



PONTIFICIUM CONSILIUM
PRO FAMILIA

PRESS RELEASE

ELDERLY ANNOUNCERS OF THE GOSPEL

Sunday, March 13th - St. Peter's Square

On Sunday, March 13th, St. Peter's Square will be the scene of a gesture with a highly symbolic value: at the end of the Angelus, announced and introduced by the words of Pope Francis, nearly a thousand elderly persons will hand out copies of the Gospel to those present, especially to young people and children.

This gesture, organized by the Pontifical Almonry with the collaboration of the Pontifical Council for the Family, involves elderly people from different parishes in Rome (including San Gaetano, Jesus the Divine Master, St. Robert Bellarmine, St. Joseph al Trionfale) and many of the area's associations (Senior Italia Federanziani, Famiglie Nuove, ALATEL Lazio, ANLA, FNPCISL Roma e Rieti, FEDERCENTRI, Lazio Forum of family associations, Catholic Medical Doctor Association), coordinated at the Center for family ministry of the Vicariate of Rome.

Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, President of the Pontifical Council for the Family, commenting on the initiative, underscored *“the beauty of this gesture: on the anniversary of the election of Pope Francis to the Papacy, hundreds of elderly persons are at his side, sharing the common mission of every Christian, which is to proclaim the Good News of Jesus to the whole world. In a society that continues to reject what is old and seemingly unproductive, the Christian community strongly recalls the dignity and the immense value of every man and every woman. The elderly must not and cannot stay home: they have a task and a vocation; especially the young need them, they need to their announcement and their testimony.”*

Vatican City, 12 March 2016

More information on the website www.familia.va