdy w trosce o Kościół podjął decyzję o rezygnacji, dając świadectwo pokornego ustąpienia miejsca tym, którzy — jak głęboko wierzył — zadanie prowadzenia Kościoła wypełnią lepiej.

W swoich dziełach pozostawił wskazówki dla Kościoła XXI wieku. Przekonywał Kościół, aby w nauczaniu, uwzględniał problemy moralne, etyczne i egzystencjalne współczesnego człowieka i pomagał mu w odnajdywaniu Boga. W dobie relatywizmu, liberalizmu i sekularyzacji, ukazywał prawdę o człowieku z perspektywy chrześcijaństwa.

Filozoficzno-teologiczny dorobek Benedykta XVI ukazuje także znaczenie i wartość dziedzictwa, wynikającego ze spotkania trzech kultur: żydowskiej, grecko-rzymskiej i chrześcijańskiej. Myśl i dzieło Benedykta XVI pozostanie na zawsze cennym wkładem do historii myśli całej ludzkości.

Benedykt XVI był przez lata przyjacielem i najbliższym współpracownikiem św. Jana Pawła II. Znał i rozumiał Polskę, jeszcze jako kardynał wielokrotnie ją odwiedzał. Był bliski sercom Polaków, którzy otaczali go wielką sympatią i szacunkiem. Zawsze będziemy pamiętali jego pontyfikat, który rozpoczął się po śmierci św. Jana Pawła II, oraz to, że w swoją pierwszą Papieską podróż duszpasterską w 2006 roku udał się do Polski. Beatyfikował też Jana Pawła II i ks. Jerzego Popiełuszkę.

Podczas swojej ostatniej, historycznej audyencji generalnej w Watykanie, na Placu Świętego Piotra, 27 lutego 2013 roku Papież Benedykt XVI, skierował po polsku ważne przesłanie: „*trwajcie mocni w wierze*” i poprosił Polaków o modlitwę za Niego i za Kościół. Przyjmujemy to wezwanie, jako pozostawiony nam testament. Papież Benedykt XVI, żarliwy wyznawca Chrystusa, wielki myśliciel i nauczyciel, pozostanie dla kolejnych pokoleń moralnym i duchowym autorytetem.

Wasza Świątobliwość, składając raz jeszcze serdeczne wyrazy współczucia, zapewniam o łączności z całym Kościołem w modlitwie za śp. Papieża Benedykta XVI.

ANDRZEJ DUDA

*Prezydent Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej*

## PORTOGALLO

Foi com profunda e sincera consternação e com uma incomensurável tristeza que tomei conhecimento do falecimento de Sua Santidade o Papa Emérito Bento XVI.

Neste momento de luto e de dor para toda a Igreja Católica e para todos os Católicos, apresento a Vossa Santidade, em nome do Povo Português e no meu próprio, a expressão das nossas mais sentidas condolências.

O Papa Emérito Bento XVI marcou de forma indelével a Igreja Católica deste início do século XXI, não apenas enquanto consignado teólogo e profundo conhecedor da Doutrina Cristã, mas sobretudo com um homem bom, de uma asseverada retidão e de um inabalável sentido de serviço ao outro e à Igreja que foi chamado a servir.

Ao longo dos seus quase oito anos de Pontificado, Sua Santidade o Papa Emérito permaneceu um símbolo de estabilidade e de defesa daqueles que, estou certo, perduram os principais valores da Igreja Católica, o Amor ao próximo, a Solidariedade e o apoio aos mais pobres e aos mais desprotegidos, a defesa da Verdade, e a importância do Perdão e da Reconciliação.

Enquanto Português, não esquecerei a Visita Apostólica de Sua Santidade o Papa Emérito Bento XVI a Portugal, em maio de 2010, por ocasião do 10.<sup>o</sup> aniversário da beatificação dos Pastorinhos de Fátima, Francisco e Jacinta Marto, e na qual apelou ao espírito cristão dos Portugueses, transmitindo palavras de carinho e respeito pelo nosso País.

É recordando com admiração um Mariano convicto e um homem dotado de uma lucidez, generosidade e coragem inigualáveis, que renovo a Vossa Santidade com profundo pesar os meus mais sentidos e sinceros pêsames e apresento a expressão da minha maior estima e consideração pessoal.

MARCELO REBELO DE SOUSA

*Presidente da República Portuguesa*

Foi com tristeza que tomei conhecimento do falecimento de Sua Santidade o Papa Emérito Bento XVI.

Em meu nome e em nome do Governo português, gostaria de apresentar as mais sinceras condolências. O trabalho e dedicação de Sua Santidade o

Papa Bento XVI ao longo de oito anos de Pontificado permanecerão um referencial para fiéis em todo o mundo.

A título pessoal, conservo na memória a sua Viagem Apostólica a Portugal em maio de 2010, durante a qual tive a honra de o acolher em Lisboa, enquanto Presidente da Câmara, e assistir à Santa Missa que celebrou no renovado Terreiro do Paço.

