



Dates from the APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER

to the POPE'S WORLDWIDE PRAYER NETWORK

1844: The Apostleship of Prayer 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** with the letter "Apostolicas Ad augendum".

1861: Fr. Henri Ramière launches the publication "The Messenger of the Heart of Jesus" in Toulouse - France. This publication helps to establish the Apostleship of Prayer in the dynamics of the Heart of Jesus, while distancing it from ideological and political approaches to the devotion to the Sacred Heart. The members of the Apostleship of Prayer pray for the intentions of the Heart of Jesus.

1866: The Prefect of the Congregation for Bishops, Card. Innocenzo Ferrieri, approves the first statutes on July 27, 1866. They detail that the Apostleship of Prayer is an **organization at the service of the Pope**.

1879: In the statutes of May 28, 1879, Leo XIII broadens the mission of the Apostleship of Prayer to include **a monthly intention** for the members of the AP during the morning offering.

1896: The Sacred Congregation changes the statutes, making **the Father General of the Society of Jesus the Director General of the Apostleship of Prayer**, a role to which he should appoint a delegate. The latter will reside in Toulouse. It is not until 1926 that this position moves to Rome. These statutes remain in force until 1951.

1928: Pius XI proposes **a second prayer intention**, a missionary intention, and alternates between general intentions and missionary intentions.

1914: Not to be overlooked, in connection with the Apostleship of Prayer, **the Eucharistic Crusade (today the Eucharistic Youth Movement - EYM)** comes into being in November 1915, following Pope Pius X's request to pray for peace at the Eucharistic Congress in Lourdes, in 1914. Pope Pius X believed in the power of the

prayer of children and young people, and at the Eucharistic Congress of Lourdes in 1914, he asked them to receive communion at Mass every day and to pray for peace.

1951: The Statutes are updated.

1961: On February 26, 1961, the Statutes are confirmed: "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 the Second Vatican Council (March 27, 1968). They remain in force until 2018. The Superior General of the Society of Jesus remains the Director General and can appoint a delegate to this mission, as is the case until 2016.

1972 - On June 9th, **Fr. Pedro Arrupe SJ**, Superior General of the Society of Jesus (1907-1991), one hundred years after Fr. Beckx SJ, consecrated the Society to the Heart of Christ.

2009 - **Fr. Adolfo Nicolás SJ**, Superior General of the Society of Jesus, asks his delegate, Fr. Claudio Barriga SJ, to initiate the recreation of the Apostleship of Prayer. He creates an international team.

2014 - Fr. Adolfo Nicolás SJ, nominates his new delegate, Fr. Frederic Fornos SJ, who was one of the first members of this team.

2014 - **Pope Francis approves the process of recreating the Apostleship of Prayer**, with the letter from the Substitute of the Secretary of State, dated July 11, 2014, as described in the document entitled "A Pathway with Jesus in Apostolic readiness" (officially published in December 2014). **This document states that the Apostleship of Prayer is the Pope's worldwide prayer network.** His prayer intentions are presented as challenges for humanity and the mission of the Church, while prayers of offering are a way to make oneself available for mission.

2015 - January - The **Pope's prayer intentions** (general intentions and missionary intentions) are renamed: universal intentions and intentions for evangelization. This means, as *Evangelii Gaudium* indicates, that everything refers to the mission of the Church. For the first time, the Apostleship of Prayer presents itself as the

Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, with a common logo, adapted according to continents and countries (Brand Manual).

2015 - August 4-10 - **Centenary of the Eucharistic Youth Movement**. An international meeting is held in Rome with 1400 young people from 39 countries. An audience with Pope Francis takes place.

2016 - **The Pope Video** (January) and **Click To Pray** (March), the Pope's prayer platform, are launched as projects of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network to accompany prayer intentions during the Jubilee of Mercy.

2016 - July 7 - **Pope Francis appoints an International Director for the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network**, Fr. Frederic Fornos SJ, as proposed by the Superior General of the Society of Jesus, and calls for new Statutes in accordance with the re-creation process. This comes as a significant change, given that since 1986 the Superior General of the Society of Jesus was in charge of this work, through a delegate. This appointment and the request for new Statutes are intended to clarify the links between this ecclesial service, the Holy See and the Society of Jesus.

2017: January 8 - **Angelus - 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 - 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 - November - 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 - 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 WYD.

2019 - February - The Vatican Secretariat of State approves the official logo of the PWPW which displays the keys of St. Peter (February 18).

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 an 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), a Mass at St. John Lateran with **Fr. Arturo Sosa SJ**, Superior General of the Society of Jesus, a worldwide meeting of directors and coordinators and an 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, 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). This is the foundation of our mission of compassion for the world; the devotion to the Heart of Christ for today's times.

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 - September - Presentation to the **Discerning Leadership program**, in conjunction with the Gregorian University and the Jesuit General Curia, of the

process of institutional re-creation of the Apostleship of Prayer as the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (2009-2019): "Discerning Leadership - Case of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network" (ESADE)

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. We launch also the prayer website for the Synod, with the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops and International Union of Superiors General (UISG).

The screenshot shows the official website of the Holy See, 'LA SANTA SEDE'. The header includes the logo and name of the Holy See, along with navigation links for 'OFICINA DE PRENSA - BOLETIN', 'SERVICIOS INFORMATIVOS', and 'VATICAN NEWS'. The main content area is dedicated to Pope Francis, with a large photo and the name 'FRANCISCO'. Below the photo are links for 'BIOGRAFIA' and 'FOTO'. A news section on the right lists recent updates, including 'Boletín diario - Oficina de Prensa' for various dates in January 2021. At the bottom, there is a section titled 'SUMOS PONTÍFICES' with a search filter and a row of circular portraits of popes: Francisco, Benedicto XVI, Juan Pablo II, Juan Pablo I, Pablo VI, Juan XXIII, and Pío XII.