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Pope Francis

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February 2016

Feb. 1 – Text of Francis’ Prepared Address for Consecrated – Translated conclusion (February 1, 2016, Zenit.org).

I ... entrust you to our Mother.

Feb. 2 – Pope’s Homily for Feast of Presentation of the Lord – Translated extracts (February 2, 2016, Zenit.org).

Mary and Joseph take Jesus to the Temple of Jerusalem. ...

The Gospel also tells us “His father and His mother marveled at what was said about Him” (v. 33). Joseph and Mary kept the wonder of this meeting full of light and hope for all peoples. [Our Founders] always had in their heart a healthy restlessness for the Lord, a consuming desire to take Him to others, as Mary and Joseph did in the Temple.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

<https://Zenit.org/articles/popes-homily-for-feast-of-presentation-of-the-lord/>

Feb. 2 – Pope’s Off-the-Cuff Words After Mass for Feast of Presentation of the Lord – Translated conclusion (February 3, 2016, Zenit.org).

Now let us pray to Our Lady. Hail Mary ...

Feb. 3 -- Pope’s Responses to Children Ahead of Mexico Trip – Translated extract (February 3, 2016, Zenit.org).

... you are not an orphan people because you have the privilege of having a Mother, and when a man or a woman, or a people does not forget their mother that gives you a treasure you cannot describe, you receive it, you transmit it. Well, I’ll look a little of all that in you. A people that does not forget its mother, the mestizo mother, the mother who forged you in hope. Do you know the joke of a Mexican saying: “I am an atheist but I believe in Guadalupe”. It made sense, of a people that refuses to be orphan.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

<https://Zenit.org/articles/popes-responses-to-children-ahead-of-mexico-trip/>

Feb. 6 – Pope’s Address to Padre Pio Prayer Groups – Translated extracts (Zenit.org).

... the Church bears fruit if, she does as Our Lady and the Apostles did, who were “with one accord devoted to prayer” (Acts 1:14), when they awaited the Holy Spirit – devoted and concordant in prayer. ...

And we are not an orphan Church: we have a Mother. Let us pray to our Mother, let us pray to our Mother. Hail Mary ...

Feb. 7 – Angelus – Translated conclusion (February 7, 2016, Vatican).

May the Virgin Mary help us to ever better understand that being disciples means placing our feet in the footsteps left by the Master: they are the footprints of divine grace that restore life for all.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/angelus/2016/documents/papa-francesco_angelus_20160207.html

Feb. 8 – Video message to Mexico – Translated extract (February 8, 2016, Zenit.org).

Now I will be able to visit you and to step on that blessed land, so loved by God, and so loved by the Virgin Mary.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

<https://Zenit.org/articles/popes-video-message-for-visit-to-mexico/>

Feb. 9 – Pope’s Address to Priests Named ‘Missionaries of Mercy’ – Translated conclusion (February 11, 2016, Zenit.org).

May the Mother of Mercy assist and protect you in this very precious service.

Feb. 10 – Pope Francis sends first "Keep Lent" message to Pompeii – Translated conclusion (February 10, 2016, Vatican Radio).

May Our Lady of Pompeii accompany you

Feb. 10 – General Audience – Translated conclusion (February 10, 2016, Vatican).

Tomorrow, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, marks the 24th World Day of the Sick, the central event of which will be celebrated in Nazareth. In this year’s Message, we

reflected on Mary's indispensable role at the wedding at Cana: "Do whatever he tells you" (Jn 2:5). The tenderness of God and the immense goodness of Merciful Jesus are reflected in Mary's solicitude. ... May the same tenderness of Mary be present in the lives of the many people who tend the sick, able to respond to their needs, even those that are imperceptible, because they are seen with eyes full of love.

Feb. 12 – Pope's Remarks to Journalists on Way to Cuba, Mexico – Translated extract (February 12, 2016, Zenit.org).

My most profound desire is to pause before Our Lady of Guadalupe, that mystery that is studied, studied, studied and there are no human explanations. Even the most scientific study says: "But this is a thing of God." And this is what makes Mexicans say: "I'm an atheist, but I am a Guadalupan." Some Mexicans: Not all are atheists!

Feb. 12 – Joint Declaration From Pope Francis and Patriarch Kirill – Translated extracts (February 12, 2016, Cuba, Zenit.org).

4. ... The witnesses of this Tradition are the Most Holy Mother of God, the Virgin Mary, and the saints we venerate.