ANTÓNIO COSTA

*Primeiro Ministro da República Portuguesa*

## REPUBBLICA CECA

S hlubokým zármutkem jsem přijal zprávu o skonu Jeho Svatosti Emeritního Papeže Benedikta XVI. Nejen katolickou církev, ale celý svět opustila významná osobnost, která se svým mimořádným vzděláním, intelektem a především lidským přístupem nesmazatelně zapsala do srdcí nás všech.

Pro všechny občany České republiky bylo nesmírnou ctí, když naši vlast v září roku 2009 Jeho Svatost Papež Benedikt XVI. osobně navštívil. Jeho návštěva byla o to významnější, protože se konala při příležitosti svátku patrona českých zemí svatého Václava. Papež Benedikt XVI. během své cesty uctil mimo jiné i místo mučednické smrti sv. Václava v bazilice sv. Václava ve Staré Boleslavi, kde se poklonil jeho ostatkům i Palladiu země České. Jednalo se tak bezpochyby o jeden z významných momentů moderních dějin České republiky.

Můžeme po pravdě konstatovat, že náš svět dnes opustil mimořádný člověk, který se výrazně zasadil o podobu dnešní katolické církve a jehož odkaz bude v našich srdcích žít i nadále.

Vaše Svatosti, dovolu mi, abych Vám jménem svým i jménem občanů České republiky vyjádřil upřímnou soustrast.

MILOŠ ZEMAN

*Prezident České republiky*

S velkou lítostí jsem přijal zprávu o skonu Vašeho předchůdce, Jeho Svatosti Emeritního Papeže Benedikta XVI. Dovolte, prosím, abych Vám a všem členům kardinálského kolegia vyjádřil za Senát Parlamentu České republiky i jménem svým upřímnou soustrast.

S odchodem Benedikta XVI. ztrácí církev jednoho z velkých myslitelů a teologů naší doby, obhájce lidských a duchovních hodnot, ale také laskavého a pokorného člověka.

Vždy si budeme připomínat jeho Papežskou návštěvu v České republice v roce 2009, která přinesla duchovní povzbuzení a naději. Takto zůstane Benedikt XVI. uchován v našich srdcích a myšlenkách.

S hlubokou úctou.

MILOŠ VYSTRČIL  
*Předseda Senátu Parlamentu*

#### REPUBBLICA CENTRAFRICANA

C'est avec une profonde affliction que le Peuple centrafricain et moi-même avons appris le rappel à Dieu, son Créateur, du Pape Emérite Benoît XVI, à l'orée du nouvel an 2023.

Ce rappel à Dieu installe l'Eglise Catholique dans le deuil, le recueillement et la prière pour accompagner dans l'émotion l'âme du célèbre disparu, pour lequel le Peuple Centrafricain et moi-même présentons nos condoléances émues à Sa Sainteté le Pape François, à la curie romaine, à la cité du Vatican, au Peuple Chrétien tout entier ainsi qu'à sa famille éprouvée.

Rendant un ultime hommage pieux à la mémoire du Pape Emérite Benoît XVI, nous Vous adressons l'assurance de nos prières et de notre Très Haute considération.

FAUSTIN ARCHANGE TOUDADERA  
*Président de la République*

## REPUBBLICA DOMINICANA

Embargado de gran pesar y conmoción me dirijo a Su Santidad, en ocasión de presentarle las más sentidas condolencias en nombre del pueblo dominicano, del Gobierno que presido y en el mío propio, con motivo del lamentable fallecimiento del Sumo Pontífice Emérito Benedicto XVI, quien dedicó toda su vida a la oración, así como a la defensa y propagación de la fe cristiana; sus grandes aportes al estudio de la teología han dejado un valioso legado intelectual para la humanidad.

Pido al Todopoderoso la paz y el consuelo necesario que han necesitar todos los fieles creyentes, para sobrellevar la triste partida del Sumo Pontífice Emérito Benedicto XVI.

LUIS ABINADER

*Presidente de la República*

Con mucha tristeza y pesar me dirijo a usted y a toda la comunidad católica, en ocasión del triste fallecimiento del Papa Emérito Benedicto XVI, a quien siempre recordaremos por hacer sentir la solidez doctrinal del mensaje cristiano, y por lo expresado al momento de hacer su formal renuncia del papado: “para la barca de San Pedro y anunciar el Evangelio es necesario el vigor tanto del cuerpo como del espíritu”.

Nunca olvidaremos sus grandes aportes en el magisterio y sus encíclicas sobre puntos centrales de la fe y las biografías sobre Jesús de Nazareth, creando la posibilidad, según prestigiosos expertos, de que en un futuro sea declarado doctor de la Iglesia Católica.

Reciba pues, Santo Padre, mis sinceras condolencias al igual que la de todos los dominicanos, quienes, unidos estaremos orando por el descanso eterno del alma del Papa Emérito Benedicto XVI.

