



US Rabbis welcome Pope's visit

31.05.2014 | JCR

About 430 US rabbis and Jewish leaders have addressed a letter to Pope Francis, welcoming his pilgrimage to the Holy Land. The text says:

“Since the spiritual patrimony common to Christians and Jews is thus so great, this sacred synod wants to foster and recommend that mutual understanding and respect which is the fruit, above all, of biblical and theological studies as well as of fraternal dialogues.”

Nostra Aetate (Second Vatican Council, 1965)

To His Holiness Pope Francis,

In this spirit, we – Rabbis and Jewish leaders — warmly welcome you and your mission of peace to Israel. With one voice, we are united in our commitment to interreligious dialogue, to opening more paths to increased understanding.

With you we are here to build bridges so that we can traverse these bridges of faith together in a journey of hope for justice, equality and peace, and to continually recognize and strengthen the important relationship between Catholics and Jews worldwide.

And where better to reaffirm that relationship, than in the Holy Land of Israel, a place both religions treasure as part of a shared heritage.

Peace be with you,

Shalom,

Signed by over 430 rabbis and Jewish leaders

May 25, 2014

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