

**POPE FRANCIS CALLS SOUTH KOREAN'S TO BE EXAMPLES OF FORGIVENESS**

"Dear God, Who draws the lines around the countries?" (*Nan-Childrens Letters to God*)

**Mission of Peace in Asia:** In August 2014, Pope Francis visited South Korea in a 5-day mission of peace and reconciliation. He attended a Catholic Youth Festival with youth's from 23 Asian countries, beatified (blessed) 124 Korean 18th-Century martyrs, and said in a Mass for Peace and Reconciliation:

"DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS: ...Today's Mass is, first and foremost, a prayer for reconciliation in this Korean family. In the Gospel Jesus tells us how powerful is our prayer when two or three of us join in asking for something. How much more when an entire people raises its heart-felt plea to heaven?"

"The first reading (Dt. 30: 1-6) presents God's promise to restore to unity and prosperity a people dispersed by disaster and division. For us, as for the people of Israel, this is a promise full of hope—it points to a future which God is even now preparing for us. **Yet, this promise is inseparably tied to a command: the command to return to God and wholeheartedly obey his law. God's gifts of unity, reconciliation, and peace are inseparably linked to the grace of conversion—a change of heart—which can alter the course of our lives and our history as individuals and as a people.**

"At this Mass we hear this promise in context to the Korean people—an experience of division and conflict which has lasted for 60 years. **God's urgent summons to conversion challenges Christ's followers** to examine the quality of their own contribution to the building of a truly just and humane society. It **challenges** each of you to reflect on the extent which you, as individuals and communities, show evangelical concern for the less fortunate, the marginalized, those without work, and those who do not share in the prosperity of the many. And it **challenges** you, as Christians and Koreans, firmly to reject a mindset shaped by suspicion, confrontation, and competition; and instead to shape a culture formed by the teaching of the Gospel and the noblest traditional values of the Korean people.

"In today's Gospel Peter asks the Lord: 'If my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive him—as many as seven times?' The Lord replied: 'Not seven times, but seventy times seven.' These words go to the very heart of Jesus' message of reconciliation and peace. In obedience to His **command**, we ask our Heavenly Father daily to forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. But unless we are prepared to **do this**, how can we honestly pray for peace and reconciliation?"

"Jesus asks us to believe that forgiveness is the door which leads to reconciliation. In telling us to forgive our brothers unreservedly, He is asking us to do something utterly radical—but He also gives us the **grace** to do it. What appears, impossible, impractical, and even at times repugnant, He makes **† possible and fruitful through the infinite power of His Cross!** The Cross of Christ reveals the **power** of God to bridge every division, heal every wound, and to re-establish the bonds of brotherly love.

† "This is the message I leave you: **Trust in the power of Christ's Cross!** Welcome its **reconciling grace** into your own hearts and **share that grace with others!** I ask you to bear **convincing witness** to Christ's message of forgiveness in your homes, in your communities, and at every level of national life. I am confident that, in the **spirit of friendship and cooperation** with other Christians, with the followers of other religions, and with all men and women of good will concerned for the future of the Korean society, you will be a **\*leaven of the Kingdom of God** in this land. Thus, our prayers for peace and reconciliation will **rise to God** from ever more pure hearts and, by **His gracious gift †** obtain that precious good for which we all long.

**\*AN AGENT THAT CAUSES BREAD TO RISE OR AN INFLUENCE THAT WORKS SUBTLY TO ENLIVEN A WHOLE.**

"Let us pray for the emergence of new opportunities for dialogue, encounter, and the resolution of differences, for continued generosity in providing humanitarian assistance to those in need, and for a greater recognition that all Koreans are brothers and sisters—one family, one people...Amen!"

THE LACK OF DIALOGUE IS THE DEVIL'S TOOL, BRINGING DIVISION AND MISTRUST THROUGH LIES, GOSSIP AND MISINFORMATION.