RAQUEL PEÑA

*Vicepresidente de la República*



---

ROMANIA

Am aflat cu profund regret despre încetarea din viață a Papei Emerit Benedict al XVI-lea.

În aceste momente triste doresc să transmit, în numele poporului român și al meu personal, condoleanțe Sfântului Scaun, întregii Biserici Catolice și tuturor credincioșilor săi.

Papa Emerit Benedict al XVI-lea va rămâne în amintirea tuturor pentru serviciul său demn, înțelepciunea cu care a călăuzit Biserica Catolică și dragostea pentru toți cei aflați în nevoie.

Vă rog să primiți, Sanctitate, asigurarea deosebitei mele considerații și gândurile noastre de compasiune și solidaritate.

KLAUS WERNER IOHANNIS  
*Președintele României*

RWANDA

It is with profound sadness that the Government of Rwanda learned of the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

The Government of Rwanda extends its sincere condolences to the Government of the Holy See, the Catholic Church and the family members of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI during this time of sorrow.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all the Catholics around the world and those who will mourn this loss.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA

SAN MARINO

I Capitani Reggenti S.E. Maria Luisa Berti e S.E. Manuel Ciavatta si uniscono all'unanime cordoglio per la dolorosa scomparsa del Papa Emerito Benedetto XVI avvenuta in mattinata.

La Reggenza intende rendere omaggio al Pontefice che col suo magistero ha accompagnato la Chiesa nella contemporaneità, attraverso la sua ampia levatura teologica e il suo cammino di fede coniugato alla ragione. Ci lascia un grande Uomo la cui memoria rimarrà indelebile nella storia.

La Reggenza richiama con deferenza e affetto la Visita Pastorale in Repubblica e alla Diocesi avvenuta il 19 giugno 2011, nel cui ambito Benedetto XVI indirizzò espressioni di stima e di ammirazione per il felice connubio che da secoli permane tra le antiche istituzioni repubblicane e la innata tradizione religiosa che si fonde nella vita istituzionale, sociale e civile della sua popolazione. Una Visita che diede frutti e rinsaldò ulteriormente il rapporto tra lo Stato e la comunità religiosa ed ecclesiale presente in Repubblica.

È una giornata di lutto anche per le istituzioni e il popolo sammarinesi nel ricordo perenne di uno straordinario pastore della Chiesa universale.

MARIA LUISA BERTI — MANUEL CIAVATTA  
*Capitani Reggenti*

#### SAN VINCENZO E GRENADINE

The Ministry on behalf of the Government and People of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines extends its heartfelt condolences to the Government and People of Vatican City on the passing of former head of the Catholic Church and sovereign of the Vatican City Pope Benedict XVI. The Ministry, cognisant of his life's work as an advocate, professor and theologian who left a lasting legacy with the Catholic Church.

The Government and People of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines express its sincere condolences to all who mourn on the passing of Pope Benedict XVI, and pray God's blessings and comfort on them during this period of sadness.

KEISAL MELISSA PETERS  
*Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade*

SENEGAL

Je suis peiné d'apprendre le décès de Sa Sainteté le Pape Émérite Benoît XVI.

En cette douloureuse circonstance, je voudrais vous présenter, ainsi qu'à sa famille et à la communauté catholique, mes condoléances émues.

Je salue la mémoire de l'illustre défunt. Paix à son âme.

Avec l'expression de ma compassion et de ma sympathie, je vous prie d'agréer, Très Saint Père, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

MACKY SALL

*Président de la République*

SERBIA

Желим да изразим најдубље саучешће поводом упокојења папе Бенедикта XVI који је снагом своје вере и постојаношћу у њеном исповедању био светионик духовних вредности у изазовима времена у коме живимо. Остаће упамћен као борац за мир и разумевање међу лудима, народима и религијама, велики теолог чија је духовна и интелектуална снага стављена у службу вере и општег добра.

Посебно смо ценили његово дубоко разумевање за позицију Републике Србије у погледу једнострано проглашене независности такозваног Косова и положај у којем се налази српски народ и хришћанско културно наслеђе на Косову и Метохији.

Уверен сам да Немо у духу заједничких хришћанских вредности на којима је саздана европска цивилизација наставити да следимо пут мира, разумевања и праштања који нам је својим животом и делом показивао и утирао папа Бенедикт XVI.

Примите, еминенцијо, изразе мог највишег уважавања.

Ивица Дачић

*Први Потпредседник Владе  
и Министар Спољних Послова*

## SINGAPORE

I am deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI will be remembered by the Catholic community for his selfless contributions to the Catholic faith, championing causes of peace and development. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI touched the lives of countless people through his teachings, and inspired courage and hope as the modern world navigates complex challenges. The tireless efforts of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI to promote inter-religious dialogue and harmony is particularly pertinent for a multi-religious and multi-racial society like Singapore, and his legacy will remain for generations to come.

