



## The Holy See

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**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS,  
SIGNED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE CARDINAL PIETRO PAROLIN,  
ON THE OCCASION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR THE  
150th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF MARIA MONTESSORI**

Professor Benedetto Scoppola  
President of the Opera Nazionale Montessori  
Via di San Gallicano 7, 00153 ROMA

On the occasion of the international conference promoted by the aforementioned Association to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the birth of Maria Montessori, the Holy Father Francis addresses a cordial greeting to you, expressing appreciation for the initiative intended to commemorate this distinguished educator, among the most eminent figures of Twentieth Century culture, who left a profound mark on the field of education and on society as a whole. In remembering her commitment to building a more fraternal and peaceful world, His Holiness hopes that this significant occasion may promote generous dedication to the new generations, to form people in solidarity, citizens of the world open to dialogue and to acceptance. The Supreme Pontiff assures you of remembrance in his prayers and gladly invokes the Lord's blessing on the organisers, the speakers and on those participating in the commemorative event.

Cardinal Pietro Parolin  
*Secretary of State of His Holiness*

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