



The Holy See

**LETTER OF JOHN PAUL II
TO CARDINAL J. FRANCIS STAFFORD
FOR THE CONSECRATION OF THE NEW CATHEDRAL
DEDICATED TO OUR LADY OF THE ANGELES**

*To Our Venerable Brother Cardinal James Francis Stafford
President of the Pontifical Council for the Laity*

Calling to mind the words of Sacred Scripture that Jesus pronounced, "*My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples*" (Mk 11,17), we readily turn our thoughts to the Clergy and faithful People of Los Angeles, who in the coming month of September will have the joy and honour of the inauguration of the new cathedral, that was planned a hundred years ago and has only now been completed.

Even though Jesus said, "*The Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head*" (Mt 8,20), we rejoice over the honour that will be shown to the Son of God himself and to his Mother with her title "of the Angels", by the consecration of this church.

In order to participate in this solemn celebration, we give you, our venerable brother, the mandate to assist as our Special Envoy at the sacred rites that will be celebrated on 2 September in the city of Los Angeles, California. Thus you can bring our greeting to all who are present and impart with abundance the Apostolic Blessing so that the new Cathedral may effectively contribute to the growth of the true faith and to the strengthening of solid devotion.

*Given at Castel Gandolfo, on the 20th day of the month of August, in the year of the Lord 2002,
the 24th year of my Pontificate.*

JOHN PAUL II

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