HALIMAH YACOB

*President of the Republic of Singapore*

I am deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. On behalf of the Government of Singapore, I express my deepest condolences.

Ties between Singapore and the Holy See strengthened under the papacy of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. In particular, his decision in 2010 to appoint an Apostolic Nuncio to Singapore marked a significant milestone in our relations that allowed for deeper engagement not just with Singapore, but with the region as well. His tireless efforts to reach out to Catholics and non-Catholics with his messages of peace and religious harmony, and his commitment to and love for the Church, will remain an inspiration for generations to come.

My thoughts are with all members of the Catholic fraternity around the world in this moment of grief.

LEE HSIEN LOONG

*Prime Minister of Singapore*

## SLOVACCHIA

S l'útoseou a zármutkom som prijala správú o úmrtí Emeritného Pápeža Benedikta XVI. Dovoľte mi v tejto súvislosti vyjadriť Vám v mene svojom, ako aj v mene všetkých občanov a občianok Slovenska, úprimnú sústrasť.

Emeritný Pápež Benedikt XVI. zostane v našich myšliach láskavým človekom s hlbokým duchovným poslanstvom, ktorý sa zasadzoval o lepšiu budúcnosť ľudstva. Odišiel vzácny a múdry človek, ktorý sa vyznačoval veľkou skromnosťou a pokorou.

Verím, že jeho dôraz na úprimný dialóg, vzájomné porozumenie a volanie po rešpekte k dôstojnosti každého človeka, bude inšpiráciou aj pre ďalšie generácie.

S úctou.

ZUZANA ČAPUTOVÁ

*Prezidentka Slovenskej republiky*

## SLOVENIA

Ob smrti zaslužnega Papeža Benedikta XVI. vam v imenu državljanek in državljanov Republike Slovenije ter v svojem imenu izražam najgloblje sožalje.

V trajnem spominu nam bo ostal zaradi neutrudne predanosti svojemu poklicu na svoji življenjski poti ter njegovega prispevka k razvoju dobrih odnosov med Republiko Slovenijo in Svetim sedežem.

Vaša svetost, v tem žalostnem času prejmite izraze mojega najglobljšega spoštovanja.

NATAŠA PIRC MUSAR

*Predsednica Republike Slovenije*

## SPAGNA

He recibido, con gran tristeza, la noticia del fallecimiento de Su Santidad el Papa Emérito Benedicto XVI y deseo enviaros, en mi nombre,

en el del gobierno y en del pueblo español el testimonio de nuestro más sentido pesar.

Benedicto XVI, que nos deja el fecundo legado intelectual y espiritual de su magisterio, lideró la Iglesia Católica con una extraordinaria vocación de servicio, humildad, entrega y amor. Guardamos, con profundo sentimiento, el recuerdo del cariño con que siempre distinguió a España en sus visitas a Valencia, Santiago de Compostela, Barcelona y Madrid.

En estos momentos de dolor por su pérdida, y con la certeza de que el Señor ya lo ha acogido en su seno, la Reina y toda la Familia Real se unen a mí para trasladar, por intermedio de Vuestra Santidad, a su familia y a toda la Iglesia Católica, nuestro pésame y nuestro apoyo.

Quedo de Vuestra Santidad devotísimo hijo.

FELIPE R.

He recibido con profunda consternación y tristeza la noticia del fallecimiento del Papa Emérito Benedicto XVI. Deseo trasladarle en nombre del Gobierno y del pueblo español, y en el mío propio, mi más sentido pésame.

Con profundo respeto, le ruego haga llegar nuestras condolencias a toda la familia católica, que hoy lamenta la pérdida de tan relevante figura.

Aprovecho esta ocasión para renovar a Vuestra Santidad el testimonio de mi más alta consideración y estima.

PEDRO SÁNCHEZ

*Presidente del Gobierno de España*

## SRI LANKA

It is with sadness that the people of Sri Lanka, especially those of the Catholic faith, and I share, with Your Holiness and the Catholic community worldwide, heartfelt condolences on the passing of Pope Emeritus Bene-

dict XVI. He has left a footprint of ecumenical dialogue as his legacy to humanity, having been an outstanding theologian.

I warmly recall having the fortune of being blessed by the late Pontiff during an Audience at the Apostolic Palace, shortly before his resignation in 2013 for health reasons. His abdication was a demonstration of the reformation of the Catholic Church initiated by him, subsequent to which he lived a life of prayer in retirement.

I join the universal prayer for the repose of His soul, and may he rest in peace in the heavenly abode.

RANIL WICKREMESINGHE

*President of Sri Lanka*

#### STATI UNITI D'AMERICA

Together with Roman Catholics across the United States, I join in mourning the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict. He was a brilliant scholar and truly holy man.

I will always cherish our time together at the Vatican when he was Pope, discussing Catholic theology. He was a great theologian and I learned much in a few hours.

May he soul rest eternally with the Lord.