30. With grace-filled gratitude for the gift of mutual understanding manifested during our meeting, let us with hope turn to the Most Holy Mother of God, invoking her with the words of this ancient prayer: "We seek refuge under the protection of your mercy, Holy Mother of God". May the Blessed Virgin Mary, through her intercession, inspire fraternity in all those who venerate her, so that they may be reunited, in God's own time, in the peace and harmony of the one people of God, for the glory of the Most Holy and indivisible Trinity!

Feb. 12 – Pope's Brief Words After Signing Common Declaration With Kirill – Translated conclusion (February 12, 2016, Cuba, Zenit.org).

And may all of this be ... for the good of the holy People faithful to God under the mantle of the holy Mother of God.

Feb. 13 – Address of His Holiness Pope Francis: Apostolic Journey of His Holiness Pope Francis to Mexico: Meeting with Authorities, Representatives of Civil Society and the Diplomatic Corps – Translated beginning (February 13, 2016, Mexico, Vatican).

Today I come as a missionary of mercy and of peace but also as a son who wishes to pay homage to his mother, the Blessed Virgin of Guadalupe, and place himself under her watchful care.

Endeavouring to be a good son, following in our mother's footsteps, I wish in turn to pay my respects to this people and to this land which is so rich in culture, history, and diversity.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2016/february/documents/papa-francesco_20160213_messico-autorita.html

Feb. 13 – Homily of His Holiness Pope Francis: Apostolic Journey to Mexico: Holy Mass in the Basilica of Guadalupe – Translated beginning (February 13, 2016, Mexico, Vatican).

We have just heard how Mary went to meet her cousin Elizabeth. She set out without delay, without doubts, without lessening her pace, to be with her relative who was in the last months of her pregnancy.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/homilies/2016/documents/papa-francesco_20160213_omelia-messico-guadalupe.html

Feb. 13 – Address of His Holiness Pope Francis: Apostolic Journey of His Holiness Pope Francis to Mexico: Meeting with the Bishops of Mexico– Translated beginning (February 13, 2016, Mexico, Vatican).

Could the Successor of Peter, called from the far south of Latin America, deprive himself of seeing la Virgen Morenita?

I thank you for receiving me in this Cathedral, a larger casita (“little home”) and yet always sagrada (“sacred”), as the Blessed Virgin of Guadalupe had requested.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2016/february/documents/papa-francesco_20160213_messico-vescovi.html

Feb. 13 – Pray for Those We Don’t Like and Who Don’t Like Us, Says Pope – Translated extract (February 13, 2016, Mexico, Zenit.org).

Look at the Virgin and remember these faces: The people who love us, those we love, those we do not like, those who do not like us, and are envious of us.

Feb. 14 – Pope’s Address at Pediatric Hospital – Translated extract (February 14, 2016, Mexico, Zenit.org).

One day, his parents, Joseph and Mary, took him up to the Temple to present him to God.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

<https://zenit.org/articles/popes-address-at-pediatric-hospital/>

Feb. 14 – Angelus: Apostolic Journey of His Holiness Pope Francis to Mexico – Translated conclusion (February 14, 2016, Mexico, Vatican).

This land is filled with the perfume of la Guadalupe who has always gone before us in love. Let us say to her, with all our hearts:

Blessed Virgin, “help us to bear radiant witness to communion, service, ardent and generous faith, justice and love of the poor, that the joy of the Gospel may reach to the ends of the earth, illuminating even the fringes of our world” (EG 288).

Feb. 15 – Address of His Holiness Pope Francis: Apostolic Journey of His Holiness Pope Francis to Mexico: Meeting with Families – Translated conclusion (February 15, 2016, Mexico, Vatican).

You Mexicans have something extra; you run ahead with an advantage. You have a Mother, la Guadalupe. La Guadalupe wanted to visit this land and this gives us the certainty of her intercession so that our dream, which we call the family, may not be lost through uncertainty or solitude. She is a Mother and is always ready to defend our families, our future; she is always ready to put her heart into it by giving us her Son. For this reason, I invite you, as you are, without moving around too much, to hold hands and address her together: “Hail Mary...”.

Feb. 15 – Pope Reciprocates Hugs of 2 Little Ones Outside Apostolic Nunciature – Translated conclusion (February 16, 2016, Mexico, Zenit.org).

We will ask the Virgin to protect us all,” Pope Francis prayed, noting how much “she looks after us.” Pope Francis led the crowd in saying a Hail Mary.

