

MESSAGE OF THE HOLY FATHER TO THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE G8 SUMMIT*

At this time when you, as leaders of the eight most developed nations in the world, are preparing to reflect upon the most important problems of the international community, I wish to assure you of my personal and spiritual closeness to you. I also express the hope that, in these days of intense work, no person and no nation will be excluded from your concerns. Without allowing yourselves to be overwhelmed by the weight of the various issues involved. I am confident that you will do all you can to promote a culture of solidarity, which will make possible concrete solutions to the problems which weigh most heavily in the lives of our brothers and sisters and in their relations with others - peace, poverty, health and the environment.

Praying fervently that your meeting will bring excellent results, I invoke upon you the blessings of Almighty God.

From the Vatican, 19 July 2001.

IOANNES PAULUS PP. II

* L'Osservatore Romano 21.7.2001 p.1.

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