JOE BIDEN

*President of United States of America*

Pope Emeritus Benedict lived a life of devotion, peace, charity, justice, scholarship and service. I join millions of Americans in mourning his passing and honoring his commitment to faith and service.

KAMALA HARRIS

*Vice-President*

## SUD SUDAN

I am deeply saddened to hear that the Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI slept in the Lord today, December 31, 2022. On behalf of the Transitional Government of National Unity and people of South Sudan, I am offering my condolences to the Holy See and all the Catholic faithful around the world.

Pope Benedict XVI will be remembered for his work on defending the Catholic teachings in the face of many difficulties throughout his long priesthood. As the world mourn him, we stand in solidarity with them, especially those who have worked with him in the Holy See. I pray that God Almighty strengthen us to withstand this immense loss to the Church.

SALVA KIIR MAYARDIT

*President of Republic of South Sudan*

## SUDAN

C'est avec une profonde tristesse que nous avons appris la nouvelle du décès de votre prédécesseur, le Pape Émérite Benoît XVI.

Devant cette douloureuse affliction, J'exprime mes sincères condoléances à Votre Sainteté, à la hiérarchie et aux fidèles de l'Église catholique du monde entier.

ABDEL FATTAH AL-BURHAN ABDEL-RAHMAN

*Président du Conseil Souverain Transitoire*

## SVEZIA

On behalf of the Swedish Government I wish to convey my sincere condolences to the Holy See and the worldwide Catholic Church on the passing of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

ULF KRISTERSSON

*Prime Minister of Sweden*



---

## SVIZZERA

Con profonda commozione ho appreso la notizia del decesso di Benedetto XVI, Papa Emerito.

A nome del Consiglio federale esprimo a Vostra Santità e ai familiari di Benedetto XVI le mie più sentite condoglianze. La perdita di Papa Benedetto XVI, che ha esercitato il Suo Ministero con grande lucidità, rimarrà nella memoria delle generazioni future.

Benedetto XVI non è stato solo un grande teologo ma anche un uomo di fede colto, profondo e sensibile che ha sempre messo l'umanità e l'amore al centro del Suo Pontificato. Un esortatore in tempi di grandi cambiamenti.

Facciamo nostre le sue parole: "Fate sì che l'amore unificante sia la vostra misura; l'amore durevole sia la vostra sfida; l'amore che si dona la vostra missione!".

In quest'ora di lutto, certo della speranza che vive nel cuore di tutti i cattolici, i miei pensieri sono con Vostra Santità.

ALAIN BERSET

*Presidente della Confederazione Svizzera*

## TANZANIA

I have learnt with deep sense of sadness the demise of the Late Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, that occurred on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 in Vatican.

Pope Benedict XVI was a respected theologian and a staunch Catholic who dedicated his entire life to serving and protecting the sanctity of the Catholic Church and the Christian fraternity across the globe. His papacy era was characterized by his fervent commitment to promote hope, peace and unity in the increasingly interdependent world. His commitment to making this world a better place for all and dedication to serving our Lord and creator through his service to the church and humanity will forever be cherished.

On behalf of the Government and the People of United Republic of Tanzania, and indeed on my own behalf, I wish to express my profound condolences to your Holiness, the Catholic Church, and all Catholics across the World. As we mourn Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI's demise, our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this moment of grief. We join Your Holiness and all Catholics and non Catholics mourners to pray to the Almighty Lord to repose the soul of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI in eternal peace. Amen.

SAMIA SULUHU HASSAN

*President of the United Republic of Tanzania*

#### THAILANDIA

Queen Suthida and I are deeply saddened by the demise of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, the highly venerated and widely admired Pontiff. The people of Thailand can indeed rest assured for certain that we, our country and people, always had a place in his prayers. I myself was proud, then acting on behalf of my august father, His late Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, to receive the late Pontiff's emissary bringing his blessing and good wishes on the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of His late Majesty's Accession to the Throne in 2006. His late Holiness' compassion, deep faith and spirituality have always been the subject of gratitude and devotion of not only the Catholic community in Thailand, but also beyond across the world.

May I respectfully extend, on behalf of the people of Thailand, our heartfelt sympathy and condolences for this very great loss.

MAHA VAJIRALONGKORN R.

#### TIMOR LESTE

Como cristão católico e em nome do Parlamento Nacional de Timor-Leste acompanhamos com tristeza e com profundo sentido de condolência,

o falecimento de Sua Santidade o Papa Emérito Bento XVI. Um Teólogo brilhante, Joseph Ratzinger autor de livros e encíclicas sobre a fé, o amor e a esperança em Deus. Um teólogo eminente e influente do século moderno, dedicado humilde e incansavelmente a promover a fé católica no mundo moderno.

Agradecemos a Deus por ter os dons da fé Cristã Católica através das obras de Sua Santidade, cultivada na Santa Igreja do mundo inteiro. Sinceros sentimentos de gratidão a Deus Todo Poderoso e as obras de Sua Santidade, Papa Bento XVI.

