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The Pope receives the president of the Republic of Paraguay

This morning the Holy Father Francis received in audience Horacio Manuel Cartes Jara, president of the Republic of Paraguay, who subsequently met with Cardinal Secretary of State Pietro Parolin, accompanied by Archbishop Paul Richard Gallagher, secretary for Relations with States.

The discussions, which took place in a cordial atmosphere, highlighted the good existing relations between the Holy See and Paraguay. The parties focused on themes of common interest, such as the integral development of the human person, the struggle against poverty, and social peace. From this perspective, the collaboration of the Catholic Church was noted, along with her contribution in the social and educational fields, and in aid to those most in need.

The conversation continued with an exchange of views on the regional political and social situation, with special reference to the development of democratic institutions.