

2-2013

February 2013

Pope Benedict XVI

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## *February 2013*



**Feb. 1 – Letter of the Holy Father to His Beatitude Louis Raphaël I Sako – Translated excerpt (February 04, 2013, Zenit.org).**

... I commend your Person to the Most Holy Mother of God....

**Feb. 2 – Pope's Homily on the Feast of the Presentation – Translated (February 03, 2013, Zenit.org).**

... St. Luke stresses how faithful Mary and Joseph were to the Law of the Lord. With profound devotion they perform everything that is prescribed after the birth of a male child. There are two very ancient prescriptions: one regards the mother and the other the newborn baby. For the woman it is prescribed that she abstain for forty days from ritual practices and afterward offer a twofold sacrifice: a lamb as a holocaust and a turtledove or pigeon for sin; but if the woman is

poor, she can offer two turtledoves or two pigeons (cf. Leviticus 12:1-8). St. Luke notes that Mary and Joseph offer the sacrifice of the poor (cf. 2:24) to show that Jesus was born in a family of simple folk, humble but strong in faith: a family belonging to the poor ones of Israel who form the true people of God....

To read the entire article visit: [Pope's Homily on the Feast of the Presentation](#)

**Feb. 2 -- Benedict XVI Sends Condolences to Victims of Mexico Explosion: Invokes Intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe – Translated extract (February 07, 2013, Zenit.org).**

... the Pope invokes at the same time the sweet name of Our Lady of Guadalupe ...

**Feb. 3 -- On the Truth of God's Love: "Love and Truth are Two Names of the Same Reality, Two Names of God" – Translated conclusion (February 03, 2013, Zenit.org).**

... Mary's attitude is enlightening in this regard. Who more than she knew the humanity of Jesus? But she was never scandalized like her fellow Nazarenes. She carried the mystery in her heart and knew how to welcome it continually more and more on the journey of faith to the night of the cross and the brilliance of the resurrection. Mary also helps us to travel along this way with fidelity and joy.

**Feb. 10 – On Listening to the Lord's Call – Translated conclusion of the *Angelus* address (February 10, 2013, Zenit.org).**

... Let us trust in the intercession of the Virgin Mary, Queen of the Apostles. Quite aware of her littleness, she responds to the Lord's call with total trust: "Here I am." With her maternal aid let us renew our openness to follow Jesus, Master and Lord.

(Translated comments afterwards)

... Tomorrow, the liturgical feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Lourdes, will also be the World Day of the Sick. The solemn celebration will take place in the Marian shrine in Altötting in Bavaria. With prayer and affection I am near to all the sick, and I spiritually join with those who will be gathering at that shrine, which is especially dear to me....

**Feb. 11 – Pope Renounces Papal Throne–  
Translated conclusion (February 11, 2013,  
VIS).**

... let us ... implore His holy Mother, Mary, so that she may assist the Cardinal Fathers with her maternal solicitude, in electing a new Supreme Pontiff....

**Feb. 13 – Benedict XVI's Homily at Ash  
Wednesday Mass: "The true disciple does not  
serve himself or the 'public,' but his Lord." –  
Translated conclusion (February 13, 2013,  
Zenit.org).**

... May the Virgin Mary accompany us in this time, the Mother of the Church and model of every true disciple of the Lord.

**Feb. 15 -- Pope's Audience with Members of  
the *Pro Petri Sede* Association: "Any Genuine  
Work of Charity Is a Concrete Manifestation of  
God's Love for Mankind" – Translated  
conclusion (February 15, 2013, Zenit.org).**

... I entrust each of you and each of your families, as well as the members of your Association, to the maternal intercession of the Virgin Mary ...

**Feb. 17 – On the First Sunday of Lent: "We  
Join Him and We Ask Him to Give Us Strength  
to Fight Our Weaknesses." – Translated**

**conclusion of *Angelus* address (February 17, 2013, Zenit.org).**

... And to stand with Him we turn to the Mother, Mary: let us invoke her with filial confidence in the hour of trial, and she will make us feel the powerful presence of her divine Son, to reject temptations with the Word of Christ, and so to put God once again at the center of our life.

**Feb. 24 – On the Transfiguration: The Lord Is Calling Me to Scale the Mountain – Translated conclusion of the *Angelus* address (February 24, 2013, Zenit.org).**

... Let us invoke the intercession of the Virgin Mary: may she help us always to follow the Lord Jesus in prayer and in active charity.

**Feb. 27 – Pope's Final General Audience Address: "I am not abandoning the cross, but I remain in a new way with the Crucified Lord." – Translated extracts (February 27, 2013, Zenit.org).**

... Let us invoke the maternal intercession of Mary, Mother of God and of the Church, that she accompany each of us and the whole ecclesial community; we entrust ourselves to Her, with deep confidence....

[After the *Angelus*, an excerpt of his comments in English]

... In union with Mary and all the saints, let us entrust ourselves in faith and hope to God, who continues to watch over our lives and to guide the journey of the Church and our world along the paths of history....

**Feb. 28 – Pope to College of Cardinals: "I Will Be Near to You." – Translated extract (February 28, 2013, VIS).**

... The Church lives, grows, and awakens in souls that  
—like the Virgin Mary--embrace the Word of God  
and conceive of it as the work of the Holy Spirit....