

L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO

WEEKLY EDITION

IN ENGLISH

Unicuique suum*Non praevalent*

Fifty-seventh year, number 48 (2.875)

Vatican City

Friday, 29 November 2024

Pontiff's appeal at the General Audience

Prayers for Ukraine and the Holy Land

Pope's greetings and summary of his catecheses to be translated into Chinese

At the General Audience on Wednesday morning, 27 November, Pope Francis reiterated his heartfelt appeal for peace, calling especially for an end to war in Ukraine and in the Holy Land. He urged young people to think about the suffering of children in war-torn countries, and to pray for them and for peace.

Earlier, the Holy Father had continued his series of catecheses on the Holy Spirit in the life of

the Church, turning his attention to "the fruits of the Holy Spirit" (cf. Gal 5:22). They "are the effect of our free cooperation with the grace of the Spirit at work in our lives", he explained.

The Pope focused his catechesis on one of these fruits: the gift of spiritual joy, which, he said, is in "contrast with fleeting worldly joys". Indeed, "the Spirit grants us a profound and enduring joy born of his presence in our hearts.

The joy of God's love not only fills our own lives but also inspires us to share that joy with others".

In his greetings, Pope Francis announced that, as of 4 December, the first Sunday in Advent, his greetings and the summary of his catecheses will be translated into Chinese.

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Holy Father presides at Mass on the Solemnity of Christ the King and World Youth Day

Do not settle for being 'stars for a day' on social media



As the Church celebrates the annual World Youth Day [WYD] on the Solemnity of Christ the King, Pope Francis witnessed the handover of the WYD Cross and icon of Mary *Salus Populi Romani*. At the conclusion of Mass in St Peter's Basilica on Sunday, 24 November, several Portuguese young people handed over the WYD symbols to a delegation from South Korea, as they prepare to host World Youth Day in Seoul in 2027.

In his homily, the Pope called these symbols an invitation for Christians to live out the Gospel without becoming discouraged or losing hope.

Young people, Pope Francis said, should take courage from Jesus' faithfulness to God in the midst of trials and public humiliation.

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For conclusion of international conference on popular religious traditions

Pope Francis to visit Corsica on 15 December

Pope Francis will make an Apostolic Journey to the Mediterranean island of Corsica, France, on 15 December to close an international conference on popular religious traditions organized by the Diocese of Ajaccio.

The announcement was made by the Director of the Holy See Press

Office, Matteo Bruni, on Saturday, 23 November. It will be Pope Francis' 47th Apostolic Journey abroad and the first-ever visit of a Pope to the French Mediterranean island.

The Holy Father has been invited there by local civil and Church authorities to close the international Conference at the island's capital.