A Message from the Queen of Hearts and Souls  
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**PEACE**

LIVING IN A STATE OF GOOD WILL BY RESPECTING AND ACCEPTING ONE ANOTHER'S OPINIONS AND RIGHTS

**Card 28: Pope Francis—Acceptance by Example**

**Prayer, Acceptance, Forgiveness  
THE ONLY ROAD TO PEACE  
Interreligious Dialogue**

FEATURING: CHILDREN'S LETTERS TO GOD



MARY HAS BEEN CALLING THE WORLD TO PRAYER FROM MEDJUGORJE (Med.) SINCE 1981 (CARD 15). MARY IS THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM THROUGHOUT THE AGES (CARDS 3, 13). MARY IS THE ARK OF THE NEW COVENANT (CARDS 1, X<sup>TRA</sup>).

"YOU WILL NOT HAVE PEACE THROUGH PRESIDENTS OR ANY LEADER BUT THROUGH PRAYERS!" (Med.-Jel. 12/31/85)

POPE FRANCIS VATICAN 3/16/13

"NOT EVERYONE BELONGS TO THE CATHOLIC FAITH, AND OTHERS DO NOT BELIEVE. I RESPECT THE CONSCIENCE OF EACH ONE OF YOU, KNOWING THAT EACH ONE OF YOU IS A CHILD OF GOD. MAY GOD BLESS YOU."



"MY APOSTLES, CARRY MY SON IN YOUR HEARTS AND THOUGHTS. IN THIS WAY YOU CARRY LOVE. ALL THOSE WHO DO NOT KNOW HIM WILL RECOGNIZE HIM IN YOUR LOVE."

"I AM ALWAYS ALONG SIDE YOUR SHEPHERDS AND I PRAY THAT THEY MAY ALWAYS BE AN EXAMPLE OF HUMILITY FOR YOU." (Med. 7/2/14)

PRAYER: AN ACTION BY ONE FOR ANOTHER IN ORDER TO UNITE THEM TO GOD SO HE CAN BE COMPLETE!



"THERE IS NO LOVE WITHOUT PRAYER. THERE IS NO PRAYER WITHOUT FORGIVENESS BECAUSE LOVE IS PRAYER AND FORGIVENESS IS LOVE." (Med. 6/2/14)

POPE FRANCIS EASTER 2002

"TRUE GROWTH IN HUMAN CONSCIOUSNESS CANNOT BE FOUNDED ON ANYTHING OTHER THAN THE PRACTICE OF DIALOGUE AND LOVE."

"AN ACT OF JUSTICE THAT BECOMES CONCRETE IN HELPING ONE'S NEIGHBOR IS PRAYER!" (Pope Francis)

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT ACCEPT YOU—WHO JUDGE YOU! PRAY FOR THOSE WHO YOU DO NOT ACCEPT—WHO YOU JUDGE!

"DEAR CHILDREN! PRAY for my intentions (plans) because Satan wants to destroy my plan, which I have and to steal your PEACE! Therefore, PRAY that God can act through each of you. May your hearts be open to God's will (plan)." (Med. 8/25/14)

"DEAR CHILDREN: I, YOUR MOTHER, AM COMING ANEW AMONG YOU OUT OF LOVE, WHICH HAS NO END—FROM ENDLESS LOVE OF THE ENDLESS HEAVENLY FATHER. AS I AM LOOKING INTO YOUR HEARTS, I SEE THAT MANY OF YOU ACCEPT ME AS A MOTHER AND, WITH SINCERE AND PURE HEARTS, YOU DESIRE TO BE MY APOSTLES—BUT I AM ALSO THE MOTHER OF THOSE OF YOU WHO DO NOT ACCEPT ME AND WHO, IN THE HARDNESS OF YOUR HEARTS, DO NOT DESIRE TO COME TO KNOW THE LOVE OF MY SON. YOU DO NOT KNOW HOW MUCH MY HEART SUFFERS (CARD 5) AND HOW MUCH I PRAY TO MY SON FOR YOU.

"I PRAY FOR HIM TO HEAL YOUR SOULS BECAUSE HE CAN DO SO. I PRAY TO HIM TO ILLUMINATE YOU WITH THE MIRACLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT SO THAT YOU MAY STOP, ALWAYS ANEW, BETRAYING, CURSING, AND WOUNDING HIM. WITH ALL MY HEART, I PRAY FOR YOU TO UNDERSTAND THAT ONLY MY SON IS THE SALVATION AND THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. THANK YOU, MY APOSTLES, FOR YOUR SACRIFICE AND LOVE" (Med. 9/2/14).

## INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE BY EXAMPLE

"God, It's o.k. that you made different religions but don't you get mixed up some-times?" (Arnold-Childrens Letters to God)



The following are **excerpts** from *On Heaven and Earth*, a book co-authored by **Pope Francis** and **Rabbi Abraham Skorka**. The long-time friends would meet for the purpose of interreligious dialogue.

**RABBI SKORKA ON LEADERSHIP:** "...When one functions as a spiritual guide, the challenge is to serve **G-d\*** by committing oneself to his or her fellow man. **On seeing one's neighbor, one should see G-d.** If a religious leader's message is not in harmony with justice, grace and peace, his message is a false one. Teachers that act as if everything they say is absolutely correct, you cannot trust. Lessons of faith are transmitted with humility. There always has to be room for doubt. The most important term that should define a religious leader—humility. We need to teach by example—*instilling* a sense of humility in those who choose to become religious leaders—drum into them that what they have chosen to do is a holy act."

**POPE FRANCIS ON LEADERSHIP:** "When God makes Himself **known**, He does it with a calling. Jesus said, 'It is not you who have chosen me, but I who have chosen you.' I like what you said about doubt, because that goes directly to the experience that anyone has if one wants to be just in the presence of God. The great leaders were men that left room for doubt. No one remained more humble *than Moses*. To shrink, to recede into oneself with doubt, with the interior experiences of darkness—of **not knowing** what to do—all of that ultimately is very purifying. A bad leader is one who is self-assured and stubborn. Humility is what gives assurance that the Lord is there. When someone is self-sufficient, when he has all the **answers** to every question, it is proof that God is not with him. Holiness...the command from God to Abraham...is like a springboard to the **transcendent** (*divine knowledge*)."

**RABBI SKORKA ON PRAYER:** "Prayer should serve to unite people because it is a time when we are all on the same page. Prayer has to be an act of profound introspection—we need to look within ourself and start a conversation with G-d. The verb "to pray" in Hebrew means to judge oneself. Every time we want to get closer to G-d, the first thing we have to do is determine what our personal defects are.

\*"G-D": IN THE ORIGINAL HEBREW DIALECT THERE ARE NO VOWELS

"One of the prophets' harshest criticisms of the people was that they prayed but did not act justly. You cannot do one thing and not the other—it is essential that we help our neighbors, feed the hungry, and clothe the naked. We need to work toward a world in which no one has to extend his or her hand for alms—that is the real challenge. Any society in which this need exists is evidently **infirm**. To be sure, **praying also means looking into another's eyes and touching their hands in order to understand that those who are suffering are also our brothers** and that our challenge is to eradicate poverty.

**POPE FRANCIS ON INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE:** "...the first time the Evangelicals invited me to *speak* at their meeting...the pastor asked that everyone pray for me and for my ministry. He asked me if I would accept that they would pray for me and I answered him that of course I would. When they prayed, it occurred to me to kneel down to receive their prayer and the blessing of 7000 people there. The next week, a magazine headlined: 'THE ARCHBISHOP COMMITS THE SIN OF APOSTASY.' For them, praying together with others was apostasy. Even with an agnostic, with his doubt, we can look up together to find transcendence (*heavenly dialogue*)—each one praying according to his tradition. What's the problem?"

## ACCEPTANCE BY EXAMPLE: POPE FRANCIS GOES TO THE MIDDLE EAST

"Dear God, I bet it is very hard for you to love all of everybody in the whole world there are only 4 people in our family and I can never do it." (Nan-Childrens Letters to God)

**Pope Francis** began his 3-day visit to the Middle East on May 24, 2014, landing in Amman, Jordan. **Rabbi Skorka** accompanied him, along with Omar Aboud, a leader from the Buenos Aires Muslim Community. He celebrated a Catholic Mass in Amman International Stadium and called for urgent steps to end Syria's three-year-old civil war. King Abdullah took him to the Jordan river, where Pope Francis quietly prayed. The king called his visit: "A significant milestone for brotherhood and forgiveness between Muslims and Christians."

