

BEGINNING THOUGHTS

Pope Francis, Shepherd of Truth

Notable quotations from Pope Francis and official teachings
of the Roman Catholic Church

“RENEWED LOVE”

... I express my desire to serve the Gospel with renewed love, helping the Church to become increasingly, in Christ and with Christ, the fruitful vine of the Lord.

“AN ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS CHRIST”

Inspired ... by the celebration of the Year of Faith, all of us together, pastors and members of the faithful, will strive to respond faithfully to the Church’s perennial mission: to bring Jesus Christ to mankind and to lead mankind to an encounter with Jesus Christ, the Way, the Truth and the Life, truly present in the Church and also in every person.

“SOUL OF THE CHURCH”

The Holy Spirit is the soul of the Church through His life-giving and unifying force: out of many, He makes one single body, the Mystical Body of Christ.

DON’T YIELD

Let us never yield to pessimism or discouragement; let us be quite certain that the Holy Spirit bestows upon the Church, with His powerful breath, the courage to persevere and also to seek new methods of evangelization, so as to bring the Gospel to the uttermost ends of the earth (cf. Acts 1:8).



“ATTRACTIVE AND PERSUASIVE”

Christian truth is attractive and persuasive because it responds to the profound need of human life, proclaiming convincingly that Christ is the one Savior of the whole man and of all men. This proclamation remains as valid today as it was at the origin of Christianity, when the first great missionary expansion of the Gospel took place.

TAKE UP THE JOURNEY

... We take up this journey... A journey of fraternity, of love, of trust among us. Let us always pray for one another. Let us pray for the whole world, that there may be a great spirit of fraternity.

“AUTHENTIC POWER IS SERVICE”

Let us never forget that authentic power is service, and that the Pope too ... must enter ever more fully into that service which has its radiant culmination on the Cross. He must be inspired by the lowly, concrete and faithful service which marked Saint Joseph and, like him, he must open his arms to protect all of God’s people and embrace with tender affection the whole of humanity, especially the poorest, the weakest, the least important, those whom Matthew lists in the final judgment on love: the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick and those in prison ... Only those who serve in love are able to protect!

MAY THE HOLY SPIRIT BE WITH ME

I implore the intercession of the Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph, Saints Peter and Paul, and Saint Francis, that the Holy Spirit may accompany my ministry, and I ask all of you to pray for me.

(Sources: *Urbi et Orbi* message 3/13/13; audience with College of Cardinal 3/15/13; homily, Mass, imposition of the pallium and bestowal of the fisherman’s ring for the beginning of the Petrine ministry of the Bishop of Rome, 3/19/13)

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FST0413

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