

HOLY SEE PRESS OFFICE  
OFICINA DE PRENSA DE LA SANTA SEDE



BUREAU DE PRESSE DU SAINT-SIEGE  
PRESSEAMT DES HEILIGEN STUHLIS

# **BOLLETTINO**

SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE

N. 180621g

Thursday 21.06.2018

**Ecumenical Pilgrimage of the Holy Father Francis to Geneva for the 70th anniversary of the founding of the World Council of Churches (21 June 2018) – Official Farewell to Switzerland, Telegrams to Heads of State and return to Rome**

**Official Farewell at Geneva International Airport**

**Telegrams to Heads of State**

**Return to Rome**

## **Official Farewell at Geneva International Airport**

At 19.15 this evening, at Geneva International Airport, the official farewell ceremony took place at the end of the Holy Father's trip to Switzerland. It was attended by the President of the Swiss Confederation, Mr. Alain Berset, the Federal Counsellor Ms. Doris Leuthard, and the ambassador to the Holy See, H.E. Mr. Pierre-Yves Fux.

The aircraft carrying the Holy Father – an Alitalia A321 – on the return trip from his ecumenical pilgrimage to Geneva departed at 19.55.

## **Telegrams to Heads of State**

Upon leaving Swiss territory and returning to Italy the Holy Father sent the following telegram to the respective Heads of State:

HIS EXCELLENCY ALAIN BERSET  
PRESIDENT OF THE SWISS CONFEDERATION

BERN

AS I LEAVE SWITZERLAND, I WISH TO EXPRESS MY DEEP GRATITUDE TO YOUR EXCELLENCY AND YOUR FELLOW CITIZENS FOR YOUR WARM WELCOME AND HOSPITALITY. WITH THE ASSURANCE OF MY PRAYERS, I INVOKE UPON THE NATION ALMIGHTY GOD'S ABUNDANT BLESSINGS.

FRANCISCUS PP.

HIS EXCELLENCY  
HON. SERGIO MATTARELLA  
PRESIDENT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC  
PALAZZO DEL QUIRINALE 00187 ROME

AS I RETURN FROM MY APOSTOLIC TRIP TO GENEVA, WHERE I HAVE HAD THE JOY OF MEETING POPULATIONS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF DIFFERENT CHRISTIAN CHURCHES ENGAGED IN THE JOURNEY TOWARDS UNITY AND PEACE, I EXPRESS TO YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, MY BENEVOLENT GREETING AND I ASSURE A SPECIAL PRAYER FOR THE GOOD AND PROSPERITY OF THE ENTIRE ITALIAN NATION, UPON WHOM I INVOKE HEAVENLY BLESSINGS

FRANCISCUS PP.

### **Return to Rome**

The aircraft carrying the Holy Father to Rome from Geneva on the occasion of the seventieth anniversary of the founding of the World Council of Churches landed at Rome-Ciampino airport at 21.12.

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