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas greeted Pope Francis the next day in Ramallah in the West Bank. On his way to Bethlehem to celebrate Mass at Manager Square, the pope stopped to pray at the security wall—Israel's barrier wall that separates them from the Palestinians. He also visited a children's center at a nearby Palestinian refugee camp. The pope invited President Abbas and Israeli President Perez to the **Vatican** for dialogue and prayer.

**THE VATICAN TALKS TOOK PLACE ONE MONTH LATER. ISRAEL APPROVED TENS OF THOUSANDS OF NEW SETTLER HOMES IN OCCUPIED WEST BANK.**

Israeli President Shimon Peres greeted Pope Francis during a welcome ceremony. Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said to the pope in a speech, "...You bring the spirit of reconciliation, faith, and peace of many Christians...and also many who are not Christians."

**"...A RELIGIOUS LEADER'S JOB IS MEDIATION—INTERCEDING IN PEOPLE'S AFFAIRS IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE PEACE. IN THE BIBLE, IT IS DONE BY INTERCEDING WITH G-D ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE. IT IS WHAT ABRAHAM DID WHEN HE BARGAINED WITH G-D TO SAVE THE RIGHTEOUS OF SODOM AND GOMORRAH. HE BARGAINED WITH G-D TO SAVE HUMAN LIVES"** (SKORKA-ON HEAVEN AND EARTH).

In Jerusalem's Old City on May 26th, Pope Francis prayed with the Eastern Orthodox leader Patriarch Bartholomew at the Stone of Unction at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, where Jesus was crucified. They joined with **all the Christian churches** in Jerusalem in a **Jubilee celebration** of peace and unity to mark 50 years since the end of the **Great Schism of 1054**.

*The Apostolic Church remained undivided until **The Great Schism of 1054** when a division occurred between East (Orthodox) and West (Catholic). It ended in 1964 in Jerusalem on the Mount of Olives when Pope Paul VI met with Eastern Orthodox Christian Leader Patriarch Athenagoras I.*

In November, Pope Francis told Patriarch Bartholomew: "We won't resign ourselves to a Middle East without Christian—who for 2000 years confessed the Name of Jesus—*have rights* as full citizens in social, cultural, and religious life of the nations to which they belong."

**"...RESOLVE THE RELIGIOUS CONFLICT OF THE MANY CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS BY WALKING TOGETHER, BY DOING THINGS TOGETHER, BY PRAYING TOGETHER"** (FRANCIS-ON HEAVEN AND EARTH).

Pope Francis met with the Mufti (Moslem judge) of Jerusalem, during his visit of the Al Aqsa compound. He prayed at Judaism holiest site, the Western Wall, along side **Rabbi Skorka**. President Peres accompanied the pope to pray over the victims of **terrorists acts** on Mount Herzl. The peace mission ended with President Peres and the pope planting an Olive Tree.

**"ANYONE WHO HAS SINNED CAN COME BACK TO G-D. WE SHOULD WELCOME WHOEVER WANTS TO RETURN TO THE LORD. BESIDES, IT WOULD BE GOOD FOR HUMANITY IF THOSE WHO HAVE CAUSED MANY TO DIE—WHETHER IN THE NAME OF SOME IDEALOGY OR WHAT IS EVEN WORSE, IN G-D'S NAME—WOULD PERFORM A SINCERE ACT OF CONTRITION"** (SKORKA-ON HEAVEN AND EARTH).

PAUL "BREAthed OUT MURDEROUS THREATS" TO CHRISTIANS UNTIL HE WAS CONVERTED! (ACTS 8:1, 9: 1-2)

**VATICAN: PRESIDENT  
ABBAS ASKED GOD TO:  
"BRING COMPREHENSIVE  
AND JUST PEACE TO OUR  
COUNTRY AND REGION SO  
THAT OUR PEOPLE AND  
THE PEOPLE OF THE  
MIDDLE EAST AND THE  
WHOLE WORLD WOULD  
ENJOY THE FRUIT OF  
PEACE, STABILITY, AND  
COEXISTENCE."**