



The Holy See

**ADDRESS OF JOHN PAUL II
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS
EXPRESSING THEIR WISHES ON THE OCCASION
OF THE 25th ANNIVERSARY OF HIS PONTIFICATE**

Friday, 31 October 2003

Your Excellencies,

I cordially thank you for the fervent best wishes extended to me by your Dean, on your behalf and on behalf of the entire Diplomatic Corps accredited to the Holy See, on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of my Pontificate. I also thank you for the meaningful gift that has been presented to me on this occasion.

In your Delegation, representative of the world's various geographic areas, I am delighted to greet all of the countries with which the Holy See maintains diplomatic relations. I also take advantage of this occasion to show my gratitude for the numerous signs of affection that have reached me in these days from each one of these nations.

To you, distinguished Ambassadors, I renew my best wishes for a peaceful and advantageous fulfilment of your important mission at the service of peace and harmony.

With these sentiments, I invoke upon you, your loved ones and upon your work the abundance of the blessings of the omnipotent God.