



The Holy See

**ADDRESS OF JOHN PAUL II
TO THE PLENARY MEETING OF THE PONTIFICAL COUNCIL
FOR SOCIAL COMMUNICATIONS** Tuesday, 9 March 2004 Your Eminences,
Your Excellencies,

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, I am pleased once more to greet you, the Members of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, on the occasion of your Plenary Meeting and I thank your President, Archbishop John Foley, for his kind words. As your Meeting this year marks the Fortieth Anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's Decree on the Instruments of Social Communication, as well as the Fortieth Anniversary of the foundation of your Dicastery, I encourage you to draw inspiration from the conciliar document to continue in your mission of helping those who work in this vast field to animate it "with a humane and Christian spirit" (*Inter Mirifica*, No. 3). In this way the media will be in a better position to tap their "enormous positive potential for promoting sound human and family values and thus contributing to the renewal of society" (*Message for the 2004 World Communications Day*, No. 6). I invoke the guiding light of the Holy Spirit upon you and your work, and I cordially impart to all of you my Apostolic Blessing.
