



- 1844** AoP is founded by Fr. François-Xavier Gautrelet, SJ, with the Jesuit scholastics, in Vals-près-le-Puy, France.
- 1849** Pius IX approves the first statutes of the diocesan association: "Apostolicas Ad augendum".
- 1861** "The Messenger of the Heart of Jesus" is launched by Fr Henri Ramière, SJ, Toulouse, France. The magazine quickly reaches a network of over 13 million members.
- 1866** First international statutes. AoP is defined as an organization at the service of the Pope.
- 1879** Leo XIII proposes a monthly intention for the members to be prayed at the morning offering.
- 1896** The Father General of the Society of Jesus is appointed as the General Director of the AoP.
- 1928** Pius XI suggests a missionary intention as a second prayer intention, alternating general and missionary intentions.
- 1914** Pius X asks children and youth to receive daily communion and to pray for peace at the Eucharistic Congress in Lourdes.
- 1915** Following the Pope's call, the Eucharistic Crusade (current Eucharistic Youth Movement - EYM) comes into being.
- 1951** The Statutes are updated.
- 1961** Statutes Confirmation: "Its members, among the many exercises of piety and charity to which they are accustomed, pray above all for the universal Church and especially for the Roman Pontiff".
- 1968** The Statutes are updated in the light of Vatican II and will remain in force until 2018.



1972 Fr. Pedro Arrupe, SJ, General Superior, consecrates the Society to the Heart of Christ on June 9, 1972.

2009 Fr. Claudio Barriga, SJ, delegate of Fr Adolfo Nicolás, SJ, initiates the re-creation process of the AoP.

2014 Fr. Frédéric Fornos, SJ, successor to Fr. Barriga, SJ.

2014 Pope Francis approves the re-creation –“A Pathway with Jesus in Apostolic readiness”- The document states that the AoP is the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network. The Pope's prayer intentions are presented as challenges for humanity and the mission of the Church and offering prayers as a way to make oneself available for the mission.

2015 The Pope's prayer intentions (general and missionary) are renamed universal intentions and intentions for evangelization. Global logo for the PWPN.

2015 Centenary of the Eucharistic Youth Movement. 1400 young people from 39 countries meet Pope Francis in Rome.

2016 The Pope Video and Click To Pray (the Pope's official prayer profile) projects to accompany prayer intentions during the Jubilee of Mercy.

2016 Fr. Frederic Fornos, SJ, proposed by the Superior General of the Society of Jesus, is appointed by Pope Francis as the International Director of the PWPN on July 7. New Statutes, following the re-creation, are needed to define links between the ecclesial service, the Holy See, and the Society of Jesus.



2017 During the Angelus in January 8, Francis calls for participation in the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer). With the recreation of this ecclesial service, Pope Francis returns to proposing just one intention per month, to offer a clearer monthly orientation for life and mission. Universal and missionary prayer intentions are alternated throughout the year.

2018 February. Publication of the first International Manual of the Eucharistic Youth Movement.

2018 In March 27 Pope Francis approves the new Statutes (which include the EYM) and establishes the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network as a Pontifical Work to emphasize the universal character of this mission and to mobilize Catholics through prayer and action, in the face of the challenges confronting humanity and the mission of the Church (the Pope's monthly prayer intentions).

2018 In November is the creation of the new official website with domain [.VA] www.popesprayer.va The Pope Video appears for the first time on Pope Francis' personal profiles: Pontifex (Twitter) and Franciscus (Instagram).

2019 In January Pope Francis opens his prayer profile on Click To Pray, which becomes his third social media network, and the Pope's official prayer platform. For the first time ever, Click To Pray is the official prayer platform for World Youth Day.

2019 The Vatican Secretariat of State approves in February 18 the official logo of the PWPN which displays the keys of St. Peter.



2019 June 28-29. The celebration of the 175th anniversary and 10 years of the re-creation process of the Apostleship of Prayer. An International Meeting is held in Rome including: the audience with Pope Francis, with about 13,000 people (almost 6,000 coming from 32 countries in the Paul VI Hall and 7,500 via Facebook Live); the Mass at St. John Lateran with Fr. Arturo Sosa SJ, Superior General of the Society of Jesus; the worldwide meeting of directors and coordinators; the EYM meeting.

2019 The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network participates in the launch of Extraordinary Missionary Month, together with the Pontifical Mission Societies. The Click To Pray eRosary is launched, an evangelization project for young people connected to the digital and technological world, in partnership with the Dicastery for Communication, the Pontifical Missionary Works and the youth office of the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life.

2020 May. Launch of the training platform "The Way of the Heart" (86 videos, 86 audios, 350 infographics, 11 digital books), the foundation of our mission of compassion for the world and actualization of the devotion to the Heart of Christ.

2020 November 17. With new Statutes, Pope Francis establishes the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network as a Pontifical Foundation, entrusted to the Society of Jesus, as a canonical and Vatican juridical person.

2021 January. The website of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network is inserted into the Vatican's homepage: www.vatican.va



2021 October 19. Launch, in the Holy See press room, of the new Pope's prayer platform, Click To Pray 2.0, at the service of a synodal Church. It is launched also the prayer website for the Synod, in collaboration with the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops and International Union of Superiors General (UISG).

2022 The Superior General of the Society of Jesus, Fr. Arturo Sosa SJ, announces, with the closure of the Ignatian Year in Loyola July 31, the renewal of the Consecration of the Society to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

2023 December 27. The Jubilee of the Sacred Heart of Jesus begins, coinciding with the commemoration of the 350th anniversary of the apparitions of the Heart of Jesus to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque in Paray-le-Monial. The Jubilee lasts a year and a half, from December 27, 2023, the anniversary of the first major apparition, to June 27, 2025, the date of the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart.

At the opening of the Jubilee of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Sanctuary of Paray-le-Monial joins the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network.

2024 January 26. Pope Francis receives in audience the members of the international team, the Vatican Foundation Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, and the "Pro Rete Mondiale di Preghiera del Papa" Foundation.

2024 July 1. Pope Francis approves the definitive Statutes of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network after a process that lasts 7 years.



2024 September 1. Bettina Raed is appointed Deputy International Director of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network by Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican Secretary of State, on the proposal of the Superior General of the Society of Jesus, Fr. Arturo Sosa SJ.

2024 December 31. Fr. Frédéric Fornos SJ, after 11 years, concludes his mission in service of the renewal of the Apostleship of Prayer as the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network. His term as the International Director of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network lasted from 2016 to 2024. From 2014 to 2016, he served as the delegate of the General Director of the Apostleship of Prayer, who was the Superior General of the Society of Jesus, Fr. Adolfo Nicolás SJ.

2025 January 1. Fr. Cristóbal Fones SJ begins as the international director of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, appointed by the Holy Father, on the proposal of the Superior General of the Society of Jesus, Fr. Arturo Sosa SJ.