

Communication by the CA National Presidency

Catholic Action accompanies Pope Francis in his coming trip to Egypt with prayers and is looking forward to meeting him in Saint Peter's Square on the 30th April.

The extraordinary news of the Holy Father's trip to Egypt from the 28th to the 29th April "reveals" the reason why the national meeting between Pope Francis and the Italian Catholic Action has been postponed by a day, to the 30th April. This good news strengthens our desire to meet the Pope immediately after his return even more.

The clear historic relevance of this event, that is, the promise of peace and fraternity which it brings and the signs of hope which it opens for the future of our planet, once more fill our hearts with gratitude and invite us to accompany the Holy Father's trip with prayers and affection, in union with those of all men of good will all over the world.

The Italian Catholic Action and CA groups all over the world (which at that time will be meeting in Rome and in the Vatican for the Second International Congress on CA) assure the Holy Father of their support. The meaning and the clear indication of his daily lifelong commitment and his great efforts for peace and dialogue among the three religions will resound strongly even during the Italian Catholic Action National Assembly, which opens on the 28th April and goes on till the 1st May. They give a clear message of his great efforts.

In the light of the demanding commitment which awaits him in Egypt, we are really grateful to Pope Francis for still wanting to meet the thousands of CA members from all Italy and from different parts of the world on the 30th April Sunday morning without delaying the desired and long awaited appointment by all the association.

We are sure that the joy, the affection and the support which Catholic Action shows Pope Francis on that occasion will be contagious and will help him to overcome the trip's fatigue. We also hope that our commitment, which we will renew once again that morning: our desire to make Catholic Action an instrument available to the Italian Church and to the Universal Church for the effective implementation of *Evangelii gaudium*, will fill him with encouragement.

Rome 18 March 2017

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