Feb. 16 – Remarks of the Holy Father to Children Attending Catechism Classes: Apostolic Journey of His Holiness Pope Francis to Mexico: Visit to the Cathedral of Morelia – Translated excerpt (February 16, 2016, Mexico, Vatican).

I also ask the Virgin to take care of us, to bless us. Above all, each of us now, think in our heart of our family and friends, and if we have quarreled with someone, let us think of them too, and let us ask the Virgin to take care of them too: [Hail Mary....]

Feb. 16 –Address of His Holiness Pope Francis: Apostolic Journey of His Holiness Pope Francis to Mexico: Meeting with Young People – Translated conclusion (February 16, 2016, Mexico, Vatican).

I invite you to pray together to Our Mother of Guadalupe and to ask her to make us aware of the richness that God has given us, that she may help mature in us, in our hearts, the hope in Jesus Christ and that we may walk through life with the dignity of Christians. [They pray the “Hail Mary”

Feb. 17 – Address of His Holiness Pope Francis: Apostolic Journey of His Holiness Pope Francis to Mexico: Visit to the Penitentiary (Cereso N.3) of Ciudad Juarez – Translated beginning (February 17, 2016, Mexico, Vatican).

I hope that each one of you might know how to sow the seeds of hope and resurrection, through the blessing of Our Lady, Hail Mary...

Feb. 17 – Address of His Holiness Pope Francis: Apostolic Journey of His Holiness Pope Francis to Mexico: Meeting with the World of Labour – Translated conclusion (February 17, 2016, Mexico, Vatican).

May our Lady of Guadalupe, who made herself known to St Juan Diego, and revealed how the seemingly abandoned were her privileged witnesses, help you all, whatever your profession, whatever your work, to take up this task of dialogue, face to face discussion, and encounter.

Feb. 17 – Farewell Greeting of His Holiness Pope Francis at the Conclusion of the Holy Mass in Ciudad Juarez: Apostolic Journey of His Holiness Pope Francis to Mexico – Translated conclusion (February 17, 2016, Mexico, Vatican).

May Mary, Mother of Guadalupe, continue to visit you, continue to walk on your lands — Mexico which cannot be understood without her — may she continue helping you to be missionaries and witnesses of mercy and reconciliation.

Feb. 18 – Interview with the Pope on his return flight from Mexico – Translated conclusion (February 19, 2016, Vatican).

A nation that nevertheless still has this vitality can be explained only by Guadalupe. And I invite you to seriously study the facts of Guadalupe. The Madonna is there.

Feb. 21 – Full Text of Angelus Address: On the Trip to Mexico – Translated extract (February 21, 2016, Zenit.org).

The spiritual “center of gravity” of my pilgrimage was the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Guadalupe. To remain in silence before the image of the Mother was my principal aim [in making the trip]. And I thank God that he has given me this opportunity. I have contemplated and I have allowed myself to be gazed upon by She who carries imprinted in her eyes the gaze of all of her children, gathering up the sorrows caused by violence, kidnapping, assassinations, the violence against so many poor people, against so many women.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

<https://zenit.org/articles/full-text-of-angelus-address-on-the-trip-to-mexico/>

Feb. 26 – Address of His Holiness Pope Francis to Participants in the International Congress on the Encyclical “Deus Caritas Est” of Benedict XVI on the Tenth Anniversary of Its Publication – Translated conclusion (February 26, 2016, Vatican).

May the Blessed Mother always assist you,

Feb. 28 – Angelus Text: It’s Never Too Late to Convert – Translated conclusion (February 28, 2016, Zenit.org).

The Virgin Mary sustains us, so that we can open our hearts to the grace of God, to his mercy; and she helps us to never judge others, but rather to allow ourselves to be struck by daily misfortunes and to make a serious examination of our consciences and to repent.

Feb. 29 – Address of His Holiness Pope Francis to His Holiness Pope Abuna Matthias I, Patriarch of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church – Conclusion (February 29, 2016, Vatican).

I pray to Mary, Mother of Mercy, for each of you, with words drawn from your own beautiful and rich liturgical tradition: “O Virgin, wellspring of the fountain of wisdom, bathe me in the streams of the Gospel of Christ your Son. Defend me by his Cross. Cover me with his mercy, gird me with his clemency, renew me with his unction and surround me with his fruits. Amen”.

Feb. 29 – Pope’s Address to Rome-St. Peter’s Police Force – Translated conclusion (February 29, 2016, Zenit.org).

I entrust you to the maternal protection of Our Lady, Virgo fidelis.