

Visit of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI to the United Nations
Friday, 18 April 2008

(As per, the information provided by the Protocol and Liaison Service)

His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI will visit United Nations Headquarters on Friday, 18 April 2008. He will address the General Assembly and the United Nations staff.

The following are his schedules:

10:45 am His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI will arrive with members of his party at the Secretariat Entrance at the North Centre doors. He will be received by the Secretary-General and the General Assembly President outside the glass doors and escorted into the Secretariat building. Mrs. Ban and Mrs. Karim greet His Holiness as he enters the Secretariat.

10:49 am His Holiness, the Secretary-General, Mrs. BAN Soon-taek, Archbishop Migliore, Monsignor Ganswein, Doctor Alberto Gasbarri, Mr. Giani are escorted by the Chief of Protocol (COP) to the 38th Floor.

10:51 am The Secretary-General will have an audience with His Holiness in his office.

11:08 am The Secretary-General and His Holiness will proceed to the Conference Room adjacent to the Secretary-General's office where His Holiness will sign the visitor's book.

11:14 am His Holiness, the Secretary-General and His Holiness entourage, escorted by the Chief of Protocol (COP) will proceed to the General Assembly Hall via the 3rd Floor of the Secretariat Building, and descend by special elevator to the second floor exiting in the Chinese Lounge.

11:15 am The President of the General Assembly welcomes His Holiness at the Ceremonial Entrance to the General Assembly Hall.

11:20 am The President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General will have welcoming remarks.

11:30 am His Holiness addresses the General Assembly

11:57 am His Holiness will meet the President of the General Assembly in GA-200.

12:09 pm His Holiness will meet the President of the Security Council (His Excellency Mr. Dumisani Kumalo), in the Office of the President of the General Assembly (GA-200)

12:22 pm – 12:40 pm

His Holiness will be introduced individually to UN Officials in the Indonesian Lounge.

12:45 pm His Holiness will address the United Nations staff

01:26 pm His Holiness, the Secretary-General, Mrs. BAN, Soon-taek, Mrs. Kerim, the Deputy Secretary and the Papal entourage, escorted by the COP will proceed to the Visitors' Lobby along a cordoned-off path through staff and other guests gathered in the open art gallery.

01:30 pm His Holiness will receive a bouquet of flowers from a boy and a girl. His Holiness greets and blesses those gathered there. Choir from the United Nations International School will sing a song.

01:33 pm His Holiness accompanied by the Secretary-General, Mrs. BAN Soon-taek, the Deputy Secretary-General, President of the General Assembly and Mrs. Kerim, and the Papal entourage will proceed to the outer Meditation Room where His Holiness pays respects to the victims of the Baghdad bombing memorialized by a flag draped on the wall outside the Meditation Room.

01:35 pm His Holiness, the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly are escorted to the Meditation Room.

01:40 pm His Holiness, the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly leave the Meditation Room. His Holiness and Papal entourage are escorted to the Delegates Entrance via the cordoned path in the Visitors' Lobby.

01:44 pm The Secretary-General, President of the General Assembly and the Chief of Protocol escort His Holiness to the Papal Limousine and bid him farewell.

01:45 pm His Holiness will depart from the United Nations Headquarters.

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03:04 PM