



# The Holy See

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**ADDRESS OF HIS HOLINESS  
POPE JOHN PAUL II  
TO A group of Jews and Christians  
from Boston, USA**

*Thursday, 6 March 1997*

*Dear Friends,*

It is a pleasure for me to welcome you, *Jews and Christians from the Boston area* actively involved in improving relations between the followers of both our traditions. The aim which you have set yourselves, of fostering mutual knowledge and understanding, and of increasing respect and co-operation between us, is very close to my heart. I earnestly encourage all such efforts, especially when they seek to strengthen the close spiritual bonds linking the children of Abraham and the followers of Jesus of Nazareth (cf. *Nostra aetate*, n. 4).

I thank you for your generous support of the Holy See's Commission for Religious Relations with Jews. Since its establishment as a result of the Second Vatican Council, the Commission has served as a meeting point for all who recognize that the divine will urges us to overcome every form of discrimination and religious intolerance. May the Lord bless you all in this work.

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