



# The Holy See

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## PASTORAL VISIT OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS TO PIETRELCINA AND TO SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO, ON THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAINT'S DEATH

17 MARCH 2018

Live video transmission

- [Multimedia](#)
- [Photo Gallery](#)

### ***Saturday, 17 March 2018***

- 7.00 Departure from Vatican heliport  
Landing at the square adjacent to the liturgical hall of Piana Romana in **Pietrelcina**
- The Holy Father is received by:
- 8.00 - H.E. Msgr. Felice Accrocca, archbishop of Benevento  
- Mr. Domenico Masone, mayor of Pietrelcina  
Brief pause for prayer in the Saint Francis Chapel in front of the elm of the stigmata
- On the Square in front of the liturgical hall: **Meeting with the faithful**
- 8.15 Greeting from the archbishop of Benevento  
- The Holy Father greets the Community of Capucins and a representation of faithful
- 9.00 Departure from Piana Romana, for San Giovanni Rotondo
- Landing in the "Antonio Massa" sports field of San Giovanni Rotondo
- 9.30 The Holy Father is received by:

- H.E. Msgr. Michele Castoro, archbishop of Manfredonia-Vieste-San Giovanni Rotondo
- Dr. Costanzo Cascavilla, mayor of San Giovanni Rotondo

Transfer by car to “*Casa sollievo della Sofferenza*” Hospital. From the square in front, the Holy Father greets and blesses the sick, without leaving the car

Visit to the Paediatric Oncology Ward

The Holy Father is received by:

- 10.00 - Dr. Domenico Crupi, director general of the “*Casa sollievo della Sofferenza*” Hospital

The Holy Father meets children, inpatients on the third floor of the ward.

At the end of the visit, the Pope arrives at the Shrine of Saint Mary of the Graces, where he is received by:

- Fr. Maurizio Placentino, provincial minister of the Capuchins
  - Fr. Carlo Laborde, guardian
- 10.45 - Fr. Francesco Dileo, rector

In the Shrine, the Holy Father greets the religious Community of the Capuchins, and venerates the body of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina and the crucifix of the stigmata.

Parvis of the Church of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina: **Eucharistic Concelebration**

- At the end of the Holy Mass: greeting of H.E. Msgr. Michele Castoro, archbishop of Manfredonia-Vieste-San Giovanni Rotondo
- 11.15

The Holy Father greets some of the Authorities and a representation of faithful

13.00 Departure from the sports field of San Giovanni Rotondo

14.00 Arrival in the Vatican heliport

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