

*His Holiness Pope Francis was pleased to be informed of the "Budapest Demographic Forum" to be held from 5 to 7 November 2015, and he sends cordial greetings to the Government, civil and religious authorities gathered for this important event. As the Forum reflects on the family and its essential role in fostering a just and healthy society, His Holiness assures those present of his prayerful solidarity. He encourages participants to reflect on concrete ways in which family life can be supported, especially in light of the many challenges facing couples when starting a family and raising their children. With these sentiments, Pope Francis willingly sends his blessing to all gathered as a pledge of wisdom and strength.*

*Cardinal Pietro Parolin  
Secretary of State*