Roguemos pelo Seu descanso eterno junto aos Santos e Arcanjos no Reino Celestial e que interceda por nós, o Povo, os cristãos, os Governantes e os Representantes do Povo e pela paz, justiça, prosperidade, solidariedade e fraternidade em Timor-Leste.

ANICETO LONGUINHOS GUTERRES LOPES  
*Presidente do Palamento Nacional*

E com profunda consternação e pesar que expresso as minhas sentidas condolências pelo falecimento de Sua Santidade o Papa Emérito Bento XVI.

O Santíssimo Padre Papa Bento XVI foi um símbolo de firmeza e coragem na proteção dos valores e princípios da Igreja Católica, permanecendo nas nossas memórias e nos nossos corações como uma referência de solidariedade, amor aos mais desfavorecidos, reconciliação e perdão.

O seu legado é, pois, fonte de inspiração para quantos o conheceram e para os católicos de todo o mundo, incluindo os Timorenses que se encontram hoje de luto e, como eu, o têm nas suas preces e orações para que alcance o merecido eterno descanso.

Ciente de que este é um momento difícil também para Vossa Santidade, junto-me, nesta hora de tristeza, enviando as minhas sentidas condolências e a minha supina consideração.

KAY RALA XANANA GUSMO  
*Chefe de Conselho para a Delimitação Definitiva das  
Fronteiras Marítimas*

## TOGO

C'est avec une profonde tristesse que j'ai appris la nouvelle du rappel à Dieu, le 31 décembre 2022, du Pape Émérite Benoît XVI.

En cette circonstance éprouvante pour le Saint-Siège et la communauté catholique, je voudrais Vous adresser, au nom du peuple et du Gouvernement togolais ainsi qu'en mon nom propre, mes sincères condoléances.

Je salue la mémoire de l'illustre disparu qui a fait preuve d'une grande générosité et d'une profonde dévotion envers l'Église au cours de son pontificat.

Puisse Dieu Tout-Puissant Lui accorder le repos éternel.

FAURE ESSOZIMMA GNASSINGBE  
*President de la République*

## TRINIDAD E TOBAGO

I wish to express on behalf of the Government and People of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, our profound sadness on the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

Trinidad and Tobago recognizes the legacy left behind by the former Cardinal, Joseph Aloysius Ratzinger, Dean of the College of Cardinals, and the 265<sup>th</sup> Pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church.

Throughout his life, Pope Benedict, a man of quiet and fierce courage, a teacher and theologian, delivered his lessons to the Roman Catholic Church and the world's citizens in a pensive and thoughtful style. It was clear that he was a man of peace in a time of global strife.

For us in Trinidad and Tobago, we have embraced our 45 years of warm and cordial diplomatic ties, which we have enjoyed with the Holy See and the efforts of leaders like Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI to ensure that they continue.

As I extend condolences to you and the loved ones of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, please be assured, Holy Father, of my highest esteem and consideration.

KEITH CHRISTOPHER ROWLEY

*Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago*

## UCRAINA

Із великим сумом в Україні сприйняли звістку про смерть Його Святості Папи-Емерита Бенедикта XVI.

Це втрата Людини глибокого гуманного духу, здатної на велике співчуття, яка була джерелом натхнення для кількох поколінь віруючих незалежно від віросповідання.

У своїх візитах до мільйонів католиків у всьому світі Папа Бенедикт XVI виявляв енергію та рішучість, демонстрував надзвичайну здатність розуміти людей та їхні проблеми.

Його святість уособлював прагнення допомагати іншим, передовсім нужденним і знедоленим, приділяв особливу увагу молодим поколінням.

Для всіх українців особливо пам'ятним і значною мірою візіонерським стало рішення папи Бенедикта XVI щодо підтримки ідеї про перенесення резиденції глави Української Греко-Католицької Церкви зі Львова до Києва, що однозначно вплинуло на цілу систему міжконфесійних та міжрелігійних взаємин в Україні.

Так само назавжди вдячними залишаться українці Папі Бенедикту XVI за слова підтримки у перші тижні збройної навали росіян, які він висловив у своєму листі до Львівського Митрополита Римо-Католицької Церкви Мечислава Мокшицького від 13 березня 2022 року, у тому числі згадуючи слова свого попередника Папи Йоана Павла II, про «можливість зупинити руку нападника, зокрема із застосуванням сили».

Від імені українського народу та від себе особисто висловлюю Вам, Ваша Святосте, глибокі співчуття у зв'язку з цією важкою і незамінною втраатою.

Володимир Зеленський  
*Президент України*

## UGANDA

It is with deep sadness that I have learnt of the demise of your predecessor, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

On behalf of the people of the Republic of Uganda and indeed on my behalf, I wish to convey our deepest and heartfelt condolences to you and through you to the Catholic Church upon this loss.

The Late Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI will be remembered as an outstanding and highly respected theologian leader who was committed to the Church's faith and tried to reawaken Christianity in a secularized Europe.

