



The Holy See

MESSAGE OF THE HOLY FATHER JOHN PAUL II ON THE OCCASION OF THE WORLD LITERACY DAY 1989*

On this International Literacy Day and the eve of the opening of International Literacy Year, I wish to express to you the Holy See's lively interest in UNESCO's efforts to give children and adolescents good reading and writing skills. Because of the increased interdependence of the peoples of the earth, literacy has become more necessary to allow all the members of the human family to benefit from knowledge and technology. May the many people of good will also collaborate energetically and skillfully in UNESCO's initiatives to reduce the poverty of illiteracy and thereby promote everyone's access to culture for an integral development of the human

being.

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