Your Holiness, the legacy left by the Late Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, will live on long after he is gone and stand out for posterity. He will be remembered for promoting peace and goodwill throughout the world.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI

*President of the Republic of Uganda*

## UNGHERIA

I have learned with deep sorrow about the passing away of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

He will forever remain in our memory as an example of high spirituality and he will always be remembered for his courage and commitment to inter-religious dialogue.

I recall with gratitude the private audience in 2010. Our discussions on faith, the sanctity of the family and the importance of defending our common Christian roots have strongly influenced my views ever since then.

In this time of grief, we join in prayers and express our sincere condolences to the clergy and faithful of the Catholic Church.

On behalf of the Government of Hungary, I would like to express our deepest condolences. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

VIKTOR ORBÁN

*Prime Minister of Hungary*

URUGUAY

En el nombre del Gobierno de la República Oriental del Uruguay y en el mío propio, le hago llegar mis sinceras condolencias por el fallecimiento de Su Santidad, Benedicto XVI, Papa Emérito.

La fe y compromiso de Su Santidad serán siempre recordados por los fieles de la Iglesia Católica que encabezó durante ocho años.

Al reiterarle mis sentimientos de tristeza, le transmito las seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

LUIS LACALLE POU

*Presidente de la República Oriental del Uruguay*

UZBEKISTAN

Фахрий Рим Папаси Бенедикт XVI Рухоний Хазратларининг вафоти хакидаги хабар калбларимизни каттик ларзага солди.

Рухоний Хазратларининг дунёда тинчлик ва баркарорликни, умуминсоний кадриятларни саклаш, бугунги маърифий дунёда эътикод ҳамда тафаккур мулокотини тарғиб қилишга қаратилган олижаноб фаолияти халқаро миқёсда кенг эътироф этилган эди.

Ул зот Ўзбекистон ва Ватикан ўртасида ҳамда турли конфессиялараро дустлик ва тотувликни таъминлаш, инсонпарварлик ғояларини кенг тарғиб қилиш йўлидаги ҳамкорликни мустахкамлашга муносиб хисса қўшган шахс сифатида ҳам калбларимизда абадий сакланиб қолади.

Ушбу мусибатли ва оғир дамларда Сиз, Рухоний Хазратларига, Ватикан халқига, бутун католик аллига чуқур таъзия ва самимий ҳамдардлик билдирамиз ҳамда Яратгандан мархумни ўз раҳматига олишини сўраб қоламиз.

Шавкат Мирзиёев

*Рим-католик черковининг раҳбари Франциск*

**ZAMBIA**

On behalf of the Government and people of the Republic of Zambia, I wish to convey our deepest condolences on the passing of His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

Pope Benedict will be remembered for his lifetime of quiet, steadfast, and dedicated service to the Catholic Church, for the good of all people across the global family of Catholics. His seminal writings will continue to provide guidance, and his decision to step down as Pope, in the interest of the Church, are testament to his bold leadership and personal sacrifice.

The people of Zambia will keep fond memories of Pope Benedict XVI, who appointed Zambia's first indigenous Cardinal, Priest Medardo Joseph Mazombwe, in 2010. We pray that Your Holiness, and indeed the entire Catholic Church, is granted God's wisdom, strength and courage at this time of great sorrow.

AKAINDE HICHILEMA

*President of Republic of Zambia*

**ZIMBABWE**

We received the news of the passing on of the Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI with a deep sense of sadness. On behalf of the President, His Excellency Dr. Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa, the Government and the people of the Republic of Zimbabwe, and indeed on my own behalf, I would like to convey our deepest condolences to you and through you, to the family of the catholic Church worldwide.

We join the international community in celebrating the life of a Pontiff whose journey, from Marktl am Inn, to Traunstein, to Munich and Freising and finally to the Holy See, was a theological vocation to serve and to play a role in the sharing of God's Word for the healing of souls, and for the advancement of the much-cherished principle of peace.

We offer our thoughts and prayers during this time of great pain.



May the soul of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI rest in eternal peace.

During this period of sorrow, please accept, Your Holiness, the heartfelt assurances of our highest consideration.

COSTANTINO CHIWENGA

*Vice President of the Republic*

### E CONSACIATIONIBUS INTER NATIONES

C'est avec tristesse et profonde émotion que j'ai appris la disparition du Pape Emérite Benoît XVI, figure historique de l'Église Catholique Romaine. En cette douloureuse circonstance, au nom de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'Alimentation et l'Agriculture et en mon nom personnel, je vous prie d'accepter et de bien vouloir transmettre à sa sainteté le Pape François, à la Curie romaine, ainsi qu'à la famille de l'illustre disparu, l'expression de nos condoléances les plus sincères.

QU DONGYU

*Directeur Général*

*Organisation des Nations Unies  
pour l'Alimentation et l'Agriculture*

I would like to express my deepest condolences to Your Holiness, to the Holy See as well as to all the Catholic community throughout the world for the passing away of your predecessor, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

Benedict XVI will be remembered for his tireless efforts towards global peace and justice.

Please accept, Your Holiness, with these sincere condolences, the assurances of my highest consideration.

CHARLES MICHEL

*President of European Council*

**LIBRERIA EDITRICE VATICANA**

00120 CITTÀ DEL VATICANO

Tel. 06.698.45768 - 06.698.45780 – e-mail: riviste.lev@spc.va



PONTIFICIA ACCADEMIA PER LA VITA

(A CURA DI)

**LA GIOIA DELLA VITA  
UN PERCORSO DI ETICA TEOLOGICA:  
SCRITTURA, TRADIZIONE, SFIDE PRATICHE**

*Collana «Teologia»*

*Pagine 188*

**€ 20,00**

Una raccolta di saggi di alcuni noti teologi internazionali che propongono una riflessione sulle sfide dell'etica teologica contemporanea. Il volume viene presentato dal Presidente della Pontificia Accademia per la Vita, sotto la cui egida il testo è stato pensato e viene ora pubblicato.



ENRIQUE ÁNGEL ANGELELLI

**IN ASCOLTO DI DIO E DEL POPOLO  
OMELIE 1968-1976**

*Collana «Testimoni»*

*Pagine 1.412*

**€ 42,00**

*In ascolto di Dio e del popolo* è il titolo del volume dedicato alla missione pastorale di Enrique Ángel Angelelli, vescovo di La Rioja in Argentina. Il presule, martire, ucciso per opera di oppositori politici, è stato dichiarato nel 2019 beato da papa Francesco che lo conobbe personalmente e che firma la Prefazione dell'opera editoriale. Attraverso le pagine si offrono al lettore, in un'ampia e unica raccolta, le omelie pronunciate da Angelelli dal 1968 al 1976, durante il servizio ecclesiale e comunitario svolto costantemente accanto agli ultimi e secondo lo stile del Concilio Vaticano II, ma dolorosamente minacciato dal cupo clima di tensione sociale e di violenza vissuto dal Paese latinoamericano in quel periodo storico.

LIBRERIA EDITRICE VATICANA

00120 CITTÀ DEL VATICANO

Tel. 06.698.45768 - 06.698.45780 – e-mail: riviste.lev@spc.va



DICASTERO PER L'EVANGELIZZAZIONE

**PREGARE OGGI  
UNA SFIDA DA VINCERE**

*Collana «Appunti sulla Preghiera»*

*Pagine 112*

**€ 8,50**

Nell'Anno della Preghiera, indetto da Papa Francesco per il 2024 in preparazione al Giubileo del 2025, la Libreria Editrice Vaticana pubblica la collana *Appunti sulla Preghiera*, curata dal Dicastero per l'Evangelizzazione, composta da otto piccoli testi che approfondiscono le varie dimensioni dell'atto cristiano del pregare, a firma di autori e autrici di notorietà internazionale. Il primo libro *Pregare oggi. Una sfida da vincere*, con la prefazione di Papa Francesco, è a firma del cardinale Angelo Comastri, uno degli autori di spiritualità più noti, Arciprete emerito della Basilica Papale di San Pietro in Vaticano e Vicario Generale emerito di Sua Santità per la Città del Vaticano. Il testo propone richiami sulla necessità della preghiera e insegnamenti per avere «uno sguardo diverso e un cuore diverso», mettendo in luce figure che hanno testimoniato la fecondità della preghiera come Santa Teresa di Lisieux, San Francesco d'Assisi e Madre Teresa di Calcutta. Nella prefazione, Francesco ricorda che «la preghiera è il respiro della fede, è la sua espressione più propria. Come un grido silenzioso che esce dal cuore di chi crede e si affida a Dio». In questo anno, con il Giubileo alle porte, afferma il Papa, «siamo invitati a diventare più umili e a lasciare spazio alla preghiera che sgorga dallo Spirito Santo». Il cardinale Comastri evidenzia da parte sua che «soltanto la preghiera dà spazio a Dio nella nostra vita e nella storia del mondo: e con Dio tutto è possibile».

**ACTA APOSTOLICAE SEDIS**

*Administratio:* Libreria Editrice Vaticana – Città del Vaticano – tel. 06.698.45768

Singulis mensibus Commentarium prodit ac quotiescumque vel necessitas vel utilitas id postulare videtur

Mensile – Tariffa R.O.C. – Poste Italiane S.p.A. – Spedizione Abbonamento Postale D.L. 353/2003

(Conv. in L. 27/02/2004) art. 1 comma 1 – DCB Roma

*Pretium subnotationis a. 2023:*

in Italia, Euro 60,00 – extra Italiam, Euro 85,00

*Pretium unius fasciculi:* Euro 10,00

Volumen completum post annum 1909: Euro 85,00

Libreria Vaticana subnotatoribus fasciculos Commentarii mittere potest etiam via aëria, charta indica impressos